

*CBS Mornings*

08/26/22

7:01:02 a.m. [TEASE]

9 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Biden's Midterm Message]

NATE BURLESON: President Biden goes on the attack before the midterms, accusing Trump supporters of embracing political violence.

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN: The very survival of our planet is on the ballot.

(...)

7:06:10 a.m.

4 minutes and 2 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Biden Launches Midterm Attacks; Takes Aim at "MAGA Republicans," Defends Abortion Rights]

TONY DOKOUPIL: Meantime, we're going to go north to Washington where President Biden is going on the offensive as the crucial midterm elections approach. During a Democratic rally in Maryland last night, he put abortion rights front and center and he criticized Trump supporters, calling "MAGA Republicans a threat to our very democracy." Nancy Cordes is at the White House for us. Nancy, this is a decision by the Biden team, good morning.

NANCY CORDES: It sure is, Tony. This was a speech designed to fire up the Democratic base in advance of the November midterm elections and President Biden went aggressively after the Trump movement, laying out what he says is on the line in these elections.

BIDEN: We'll codify *Roe v. Wade*.

CORDES: Testing out some campaign themes, President Biden in Maryland Thursday night argued women's reproductive rights are at stake this November.

BIDEN: There's a race to pass the most restrictive abortion restrictions imaginable, even without exception for rape or incest. [SCREEN CUT] If the MAGA Republicans win control of the Congress, it won't matter where you live. Women won't have the right to choose anywhere. MAGA Republicans don't have a clue about the power of women. Let me tell you something. They are about to find out.

CORDES: In ramped up political rhetoric, the President took aim at Trump followers, especially those in office.

BIDEN: In this moment, those of you who love this country, Democrats, independents,

mainstream Republicans, we must be stronger, more determined, and more committed to saving America than the MAGA Republicans are destroying America.

CORDES: With just over ten weeks to go before midterm elections, President Biden and his party are looking to capitalize on a series of recent policy wins, including the health care and climate change law, gun reform, and the new student loan forgiveness plan —

CONGRESSWOMAN MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE (R-GA) [on Newsmax's *American Agenda*, 08/25/22]: It's completely unfair.

CORDES: — which Republican lawmakers slammed Thursday.

GREENE [on Newsmax's *American Agenda*, 08/25/22]: For our government to just say, you know, oh, okay, your debut is completely forgiven. They have an agenda for that. They need votes in November.

CORDES: The White House Twitter account went on the offensive, calling out Republicans like Marjorie Taylor Greene by name for criticizing student loan forgiveness even after their own pandemic-era business loans, known as PPP, were forgiven by the government. Democrats, feeling new optimism after their candidates beat Mr. Biden's 2020 margins in four recent special congressional elections, including in New York where Pat Ryan beat a tough Republican opponent by focusing on abortion rights.

CONGRESSMAN-ELECT PAT RYAN (D-NY): When the Supreme Court ripped away reproductive freedoms, access to abortion rights, we said this is not what America stands for. [CHEERS AND APPLAUSE]

CORDES: Candidate Biden may have run on civility and bringing Americans together, but now with control of the House and the Senate hanging in the balance, he is clearly ratcheting up the rhetoric, Tony.

DOKOUPIL: Yeah. Nancy, in regards to abortion access, there are a number of new laws taking affect all around the country. What can you tell us about those?

CORDES: Absolutely. A bunch of trigger laws taking Effect this week. Take a look. Near total bans went into effect just yesterday in Tennessee and Idaho. Penalties were tightened in Texas. And this weekend, Oklahoma is going to enact a law increasing penalties on doctors who perform abortions. Now, the White House thinks that all of these restrictions going to galvanize Democrats across the country, the way that they did in Kansas a couple of weeks ago when an anti-abortion measure was defeated at the polls. But whether this issue has as much potency come November as it does right now remains to be seen.

DOKOUPIL: Yeah. Time will tell. Nancy, Thank you very much.

(...)

8:01:19 a.m.  
11 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Biden's Midterms Message]

BURLESON: President Biden accuses the GOP of descending into “semi-fascism” during a campaign-style speech.

BIDEN: Trump and extreme MAGA Republicans made their choice.