

George Washington is America's  
greatest President. He imprinted  
his character and integrity on  
the Republic he helped establish.

The words of Washington's Farewell  
Address call out to us today -

Although two-hundred twelve years  
have passed since Hamilton, Madison  
and Washington penned this immortal  
message to our Nation, the words are  
still relevant today -

I believe Washington would be  
astounded by the United States of  
America today. The Constitution  
and the nature of the American  
People have set this country apart

for greatness in ways I believe would  
be hard for him to imagine. In  
2008, I feel a heavy responsibility  
to restore the principles and common  
sense the Father of Our Country  
advocated as he left public life -

On a personal note, I understand that  
I am the first Senator from Arkansas  
to read this address as part of this  
Senate tradition - That surprises me since  
there have been so many strong senators  
from my state over the years - Robinson,  
McClain, Fulbright, Bumpers, Daniel P. Pryor  
and Lincoln - to name just a few. Knowing  
I am the first makes this honor all the  
more special to me -

MARK PRYOR  
ARKANSAS