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From the Ron Bemis For Congress Campaign

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See www.ronbemisforcongress.org for details on Bemis' positions, principles and background

NEWCOMER RON BEMIS WINS AGAINST 15:1 BIG MONEY CHALLENGER IN 7TH CD; NEXT FACES MCDERMOTT, WHO HAD LOWEST VOTE IN 24 YEARS

Ron Bemis, a political newcomer running on a nonpartisan theme of recovery, reform, results!, has upset the common belief that big money buys elections and surprised pundits in Seattle area's 7th CD, the State's most liberal. Ron Bemis overcame a historically unprecedented 15:1 spending advantage of another candidate, Andrew Hughes, to win the challenger position in the 'top 2' primary on Aug. 7, 2012. Bemis' grassroots volunteer campaign, only 2 months old, had spent only \$16,000 in the primary and was overshadowed by a media focus upon two big spending Democrats, Hughes at \$240,000 and the incumbent McDermott at \$390,000. Bemis, an independent Republican, won more votes than the 5 other challengers combined, including 2½ times the vote count of Hughes, who'd campaigned 16 months. Ron Bemis advances to the general election to next take on Jim McDermott, who received his lowest vote % in 24 years.

Asked how he won, Bemis said "It's voters, not dollars, who vote; but everyone's dollars, and our nation's future, are at huge risk if we keep sliding toward bankruptcy and don't get things fixed in D.C. Mr. Hughes' fiscal approach was just like the incumbent's, which hasn't worked."

Looking to upset McDermott in the race ahead, Ron Bemis says "No politician 'owns' a seat in Congress; the people do. Whatever your political leanings, we don't have to stay stuck in a rut of debt and decline. We're heading for a fiscal cliff and need to change now. We can do much better if we change now. So it's time to retire the incumbent and end the disconnect in D.C. He's had 24 years to fix the mess but hasn't. It's worse. McDermott's massive debt spending (now \$51,000 debt per person, 6 times higher than when he entered office, yet he still votes \$997 in increases for each \$1 in decreases), highly partisan, out of touch, and no real results approach, hasn't worked. And this now hurts everyone's opportunities, security, and future."

Asked how he can win, Bemis said, "More and more people realize there is a crisis and we need a real change, a forward-thinking, problem solving, long caring, work-together approach to fix the major challenges. Voters ahead can compare the official voter pamphlet statements side by side. As they learn more about me, they'll see that I have a long history of successful results and upsets and am best qualified to bring change for us in D.C. -- not the incumbent. I'll also work hard to manage spending and stretch your tax dollars in D.C. as efficiently and effectively as I did with only \$16,000 in this primary. In clear contrast to Jim McDermott, my political principles are nonpartisan and unifying. I get results, and I can actually help fix the mess, build bridges, solve problems in our common interest, and be independent over any party label." Bemis is challenging McDermott to 3 televised debates "so that voters can see, hear and vote based on direct comparison and merit, not on name familiarity and big money."