

ABC's *Good Morning America*

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7:00:16 a.m. [TEASE]

3 seconds

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS: President Trump makes the midterms about himself...

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7:00:28 a.m. [TEASE]

8 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Breaking Overnight; President's Pitch]

STEPHANOPOULOS: Overnight, President Trump, front and center with less than two months until midterm elections, promising to pay every adult American \$5,000 only if Republicans win the midterms. But is the promise legal? Doable? As fighting escalates in the war with Iran, sending oil back above \$100 a barrel.

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7:03:24 a.m.

3 minutes and 20 seconds

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: New Overnight; President Addresses GOP Midterm Convention]

STEPHANOPOULOS: We begin with President Trump telling supporters to pretend he's on the ballot at the first-ever GOP midterm convention in Dallas last night, weeks from elections that will decide control of Congress. He also dismissed concerns about the cost of living and made a dubious promise to voters. Chief White House correspondent Mary Bruce starts us off from Dallas. Good morning, Mary.

MARY BRUCE: Good morning, George. And the party is calling this convention a Trumpapalooza, and the President is leaning into that overnight, arguing that this election is a referendum on him and his presidency, touting his immigration policy and tax breaks. And, in an unprecedented move that is sure to raise legal questions, the President now offering to pay Americans thousands of dollars if Republicans win. Overnight, with the midterms just 54 days away, President Trump making his pitch, putting himself front and center.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: So, I'm asking you to pretend that I'm on the ballot. I'm on the ballot. I'm on the ballot, just one more time.

BRUCE: Polls show more than two-thirds of voters disapprove of how Trump has handled their number one issue: the rising cost of living. Now, with the election just weeks away, Trump promising to pay every adult American \$5,000 if Republicans win the House and the Senate.

TRUMP: If the Republicans win, you win with us.

BRUCE: It's unclear if the promise is legal, and Congress would have to authorize the payments, but the President did not say where and how he could come up with the estimated \$1.3 trillion it would take to pay every American adult. And when it comes to the war with Iran, Trump insists the U.S. has the upper hand.

TRUMP: I think we should call the Hormuz Strait — we should call it the Trump Strait. I should get something out of it — the Trump Strait!

BRUCE: But fighting is escalating, and with no end in sight, oil is now back over \$100 a barrel. Gas prices at \$4.27 a gallon, up over \$1.30 since the war began. Earlier, Trump telling me prices will plunge back down, but not until after the midterms.

TRUMP: Right after the election, oil prices are going to be tumbling downward. They're going to be tumbling down, and we'll get them down. I think for gasoline, we'll get them below \$2 a gallon.

BRUCE [TO TRUMP]: But not until after the midterms.

TRUMP: I think it's going to take a little bit longer than the midterms.

BRUCE: And with the President's approval rating at a record low 33 percent, some Republican candidates in competitive races are opting to skip this convention entirely. Now, tonight, on night two, Vice President JD Vance will be the headline address, but the President is also expected to speak again, George.

STEPHANOPOULOS: And, Mary, you had a little bit of a delay yesterday. Another mishap with that jet that Qatar gave the President.

BRUCE: Yeah, George, this was a first. We were standing there on the tarmac waiting for the President to step off of Marine One when suddenly an inflatable slide deployed from the side of Air Force One. This is that new \$400 million jet from Qatar. The President then telling me that they were testing out the emergency slide, but sources later telling us that a military personnel accidentally set off and deployed the slide. They were able to remove it, and the President made his way here to Dallas, George.

STEPHANOPOULOS: Mary Bruce, thanks.