Topic: If I Were President

## If I Were King of the Forest

I come before you to spell out the reasons for Presidential Mandate PB402. This mandate will now require that all monies received for campaign purposes be forwarded to the Office of Campaign Finance. No private funding for campaigning will be allowed. Additionally, campaigning for office will only be allowed for the six weeks prior to each election. The rationale for such a mandate is as follows:

- 1) For too long the primary objective of campaigning has been the procurement of funding. This focus has polluted the democratic process and has left us with special interest groups influencing public policy to such an extent that the need for debate, compromise and collaboration has grown extinct. Campaigning should be an opportunity to share ideas and debate the relative pros and cons so as to reach a consensus. By ridding the campaign process of financial motivation and the resultant special interests, we can get back to the job of governing for all of the people.
- 2) Monies will be distributed to candidates by the Office of Campaign Finance according to requirements that will be developed by said Office. These monies will be distributed equally and must be used in accordance with proper campaign guidance and procedures.
- 3) It is clear that once elected, the person(s) begin to immediately campaign for future office. This has turned into a situation where the vast majority of time spent in office is for the expressed purpose of campaigning for future office(s). This is not government business. By limiting the time candidates may campaign we hope to bring elected officials back to the business of governing. Furthermore, the ceaseless acts of campaigning have brought pain and suffering to the populous. This must stop. The major networks have agreed to reduced costs for media advertisements and we will now limit the time for such campaign ads.

4) Any violations of this mandate will be seen as a detriment to the democratic process and will be addressed through civil and criminal penalties. No longer will "dark" money poison our democratic process. No longer will wealthy donors be able to pick and choose candidates for elected office.

So it is written. So shall it be done.