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## Interest spikes in Chris Christie for president

07:00 AM

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The [website](#) dedicated to drafting New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie to run for president has been getting more traffic following the Republican's speech earlier this week to a Washington think tank.

Christie on Wednesday took to task President Obama and Republicans in Congress for not addressing the nation's debt and entitlement spending, in remarks to the American Enterprise Institute.

Donald Sico, executive director of the Draft Christie movement, says Facebook fans of the site have increased by 12% since the speech and 100 new people filled out an interest form on the website by Thursday.

Christie says he won't run for president in 2012, insisting he's not ready and that his wife would kill him if he did. But that hasn't stopped the buzz about the former federal prosecutor, who is in his second year as governor.

"He is the poster child for what I think a lot of people are looking for in elected officials -- somebody who says 'you may not like what I'm going to say, but this is the truth,' " said Rich Galen, a GOP political consultant.

So what is Chris Christie's appeal, for those who may not be following his every move in Trenton?

"He projects a competence and a clear, understandable message that is resonating with voters in New Jersey," said John Weingart, associate director of the Eagleton Institute of Politics at Rutgers University.

Ben Dworkin, a political science professor at Rider University in Lawrenceville, N.J., says Christie has captured the zeitgeist -- the spirit of the times.

"He seems reasonable in ways that other candidates in the Republican Party were not portrayed in the last election," Dworkin says. "He speaks to those voters who are looking for change with fiscal restraint. ...They're looking for change in the way politics are done."

New Jersey's Democratic Party is not enamored of the governor. There is a video on the [Democratic State Committee's website](#) saying Christie should be judged "by his actions, not his words" and a piece labeled, "The Only Job Chris Christie Has Focused On Creating Is His Next One."

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Of course it does. They have NOONE , repeat NOONE, who is electable. Bailin' palin? That's a bad joke. Be-otchin' bachmann? Too shrill and radical. Poutin' pawlenty?, yawn. The list just goes on, and on, and on. Sorta like the energizer bunny.

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He's a Republican. Forget it.

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Ron Paul 2012 - there is no other candidate that comes close.

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