

Ad Backup "Spinning"

Friends Of Mary Landrieu
August 4, 2008
:30 TV
"Spinning"

Script	Backup
<p><i>MLL:</i> I'm Mary Landrieu, and I approve this message.</p> <p><i>Narrator:</i> Look out. Spinning and flipping...John Kennedy.</p> <p>Ran for Attorney General as a Democrat and lost.</p>	<p>Visit: www.oneconfusedpolitician.com</p> <p>1991 – Ran For Attorney General As A Democrat, Lost: Kennedy ran an unsuccessful campaign for attorney general in 1991 as a Democrat. He did not make the runoff, finishing third. (Associated Press, 4/28/99, Advocate, 8/22/95)</p> <p>1995 – Dropped Out Of Race For Attorney General, Could Not Raise Enough Money: In 1995, Kennedy dropped out of the race for attorney general against incumbent Richard Ieyoub, saying he could only raise half the money he thought he needed for the campaign. (Times-Picayune, 8/23/95)</p> <p>2007 – Considered Running For Attorney General: In 2007, Kennedy considered running for state attorney general but decided instead to run for re-election unopposed. (Monroe News Star, 8/28/07)</p>
<p>Ran for Governor and quit.</p>	<p>2003 – Ran For Governor, Quit: Kennedy briefly ran for governor in 2003 but dropped out in June to run for re-election unopposed. (New Orleans Times-Picayune, 2/4/04; Baton Rouge Advocate, 6/13/03)</p>
<p>Ran for Senate and conservatives call Kennedy a liberal Democrat – he loses</p>	<p>2004 – Ran For U.S. Senate, Lost: In 2004, Kennedy lost his campaign for U.S. Senate, garnering just 15 percent of the vote and finishing third behind Sen. David Vitter and U.S. Rep. Chris John. Kennedy raised just \$1.9 million in his unsuccessful campaign. (Louisiana Secretary of State; Center for Responsive Politics)</p> <p>Kennedy Was The Liberal Candidate In 2004 Senate Race: In 2004, Kennedy was the liberal, left-wing Democratic candidate for Senate. (Weekly Standard, 10/4/04; Gambit Weekly, 12/4/07; Times-Picayune, 7/9/08)</p> <p>Called Himself "Not Just Another Election Day Democrat": A 2004 Kennedy campaign mailing to African American voters proclaimed "John Kennedy...not just another Election Day Democrat." (Times-Picayune, 10/29/04)</p> <p>Said He Was Not Going To Be Afraid To Be A Democrat: In April 2004, Kennedy said he was "not going to be afraid to be a Democrat" in the Senate race. (Roll Call, 4/12/04)</p> <p>Accused Of Trying To Portray Himself As A Member Of Famous Liberal Kennedys: In 2004, Kennedy was accused of trying to link himself with the famous liberal, Massachusetts Kennedy family after he sent a mailing to black voters that said, "The Kennedy tradition! The Kennedy commitment!" (Times-Picayune, 10/30/04)</p>

<p>Kennedy endorsed John Kerry...</p>	<p>Kennedy Supported Kerry Against President Bush: In March 2004, Kennedy attended a campaign event with the presumptive Democratic nominee for President, John Kerry. Kennedy supported Kerry over President Bush in the 2004 presidential campaign. (AP, 3/5/04)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2008 – Kennedy Calls Kerry Endorsement A “Mistake,” Says He Was “Miserable The Whole Time”: After a campaign event in Baton Rouge, Kennedy said that his endorsement of John Kerry in 2004 was a “mistake,” stating that he was “miserable the whole time.” (Times-Picayune, 7/9/08) <p>Kennedy Said President Bush’s Policies Were “Cold And Mean”: In 2004, Kennedy said that President Bush’s policy on overtime pay was “cold and mean.” (Times-Picayune, 7/14/04; NRSC Research Document)</p> <p>Criticized By Republican Party For Opposing Bush: In a research document prepared by the National Republican Senatorial Campaign Committee in 2004, the GOP criticized Kennedy for opposing Bush. (NRSC Research Document, 2004)</p>
<p>But now switches parties to run for Senate...</p>	<p>Switched Parties To Run Again For U.S. Senate: In August 2007, Kennedy switched political parties. Just weeks after winning his Treasurer’s re-election campaign, but before even being sworn in, Kennedy announced he would run for U.S. Senate again. (Monroe News-Star, 8/28/07; Times-Picayune, 11/30/07)</p>
<p>...and is all over the place on the minimum wage...</p>	<p>2003 – Opposed State Minimum Wage Hike: In 2003, Kennedy was the only candidate in the gubernatorial Democratic primary to oppose increasing the state minimum wage to \$6.15 per hour. (Advocate, 3/19/03)</p> <p>2004 – Supported Increase In Federal Minimum Wage: In his campaign for Senate in 2004, Kennedy proposed increasing the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 an hour to \$6.65 an hour over an 18-month period. (Times-Picayune, 9/26/04)</p>
<p>...taxes...</p>	<p>2004 – Campaigned Against The Bush Tax Cuts, Called Them “Nonsense On A Stick”: In his 2004 Senate race, Kennedy decried the Bush tax cuts as skewed towards the wealthy, calling them “nonsense on a stick.” (AP, 10/11/04; 11/3/04; Baton Rouge Advocate, 4/27/08)</p> <p>2008 – Called For Making Bush Tax Cuts Permanent: According to his 2008 Senate campaign website, Kennedy said he “supports making the Bush Tax Cuts permanent.” (Kennedy Website, Accessed 7/16/08)</p>

<p>...and would cut Social Security.</p>	<p>2008 – Kennedy Supports Social Security Privatization: In July 2008, Kennedy said he supported a controversial White House plan to let people divert part of their Social Security payroll taxes into private accounts - an idea that failed to gain traction in Congress despite a strong push from President Bush in 2005. (<i>Times-Picayune</i>, 7/8/08)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Voluntary Personal Accounts Would Reduce Social Security Benefits By Up To 46 Percent: The Center for American Progress reported that under President Bush’s privatization proposal, Social Security recipients would see a reduction in benefits of up to 46 percent. (<i>Center for American Progress</i>, 5/4/05) <p>2004 – Kennedy Opposed Putting Social Security In Private Accounts: In 2004, the <i>Baton Rouge Advocate</i> reported that “Kennedy opposes putting Social Security dollars into private funds and would like to see the country pay back the money it borrowed from the trust fund, which he said should be taken out of the federal budget....’It’s called a trust fund for a reason,’ Kennedy said.” (<i>Baton Rouge Advocate</i>, 10/3/04)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Said Allowing Workers To Invest 2 Percent In Private Accounts Would Cost Between \$1 Trillion & \$2 Trillion: In October 2004, Kennedy said privatizing Social Security would cost between \$1 trillion and \$2 trillion. (<i>Shreveport Times</i>, 10/3/04)
<p>John Kennedy. One confused politician.</p>	<p>Went From Populist Democrat To Conservative Republican: An article in the <i>Monroe News-Star</i> stated, “State Treasurer John Kennedy wants your vote in the U.S. Senate race. But first he wants you to know he’s a conservative Republican, not the populist Democrat he ran as four years ago.” (<i>Monroe News-Star</i>, 7/14/08)</p> <p>Political Columnist John Maginnis Cited Irony In Kennedy’s Change Message: In July 2008, Louisiana columnist John Maginnis wrote of Kennedy’s message, “The irony of the change candidate is not lost of those who remember Kennedy in his 2004 Senate campaign as a populist Democrat, who criticized eventual winner David Vitter as a lackey of the Bush administration.” (<i>Times-Picayune</i>, 7/16/08)</p> <p>GOP Chair – Kennedy “Can’t Run” From Liberal Past: In July 2008, the <i>Times-Picayune</i> reported that in response to questions about Kennedy’s liberal past in which he endorsed John Kerry and campaigned “with a platform arguably more liberal than Landrieu’s record in the Senate,” GOP Chair Roger Villere said, “He can’t run from it.” (<i>Times-Picayune</i>, 7/6/08)</p> <p>Conservative Radio Host Said There Was “No Doubt” Kennedy Has To Answer For His 2004 Positions: In August 2008, conservative talk show host, Moon Griffon stated, “...there’s no doubt, I think, uh, in this U.S. Senate race, John will have to answer for some of the things that he was for in the last election...” (<i>Moon Griffon Radio Show</i>, 8/1/08)</p>