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Over the past several weeks, Debbi and I have been fortunate enough to visit with many of you to discuss the issues and challenges that currently face our district, our state, and our nation. The response that we have received to our candidacy and campaign has been truly electric. I have found that people are hungry for new, positive, and strong leadership in Washington. Throughout my career, I have been proud to serve our country and am looking forward to working with each of you to bring about a positive vision for America's future.

During my travels across the Fifth District many Republicans have voiced concerns over the tone and tenor of the last primary campaign for this office. Many felt discouraged and disillusioned by the lack of vision and negative tactics used by two of the campaigns. This negative residue continues to divide us! Unfortunately, both of those campaigns chose the caucus system in which to gain access to the ballot. With that in mind, my campaign has been seeking your advice the last couple of months for suggestions on how to strategically advance our message, recognizing that people are desperate for something to believe in. Overwhelmingly, the feedback we received is that we need to build our party and our message, that we must stop allowing others to define who we are and what we stand for, and that we must expand the reach of that message.

Determined to establish a fair and inclusive process, the framers of our system of government provided for two methods by which a candidate can get on the ballot. The first method is through the party caucus system, and the other is through petition. Both honor the spirit of democracy, ensuring that citizens like you are engaged in the process at a fundamental level.

As you know from my background, I am not a professional politician. While I have great respect for the caucus process, I feel I need to run a different campaign. With my opponents likely to return to the negative tactics they succumbed to in the previous race, I worry that if everyone's energy is focused on a small percentage of Republican voters that the campaign will likely become mired in a counter-productive race that will further damage our party.

Therefore, based upon your advice I plan to petition onto the ballot for the August primary. I plan to run a strong grassroots effort and, therefore, I ask for your support and active involvement in our campaign. I cannot express how greatly I appreciate your involvement in our party and the democratic process. I look forward to working with

(click on the play button to view or
to view video in new window)

This effort is really about building our country, our state, and our party. With your help I am convinced we will be successful! In order to facilitate involvement in my campaign, I have enclosed a volunteer card. Please return it to Debbi and me so that we may all begin working together as quickly as possible on this important mission.

Bentley B. Rayburn

RAYBURN THANKS LOCAL CONTRIBUTORS FOR PUTTING HIM OVER THE TOP (COLORADO SPRINGS)

Congressional candidate Bentley Rayburn today thanked his supporters for investing over \$90 thousand dollars in his vision for Colorado's future. "This broad base of support from a diverse range of contributors throughout the district and state, demonstrates the appeal of our message on national security, fiscal responsibility, and individual freedom. I look forward to advancing our shared vision in the coming months as this campaign about America's future resonates in the hearts of every Coloradan."

<u>Candidate</u>	<u>4th Quarter fundraising</u>	<u>Debts and Loans</u>	<u>Cash on Hand</u>
Rayburn	90,639	50,000	121,591
Lamborn	66,160	47,500*	144,698
Crank	42,078	57,000*	94,568

* Outstanding debt from 2006

Items of Interest:

Rayburn received \$1000 contribution for Alaska Congressman Don Young's PAC Midnight Sun. Young is the Ranking Republican on the Natural Resources Committee, of which incumbent Congressman Doug Lamborn is a member.

Rayburn received contributions from over 182 individuals during the fourth quarter. Seventy three percent of those contributors are from Colorado.

Incumbent Congressman Lamborn received forty one percent of his contributions in the fourth quarter from PACs and special interest groups.