

Steve Beshear

Former Democratic Governor of Kentucky (2007-2015)

Leadership. Leaders are made, not born. Being a leader is one part talent and nine parts hard work. Using examples from my personal and political life, I discuss the skills it takes to be a leader (including the willingness to take a risk and the willingness to lose), and how to turn those skills into actual results.

Healthcare. Where do we go from here? I discuss Kentucky's poor health history and how I implemented the ACA and expanded Medicaid in a red state. I then turn to what the future holds for healthcare in the United States.

I also adapt this talk to discuss the opioid crisis. Kentucky is at the epicenter of this crisis; and as Governor, I brought Republicans and Democrats together to implement solutions, including running the pill mills out of the state and legalizing needle exchanges.

Politics. Here I discuss how rank partisanship is destroying our federal political system. But it doesn't have to be this way. During my eight years as Kentucky's Democratic Governor, the Kentucky Senate was controlled by Republicans, while the House was controlled by Democrats. But most of the time, after elections were over, I was able to get both sides to remember that we were Kentuckians first and Democrats and Republicans second. Therefore, we accomplished some great things for our people.