

TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON
15TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS



AGRICULTURE
CHAIRMAN, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, RESEARCH,
BIOTECHNOLOGY, AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS OF
OVERSIGHT AND CREDIT

TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC
BUILDINGS, AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1315

- REPLY TO:
WASHINGTON OFFICE:
 1207 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2371
- DISTRICT OFFICES:
 2004 FOX DRIVE
CHAMPAIGN, IL 61820
(217) 403-4690
- 202 NORTH PROSPECT ROAD
SUITE 203
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61704
(309) 663-7049
- 655 WEST LINCOLN
UNIT 8
CHARLESTON, IL 61920
(217) 348-6759
- 1001 MARKET STREET
SUITE 102
MOUNT CARMEL, IL 62863
(618) 262-8719

Sept. 26, 2012

Pete Sessions, Chair
National Republican Congressional Committee
320 First St. SE
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Chairman Sessions,

I write to ask that the NRCC immediately stop funding the negative ad campaign in the new 13th District of Illinois. I have made the same request of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

The television ads that both the NRCC and the DCCC are paying for I believe misrepresent both candidates. I have faced Dr. Gill in three previous campaigns, and won, without resorting to negative campaigning, without misrepresenting his views, but simply by presenting my own.

There are clear philosophical difference between Dr. Gill and GOP nominee Rodney Davis. Those differences speak for themselves. Let that guide voters. Not fractional truths. Not distortions. Not character assaults. To distort the other's record or positions in the way that has been done by both the NRCC and the DCCC demeans the office, insults voters and contributes to the cynicism the public holds toward elected officials.

In 44 years of public service, most of that time running for office every two years, I never resorted to negative campaigning. And I won every contest. It can be done. It should be done.

Sincerely,

Timothy V. Johnson
Member of Congress

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Sept. 26, 2012

Steve Israel, Chairman
Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee
430 S. Capitol St. SE
Washington, D.C.

Dear Steve,

I write to ask that the DCCC immediately stop funding the negative ad campaign in the new 13th District of Illinois. I have made the same request of the National Republican Congressional Committee.

The television ads that both the DCCC and the NRCC are paying for I believe misrepresent both candidates. I faced Dr. Gill in three previous campaigns and won without resorting to negative campaigning, without misrepresenting his views, but simply by presenting my own.

There are clear philosophical differences between Dr. Gill and GOP nominee Rodney Davis. Those differences speak for themselves. Let that guide voters. Not fractional truths. Not distortions. Not character assaults. To distort the other's record or positions in the way that has been done by both the NRCC and the DCCC demeans the office, insults voters and contributes to the cynicism the public holds toward elected officials.

Together, you and I inaugurated the Center Aisle Caucus in 2005 in a serious effort to battle mudslinging and mendaciousness and to champion the cause of civil discourse.

In 44 years of public service, most of that time running for office every two years, I never resorted to negative campaigning. I won every contest. It can be done. It should be done.

Sincerely,

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Member of Congress

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Sept. 26, 2012

David Gill
P.O. Box 3683
Bloomington, IL 61702

Dear David,

I've been saddened by the negative tone of the campaign in the 13th Congressional District.

I have requested that the DCCC and NRCC cease their mudslinging and would ask your support in urging these organizations and your own campaign, as well as the Super PACs that support you, toward this goal.

This is your race. I believe you should demand a cease-fire and make it known that you have made such a demand. It is in your best interests as well as the best interests of the body politic.

I have represented much of this area of Central Illinois both in Congress and in the Illinois General Assembly. In 44 years of office and scores of primary and general election campaigns, I never resorted to the kind of character assaults and misrepresentations of my opponents that I am seeing today.

Further, as co-founder of the Center Aisle Caucus, I can only observe that the tone of this campaign runs exactly counter to the principles and practices this caucus promotes.

I respect you for taking on this challenge and I would only ask that you consider elevating the debate to a higher plane.

Sincerely,

Timothy V. Johnson
Member of Congress

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Sept. 26, 2012

Rodney Davis
P.O. Box 344
Taylorville, IL 62568

Dear Rodney,

I've been saddened by the negative tone of the campaign in the 13th Congressional District.

I have requested that the DCCC and NRCC cease their mudslinging and would ask your support in urging these organizations and your own campaign, as well as the Super PACs that support you, toward this goal.

This is your race. I believe you should demand a cease-fire and make it known that you have made such a demand. It is in your best interests as well as the best interests of the body politic.

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Member of Congress