



Press Information – For Immediate Release

Contact:

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Mark Zaccaria, Candidate – 401.294.3191

Parker Lacoste, Campaign Manager – 401.742.9889

Zaccaria Echoes Call for ‘Change,’ Says It’s Time to ‘Replace Ineffective Incumbents’

North Kingstown: Mark Zaccaria today echoed the call by presidential nominee Barak Obama, stating that “it is time for real political change here in Rhode Island.” Obama has made change the recurring theme of his campaign against Republican nominee Senator John McCain. “We can have real change in our country, and here in Rhode Island,” said Zaccaria. “But it’s not going to happen by just having a new Chief Executive. We need to replace the ineffective incumbents, like my opponent, who have prevented real change from taking place in Congress.”

Zaccaria recently highlighted the Congressional Power Rankings by Knowlegis, a non-partisan organization, in which Mr. Langevin, a four-term incumbent, was ranked 217 out of 235 within his own party. The ranking included a rating of ‘zero’ under the category of Influence. “My opponent has a record of doing very little in Congress, and his ranking obviously reflects that,” said Zaccaria. “In these difficult times, we can’t afford to have Congressmen like Mr. Langevin who contribute little or nothing to the legislative process.

The Congressional Power Rankings by Knowlegis are determined by “how effective one is at advancing an agenda, whether it is a personal agenda, party agenda or district or state agenda.”

http://www.congress.org/congressorg/power_rankings/backgrounder.tt)

Knowlegis is “an online software and data company serving government relations professionals and lobbyists. Knowlegis provides reliable legislator and issue data, combined with secure advocacy tools for associations, government agencies, corporations and non-profit organizations.”

Mark Zaccaria for Congress

Tel: 401.294.3191 • E: Campaign@markz4ri.org

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(http://www.congress.org/congressorg/power_rankings/about_knowlegis.tt)

While the President's approval rating has sunken to all-time lows, hovering in the twenties, Congress's approval rating has gone somewhat unnoticed, even though it has remained in the teens and, at times, dipped as low as single digits. "People are just as fed up with Congress as they are with the President," Zaccaria said. "It's time for the voters to bring about a real change in Congress: vote the entrenched incumbents out, and send new people with fresh ideas to Capitol Hill. President Bush will be leaving office after eight years of ineffectiveness; let's make sure Mr. Langevin also leaves office after eight years of ineffectiveness."

Mark Zaccaria is a resident of North Kingstown, RI, where he runs a small business. He and his wife, Ruth, have been married for 33 years. They have three grown children who are all residents of the state. Learn more about Mark's candidacy for congress at the web site: www.markz4ri.org

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