

ABC's *Good Morning America*

08/26/22

7:08:48 a.m.

1 minute and 38 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New This Morning; Biden Addresses Rally; President Touts Student Debt Relief But Faces Backlash]

CECILIA VEGA: We're going to turn now to President Biden facing some pushback from some members off his own party over this plan to forgive student loans for millions of Americans. Many Democrats now concerned about its possible impact on the party's chances in November. But the President? He touted that plan at a rally overnight.

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN: And thanks to our historic deficit reduction, We can afford to cancel \$10,000 in student debt and \$20,000 if you're on a Pell Grant for tens of million of Americans making under 125,000 — this is a game changer.

VEGA: Midterm campaign now officially underway. Rachel Scott joins us from the White House. Rachel, in spite of this criticism from some Democrats, the President certainly hoping this is going to be a winning issue come November.

RACHEL SCOTT: Yes, Cecilia, good morning. The President was not shy about touting a recent string of legislative accomplishments and political wins, hoping that this does provide fresh momentum for Democrats heading into these very critical midterm elections. Believe it or not, they are less than 75 days away, so the President held this campaign rally in Maryland and he used some of his strongest language yet against Republicans, calling some of their philosophy semi-fascism, but obviously, Democrats here are facing an uphill challenge. The President's approval ratings have been low as Americans deal with record high inflation and some Democrats that are running in these very tight races are not thrilled by his recent announcement to cancel student loan debt for millions of Americans. Congressman Jared Golden of Maine said this decision is out of touch. Congressman Tim Ryan, who is running for Senate in Ohio, says that this sends the wrong message to Americans without degrees who are still struggling to make ends meet, Cecilia.