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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Springdale, AR, February 15, 2010—Brigadier General Bernie Skoch, Republican candidate for the Third District of Arkansas in the U.S. House of Representatives, issued the following statement today regarding entry of other candidates into that race.

"In just the past few days, two long-term politicians have announced their candidacy for the 3rd Congressional District seat Republican nomination.

"The message of this campaign remains unchanged: Our nation faces challenges we must deal with immediately, with leadership, integrity, and common sense. We are confronting the most severe financial challenge of the modern age. No nation has ever owed as much as we do, and strong leadership and dramatic action are required to put our financial house in order. We are also faced with an illegal immigration problem that needs action now.

"Neither of these problems is unsolvable, but they will remain unsolved if we continue to elect the same sorts of candidates that we have elected for too long: Politicians who see public offices as stepping stones to other public offices; politicians who are elected to one office, who serve for a decade and—when they see an opportunity to "move up"—run for another office; and politicians who, because they are term limited in one set of offices, seek other offices to fill so they can continue political careers.

"The worst aspect of continuing to elect politicians is that they make decisions based on what is politically expedient, what will make them more electable, and what will ensure tenure in their current or perceived higher offices. How else can we explain over 10,000 items of "pork" doled out by our congress to local political cronies back home in 2009 alone? How else can we explain not securing our southern border? How else can we explain a \$14 trillion national debt?

"We live in a dangerous world. In 2009 there were 31 major conflicts and seven wars in the world. By the year 2030, it is estimated 25 nations will have nuclear reactors, the precursors to nuclear weaponry. We need

representation by people who truly understand national security issues at the highest levels and who support a strong defense. My 29 years of continuous active duty service in the regular United States Air Force, my Pentagon service on the Joint Staff, and my leadership experience as a general in the full-time military have equipped me better than any other announced candidate for dealing with exactly those issues.

"We need leadership, and we need people who understand budgeting well beyond the municipal level. As an active duty Air Force general I led thousands of men and women from all walks of life, and I have frugally and responsibly managed budgets measured in billions.

"We need to elect people who aren't politicians and who aren't seeking political careers. We need the common sense spelled out in our promise to the voters of the 3rd District of Arkansas, and my experience as a Springdale small business owner has given me the common sense that long-term politicians seem to lose.

"We are encouraged by the personal support we are receiving, the innumerable volunteer hours dedicated to our campaign, and the heartwarming financial support we are receiving. We are confident that as even more voters hear our message, they will see the obvious right choice of turning away from politics and politicians and returning to true representative government. And that is exactly what this campaign represents."