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Motsinger Says Low Public Approval of Congress Proves It Is Time for a Change

New Gallup Poll Shows Approval Rating at 10 Percent

Elisabeth Motsinger responded to the latest Gallup Poll showing public approval of Congress is tied at an all-time low, saying, "This is a good illustration of why I will win in November." Motsinger is challenging Virginia Foxx for North Carolina's 5th district seat in Congress.

"Clearly, it is time for a change," Motsinger said. "My opponent does not support policies that serve her constituents. Her votes do not reflect our North Carolina values."

A poll was released Tuesday showing Congress currently has an approval rating of only 10 percent, tying the record-low score set in February of this year. Based on telephone interviews conducted August 9-12, the score is the lowest in the 38 years that Gallup has measured public approval of Congress. (The Gallup Poll is available at <http://www.gallup.com/poll/156662/Congress-Approval-Ties-Time-Low.aspx>)

According to the Gallup Poll, “Congressional approval is down among all political groups and is now virtually the same across these groups -- with Democrats at 9%, independents at 11%, and Republicans at 10%.”

Motsinger said that her opponent votes lock-step along party lines, despite what’s in the best interests of North Carolina. “People are tired of the deadlock. They are tired of partisan bickering. It’s time to make Congress work for you, not for any one political party.”

Motsinger pointed to her opponent’s recent tearful plea on the floor of Congress, in which she evoked the tragic shooting in Aurora, Colo., to press for bi-partisan support of HR 7048, a highly-partisan measure.

“HR 4078 is a prime example of why citizens are fed up with Congress,” Motsinger said. “My opponent spent a lot of time defending this hyper-partisan bill which would seriously endanger the health and wellbeing of every single resident of the 5th District.”

Motsinger pointed to additional actions by Foxx that do not support North Carolina values, and do nothing to address important issues including the economy, healthcare, education, Medicare, and equal rights.

“Mrs. Foxx has voted against giving parents greater control over their children’s health care, and has voted against a bill which provided more than 20 million women with no-cost coverage for preventative health care including pap smears and mammograms.”

In addition, Motsinger said, Foxx supported a budget which would end Medicare as we know it. “In North Carolina we honor and respect our seniors. We would never choose to leave them in poverty after they have worked hard all their lives and raised their families to work hard.”

Motsinger said approval of Congress is low because representatives like Foxx are out of touch with their constituents. Other examples of Foxx not supporting North Carolina values, according to Motsinger, include:

- She voted not to extend health insurance coverage to children.

- She voted to limit women’s rights to access contraception.
- She does not support any federal funding for education. She has pledged not to fight for more Federal dollars to support regional institutions of higher learning like Appalachian State, WFU, UNCOSA, Winston-Salem State, and community colleges, and she voted no to \$84 million in grants for black and Hispanic colleges,
- She supported No Child Left Behind, which undermined local and state authority to direct curriculum, unfairly penalized schools with large minority populations, and led to a national shortage of teachers.
- She voted against the Civil Rights Act and equal pay for women who do the same work as men.

“It is time that residents of the 5th District have a representative who works for them, and who supports their rights to determine what is in the best interests of their families,” Motsinger said. “That is why I am running, and that is why I will win.”

Elisabeth Motsinger is a physician assistant and a twice-elected member of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Board of Education. She completed her medical training at Wake Forest University, where she is completing a master’s degree in bioethics. Motsinger is the mother of three grown children. She and her husband, John, live in Walkertown and are active in their church community. In May, Motsinger won the Democratic primary with 70 percent of the vote. For more information, visit www.nc5th.us

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