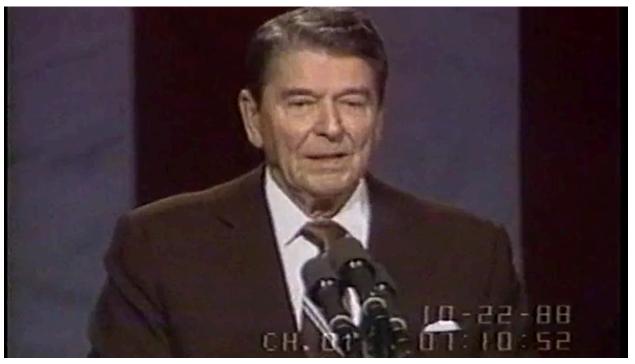
## The Virginian-Pilot

## **CHESAPEAKE GOVERNMENT & POLITICS**

## Former Assembly Speaker Trans\_Reagan Announces Return to Politics

Feb 15, 2023 at 5:25 AM



Trans Reagan delivers his "comeback" speech in Richmond, CH early Wednesday morning.

RICHMOND — Former Speaker of the Chesapeake Assembly Ronald Reagan announces his return to the political scene earlier this morning. In a speech delivered at the University of Richmond, Reagan told attending students that "the political scene in Chesapeake is abysmal, and in need of revival. If current politicians serving as our leaders cannot competently bring forth that revival, I view it my duty to do it myself."

Reagan served in a variety of positions during his career, beginning in the Assembly as a member of the defunct Socialist Party and rising to the position of Assembly Speaker. When Former US Senator Polkadot retired, Governor Goog Mann appointed Reagan to serve as a US Senator. It was in the Senate that Reagan made his switch to the Democratic Party from the Socialists. One might think that Reagan would pick up where he left off, returning as a liberal trailblazer, but they would be wrong. Reagan announced

in the same speech he would join the Republican Party. In an excerpt from his speech, Reagan said the following regarding the switch:

"The Democratic Party has grown to be a sore on politics. Once a party I could align with, support, and agree with on most issues has turned itself into something that I don't even recognise anymore. The Republican Party offers renewed hope to the people of Chesapeake, regardless of my former politics. Their leadership, their commitment to doing what is right, that is what Chesapeake needs to see. When I run for office, it will be under the Republican Banner."

Republican presence in Chesapeake has dwindled for quite a while. When Reagan retired from politics, Governor Goog and the Democratic Party controlled the state government and had almost exclusive dominance over what was implemented in the state. A year and a half later, little has changed. Although unproductive, Democrats still have a stronghold on the state. Though, Reagan hopes to change that. Reagan told his audience that the reason Republicans have struggled is because "the Democrats have made big promises but failed to fulfill them," adding that "in the next election, the Republican Party will take Chesapeake by storm. Not because of any change in the operation of things, but because of a realisation by those who vote."

Many remain uncertain about Reagan's return. Michael Michaels, a senior at the University of Richmond, had this to say about Reagan's speech:

"I don't know, man. I remember when he pulled this stunt with the Socialists after being appointed to the Senate. He told everybody that his former party failed him and that the new party he's apart of is the one that is going to bring Chesapeake back to its glory. It just seems like everytime he sees an opportunity for a better position in a different party he takes it and masks it as 'this new party represents me better.' I mean, look at the difference between the Socialists, where he started, and now the Republicans. I don't even know if I believe what's coming out of his mouth."

Many share the same concerns, including local Republicans. Reagan, trying to dissuade the concerns said that his return and party switch "was not out of political desire, but of desire for greatness for Chesapeake."

Many are still unaware of just what Reagan plans to do now that he has returned to politics, but nevertheless, it is certain to be a surprise.