

★ VICTOR VICTORIOUS ★

Morales moving campaign out of kitchen

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AUSTIN (AP) — Democratic Senate nominee Victor Morales says he can stand the political heat, but he can't wait to move his campaign out of his kitchen.

"I don't know how long it's going to take me to get a headquarters, but ... that's a priority. I want that phone out of my house. I want the papers out of my house," Morales said Wednesday, a day after winning his party's nod to face Republican U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm.

The Dallas-area high school government teacher, who took a leave of absence from his job to campaign, has already bested two Democratic congressmen in his shoestring effort.

U.S. Rep. Jim Chapman was eliminated in the primary. In the runoff, Morales beat U.S. Rep. John Bryant, despite Bryant's support from such Democratic heavyweights as former Gov. Ann Richards.

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his kitchen as campaign central. He's got \$9,000 in the bank, compared with Gramm's \$3.5 million.

But that's about to change, as the Democratic leadership rallies behind Morales.



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— VICTOR MORALES
Democratic Senate nominee

Despite his vow not to take political action committee money, Morales said he'll accept party money. Asked whether PACs could indirectly support him by giving to the Democratic effort, he said, "That's up to them to decide."

Sen. Bob Kerrey of Nebraska, chairman of the national Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, is spending three days in Texas on Morales' behalf. Among

other events, Morales plans to attend a Democratic fund-raiser at Dallas' posh The Mansion.

And after being chronically late with his campaign finance reports, Morales said, "I have a lady now in

chest where if I've got to fly ..."

Still, he's squeamish: "The thought of those small planes ... It's quite scary."

Morales says despite hooking up with the Democratic establishment, "I'm going to remain the same person."

"If the big shots do want to take me to lunch, I said, well let's go to Bennigan's or let's go to Chili's, because most people can afford that. We don't have to go to The Mansion," he said.

Looking toward November, Morales calls Gramm vulnerable to the charge of hypocrisy. "We're talking about a gentleman that's known to be a war hawk, and during the Vietnam war, he didn't go. We're talking about somebody that's always putting down government, but his whole life has been associated with government," he said.

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