

Political waters warming for Thompson

by UPI

LOS ANGELES - Actor Fred Thompson, a former Republican senator from Tennessee, Tuesday night teased a national TV audience about his possible run for president.

Appearing on the "The Tonight Show" with host Jay Leno, Thompson acknowledged he has formed a committee to "test the waters" and is starting to raise money should he ultimately throw his hat in the already crowded ring. He said so far the political waters are "warm."

Asked by Leno if he would like the job of president of the United States, Thompson answered: "I've never craved the job of president, but I want to do some things that only the president can do, so the answer is yes."

Thompson said he may have benefited by not being one of the stampede of Republican candidates already in the race who have appeared in a couple of debates and have been criss-crossing the nation seeking support, saying some of the campaigning "kind of denigrates" the office of president.

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