Greg Laughlin Continues Battle Against Drugs, Crime

Crime is now the most important issue among Texans. Generally considered a problem in urban Texas, violent and juvenile crime has spread into rural areas at an alarming rate. As a former Assistant District Attorney for Harris County, Greg Laughlin is well aware of the assault on our communities by murderers, robbers and drug pushers. He has a proven record of putting criminals behind bars, and he's committed to making our streets safe and to ridding our schools, worksites and communities of criminals.

Greg Laughlin has aided the fight against crime by co-sponsoring two major anti-drug bills in previous sessions of Congress. he co-sponsored the Drug War Bond Act of 1989, and the Boot Camp Prison Demonstration Program. These initiatives demonstrate his support for increasing federal resources for anti-drug efforts without raising taxes, and for strong drug education, treatment and rehabilitation programs.

Drug problems in the state of Texas are unique in the nation: our extensive shared border with Mexico and the Gulf Coast shoreline are fertile ground for international drug traffickers. To show that he will not tolerate the import of drug cash crops from abroad, Greg Laughlin believes we must enhance our commitments to the Coast Guard, Customs, and Border Patrol as strong and important enforcement agencies.

In the past Greg has played a key role in securing additional funds for the Coast Guard for drug interdiction activities along the Texas coast. He supports enhancing local enforcement capabilities of the sheriff's department and police forces throughout the 14th Congressional District. Greg has also voted to transfer $100 million from Congressional mailings to help fund anti-drug law enforcement initiatives in past congressional sessions.

Congressman Laughlin has always enjoyed a very close relationship with law enforcement and court officials in each county of the district.

Prior administrations and Congress have so far waged only a token war on drugs. Greg Laughlin and a growing list of other Congressmen believe it is time to back up the talk with action. And they will be doing more in the future to make our streets safer for the average law-abiding citizen by taking criminals off our streets.

As a parent, Greg knows we must get drugs out of our schools, not only because they are illegal but they are a fatal distraction from the learning process. They lead to crime against our children and they lead our children to crime. Greg Laughlin pledges an all-out effort in the fight against drugs, including the commitment of sufficient funds, manpower and resources to win.

Congressman Laughlin has fought to get Federal funding for our rural communities. Greg believes in programs that allocate more money for law enforcement and prisons without having to provide matching funds. Our small communities simply do not have the resources for such projects. Congressman Laughlin also encourages tougher sentencing, supports the death penalty and advocates more crime prevention programs such as crime stoppers, neighborhood crime watch and national night out. Greg will return the 14th Congressional District to a safe place to live for our family and friends. Rural Texas has a proven crime fighter in Greg Laughlin.

The National Debt and Balanced Budget

Annual budget deficits and the increasing national debt are America's greatest economic problems. Congressman Laughlin believes we must balance the federal budget and put our fiscal house in order.

Congressman Laughlin has co-sponsored and voted for the Constitutional Balanced Budget Amendment in each of his three terms in Congress. However, Congressman Laughlin does not believe that unfair taxation is the answer.

Congressman Laughlin has listened to the residents of the 14th District and voted against the two largest tax increases in America's history - President Bush's 1990 Budget Agreement and President Clinton's 1993 Budget Reconciliation.

Congressman Laughlin believes our deficit problems should instead be addressed by the elimination of wasteful and unnecessary spending.

LAUGHLIN

★★★ U.S. CONGRESS ★★★

A Lifetime of Commitment to Texas Values

- Served on Active Duty in the U.S. Army overseas 1968-1969.
- Served as Assistant District Attorney where he earned a reputation as a tough criminal prosecutor.
- Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves.
- Previous assignment to the National Security Agency and to the Deputy Chief of Staff of Intelligence at the Pentagon.
- Awarded Southwest Asia Service Medal for active duty in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait & Iraq during Operation Desert Storm, 1991.
- Awarded Nathan Hale Award by the Texas Reserve Officers Association, 1992.
- Awarded Minute Man of the Year Award by Reserve Officers Association, 1994.
- Board of Visitors, U.S. Military Academy at West Point.
- Member of the House Intelligence Committee.
- Member of the American Legion, VFW, Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce

Endorsed by the Texas Farm Bureau and National Federation of Independent Business

WARNING — CAMPAIGN ALERT!

To combat his opponent's negative campaign, Greg Laughlin has installed a toll-free telephone line to provide accurate information about his record. If you hear a questionable claim, don't be fooled. Call toll free 1-800-360-2280. Greg is not afraid to tell you where he stands on the issues. Help fight negative and deceptive political campaigning by getting the facts.

Paid for by Greg Laughlin Campaign, Everett Kennemer, Treasurer, P.O. Box 2453, Victoria, TX 77902

Rep. Laughlin Named NFIB "Guardian of Small Business"

Washington — Texas U.S. Rep. Greg Laughlin has been named "Guardian of Small Business" by the nation's largest small-business advocacy organization, the National Federation of Independent Business.

NFIB, which represents more than 600,000 small and independent firms in all 50 states including more than 37,000 in Texas, honors U.S. lawmakers who provide consistent support for free enterprise by voting favorably on key small-business issues a majority of the time during a two-year session of Congress.

Rep. Laughlin's small-business voting record during the 103rd Congress, based on 10 recorded votes, was 70 percent.

Among crucial issues for entrepreneurs this session were legislative proposals dealing with balancing the federal budget, reducing government regulation, protecting small businesses from unfair bankruptcy laws, limiting taxes and restricting government intervention in small-business operations.

NFIB, is a non-profit, non-partisan organization which represents federal and state legislatures on behalf of small business. Small businesses make up about 99 percent of all American employers, hire nearly 60 percent of the workforce and create some two-thirds of all new jobs.

A Lifetime of Commitment to Rural Texas Family Values

Greg Laughlin has a proven record concerning the protection of private property rights. Greg's support of property rights dates back to his first term in Congress in 1989. He co-sponsored the Wetlands Conservation Act to provide compensation to property owners of valuable wetlands. Greg Laughlin is fighting to put common sense into the Endangered Species Act and Wetlands regulations. Congressman Greg Laughlin has co-sponsored these and other property rights bills:

- PRIVATE PROPERTY PROTECTION ACT OF 1993
- COMPREHENSIVE WETLANDS CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1993
- ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT PROCEDURAL REFORM AMENDMENTS 1993
- PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNERS BILL OF RIGHTS 1994

Greg Laughlin has a proven record on property rights. The Friends of Agriculture at the Texas Farm Bureau recognize Greg's leadership and record on the issue. That's why he has wide spread support among farmers and ranchers. The Texas Farm Bureau's recent analysis of Greg's record gives him more than 90% rating on issues relating to private property rights. We all want to protect the environment, but isn't it time for a common sense approach before rural property owners become the next endangered species.

ENDORSED BY THE TEXAS FARM BUREAU and THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS

LAUGHLIN

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Texas Farm Bureau Friends of Agriculture Endorsed Laughlin

Waco, TX — The Texas Farm Bureau Friends of Agriculture Fund (AGFUND) has endorsed incumbent Greg Laughlin of West Columbia in the race for the District 14 congressional seat.

"The AGFUND endorsement process involved an evaluation process at the local level by county Farm Bureau committees from counties within the district," TFB President Bob Stallman, AGFUND chairman, advised. "Congressman Laughlin was their candidate of choice."

Congressman Laughlin serves on the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Public Works and Transportation Committee, the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee and a variety of subcommittees. As a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, Rep. Laughlin co-chairs the Sunbelt Caucus Gulf of Mexico Task Force, U.S./Former Soviet Union Energy Caucus and the U.S. Army Caucus.

Laughlin has received numerous awards for his military service, including the Southwest Asia Service Medal for active duty during Operation Desert Storm, 1991 and the prestigious Meritorious Service Award by Executive Order of the President and the U.S. Department of the Army in 1986.

A graduate of Texas A&M and the University of Texas School of Law and a former Harris County Assistant district attorney, Laughlin has a private law practice in West Columbia. He and his wife Ginger, have two children Mary 20, and Brad, 13.

AGFUND is a legal entity separate from the Texas Farm Bureau and may endorse and contribute financially to political candidates. AGFUND is funded only by voluntary contributions of TFB members.

Laughlin Believes Strong Defense Must Be Maintained

Because of Greg's military background, he is especially committed to a strong national defense. This was especially brought home to him during Operation Desert Storm. Greg is a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, and he saw active duty in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq.

So Greg Laughlin knows about defending our country and its values first hand. But at the same time, he understands the need to guarantee that taxpayers get the best defense for their dollars.

He also recognizes that the world is changing almost daily and that the nation's needs with regard to military defense ten years ago are not the same as we approach the end of the 20th Century. But as long as the situation in the Middle East remains unstable, and as long as men are fighting anywhere in the world, it is necessary for the United States to keep its guard up.

During his tenure in Congress, Greg Laughlin has consistently urged restraint in looking for ways to cut the defense budget to help finance other programs or to reduce the deficit. By using sound business principles, working to get the most for our money, making sure we get what we pay for, and more accurately planning for our projected long-term defense needs, Greg believes we can meet the challenge.

As a Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, Greg holds the nation's highest security clearance and was previously assigned to the National Security Agency and to the Deputy Chief of Staff of Intelligence at the Pentagon. He saw active duty as a Captain in military intelligence in Turkey, strategically located to the north of Iraq.

During Operation Desert Storm, he obviously supported our troops because he ended up medical care for them. But his military record is even more distinguished. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Award by Executive Order of the President of the Army. He has served as chairman of the Board of Visitors at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Greg's has received the Nathan Hale Award, given by the Texas Department of the U.S. Reserve Officers Association in recognition of outstanding in recognition of individual service in the interest of national security. Most recently Greg was honored as the Minute Man of the Year Award by Military Reserve Officers Association, which is their highest honor of recognition. Greg joins four past U.S. presidents in receiving this award.

Because he is a veteran himself and remains active in the reserves, Greg has tremendous respect for the men and women who have served their country in uniform. He has worked diligently to ensure that they receive all the benefits and services they need and deserve. He knows first hand the size of debt this country owes them, and Greg is committed to seeing that debt is honored.

Greg's military background makes him a valuable member of the House Intelligence Committee. Military efforts are important to our own security such as in the case of the Iraq-Kuwait conflict, he does not believe that we should be policemen to the world.

When it comes to our nation's defense, Greg Laughlin will forever keep his guard up in Congress to make sure our men and women in uniform always come out winners.

LAUGHLIN

★★★ U.S. CONGRESS ★★★

Family Farmers Group Endorses Laughlin

"The political action committee of the 253,000- member National Farmers Union, NATFARMPAC, has endorsed the candidacy of Greg Laughlin in 1994 election.

NATFARMPAC began endorsing candidates for federal office in 1992 and bases its support on candidates' records and positions on farm and rural issues.

In a letter to Laughlin, NATFARMPAC president Leland Swenson said, "NATFARMPAC is grateful for the service you've taken on behalf of family farmers."

"This is an important election year for farmers," said Swenson. "We'll head right into debate on the 1995 farm bill when Congress comes back."

The criteria for selecting candidates for endorsement by NATFARMPAC include an incumbent's past voting record, a candidate's general reflection of rural philosophy and policy and special assistance by candidates who have taken a leadership role on certain legislative issues.

Congressman Greg Laughlin on the Issues:

- Co-sponsored a Balanced Federal Budget Amendment
- Co-sponsor of the Private Property Rights Act of 1991
- Original co-sponsor of the Private Property Owners Bill of Rights of 1994
- Endorsed by Texas Farm Bureau

Greg and his wife Ginger have two children, Mary and Brad. They are lifelong members of the West Columbia United Methodist Church.

Paid for by Greg Laughlin Campaign, Everett Kennemer, Treasurer P.O. Box 2453, Victoria, TX 77902

Laughlin Guards Interests of Agriculture in 14th District

One of the economic strengths of the 14th Congressional District is agriculture, and Congressman Greg Laughlin is continually at work to strengthen opportunities for every farmer and rancher in the district.

You don't have to run a ranch or farm to know the varied interests of this District's agricultural community. One need only look at the *endorsement* of the state's largest farm and ranch organization to know what Congressman Greg Laughlin understands agriculture.

The *Texas Farm Bureau* took a close look and saw that Greg Laughlin's record of support for agriculture and the small producer is quite clear.

He has constantly battled against special interests who would diminish the economic opportunities of quality of life to those people in his district involved in agriculture.

When it became obvious that the Japanese were participating in unfair trade practices by closing their markets to American grown rice - a considerable amount produced right here in District 14 - Greg Laughlin introduced legislation banning the importation of all Japanese VCRs until Japanese government changed its mind. He wanted to send a strong signal to Japan that their unfair trade practices would not be tolerated. Greg will continue to fight for getting American-grown rice into Japanese markets until the battle is won.

Greg realizes while American agriculture is the most productive industry in the world, it is harder and harder for the family farm to survive, and it is extremely difficult for young people to enter farming because of almost insurmountable costs. That's why he constantly speaks out for agriculture in the 14th District, supporting legislation and rules to make sure family farms are not overburdened with taxes. Farmers should have access to safe use of pesticides without unnecessary regulations. Greg works to open international markets to the products of Texas agriculture.

In the past, Greg Laughlin has stood against the U.S. Department of Agriculture when it considered reducing the Average Reduction Program (ARP) below the announced 22.5 percent for domestic rice in 1990. And he worked to establish an Export Enhancement Program for rice sales to the Soviet Union, when it appeared the European Economic Community was trying to move subsidized Italian rice into the Soviet Union.

Protecting the rights of family farmers in their battle against unfair taxes and reduction of federal farm programs is always a task Greg Laughlin willingly accepts since he has been in Congress. Greg co-sponsored the Farm Animal and Research Facilities Protection Act which prohibits radical activists from disturbing a farm or ranch operation. These violent and disruptive attacks by animal rights activists are now a federal crime.

And in past sessions of Congress, when shortsighted big city legislators attempted to place the burden of deficit reduction on the backs of family farmers by eliminating farm and supply management programs, Greg helped block their efforts. He also votes against budget agreements in Congress when they unjustifiably impact our agricultural producers.

Greg Laughlin won't stand by as urban members of Congress try to achieve deficit reduction by hurting family farmers by requesting that tax rules be changed to allow farmers to use previous year's in estimating tax payments for the coming year. He protested the closing of the Mexia/Groesbeck County Office in Bay City, and he supported the National Five Revise Mobilization Act in the 1990 Farm Bill, which authorized funds to help rural volunteer fire departments.

Greg Laughlin also wants to make sure farmers are justly compensated when their land is taken by federal agencies for various projects. That's why he co-sponsored the Private Property Rights Act of 1991 and the Private Property Owners Bill of Rights of 1994 to deal with the problem - to keep overzealous government bureaucrats from taking land from family farmers without fair and adequate compensation.

Laughlin Receives National Security Leadership Award

Washington—On October 4, 1994, Congressman Greg Laughlin (D-West Columbia) received the National Security Leadership Award in recognition of his activities on a range of defense and foreign policy issues during the 103rd Congress. The award was presented to Laughlin by leaders of the Reserve Officers Association, the Navy League, the American National Security Council, and the Bipartisan Security Council. Gaucus in the U.S. Congress.

The Co-Chairmen of the National Security Caucus, Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA) and George (Buddy) Darden (D-GA), served as spokesmen for the group honoring Congressman Laughlin. They praised his support of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, noted Laughlin's "outstanding efforts to promote bipartisan peace. Through strength policies. His leadership has helped our country maintain its stability in the midst of an increasingly chaotic, and in some ways more dangerous world, than existed before the end of the Cold War. America is today able to chart its course in world affairs with Congressman and Merchant Marine Intelligence and Fisheries Committees.

The presentation was made to Laughlin during a ceremony on Capitol Hill that was attended by many of his colleagues. The Congressman was praised for his leadership role on the Intelligence Committee, "outstanding voting record and many leadership activities on behalf of our national security." Congressman Laughlin received a 90 percent score on the National Security Voting Index (NSVI) for the 103rd Congress. The award was based on ten key votes on defense and foreign policy issues. The NSVI is rating has been published by the Bipartisan American Security Council and Congress since 1970. Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN (Ret.), the former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, noted of our national security." Congressman Laughlin received a 90 percent score on the National Security Voting Index (NSVI) for the 103rd Congress. The award was presented to Laughlin by leaders of the Reserve Officers Association, the Navy League, the American National Security Council, and the Bipartisan Security Council. Gaucus in the U.S. Congress.

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