

CBS Mornings

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[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Trump Continues Midterm Campaign Blitz]

VLADIMIR DUTHIERS: President Trump goes back on the road today trying to shore up Republican support ahead of the midterm elections. In Texas and Oklahoma yesterday, he urged Americans to turn up and vote for the GOP, and here's the thing, though: There are growing signs that many of them will not support the Republican Party because of anger over rising prices and ongoing war with Iran. Ed O'Keefe has more from the White House. Hey, good morning.

ED O'KEEFE: Vlad, good to see you and campaigning in two usually red states, the President touted his record even as a new poll shows Americans are deeply frustrated with his handling of the economy and rising gas prices. At a late-night rally in Oklahoma –

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP: America belongs to those who love it.

O'KEEFE: – and at a truck factory in North Texas –

TRUMP: We have the greatest numbers of any President in the history of our country.

O'KEEFE: – he kicked it off ahead of the midterms arguing Democrats should be blamed for high prices.

TRUMP: Inflation is very real, but they're the ones that caused the inflation. I'm the one that's bringing it down, and we have to be able to get that word out somehow.

O'KEEFE: But a new poll finds just 26 percent of Americans approve of the President's handling of the economy. Those weak economic poll numbers and flagging [sic] Republican enthusiasm has the President traveling to red areas in Texas, Oklahoma, Alabama, Ohio, and Nebraska. [TO TRUMP] Why does Republican states if you're so confident your party's going to do all right?

TRUMP: Well, I won all of them by a lot, and I'm going there just to make sure.

O'KEEFE: He argues it's a messaging problem. [TO TRUMP] Do you think everyone else in the Republican Party is doing enough?

TRUMP: Well, I think the press isn't covering us fairly. [SCREEN WIPE] I give us an A+ on the government, on economics, on everything.

O'KEEFE: Vice President JD Vance, who campaigned Thursday for Republican candidates in Florida, offered a different approach.

VICE PRESIDENT JD VANCE [on Real America's Voice's *Human Events with Jack Posobiec*, 10/01/26]: You have a few tone-deaf Republicans who say, shut up if you're pissed off about a \$22 burrito. Well, my response to those people is, no, listen to people who are upset with the state of the economy.

O'KEEFE: The President continues hitting the campaign trail in the coming days, headed to Alabama tonight, Ohio tomorrow, Nebraska on Monday, and we anticipate several more stops next week, Gayle.

GAYLE KING: And I anticipate you will stay on top of it, as you always do. Thank you, Ed.