



U.S. Senate Candidates Joint Statement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Candidates for U.S. Senate Request Media Respect for Iowa Voters

Iowa City, Iowa - August 29, 2014 - Four candidates for Iowa's open U.S. Senate seat today issued a joint statement requesting that Iowa media outlets respect Iowa voters by providing full and complete coverage of the U.S. Senate campaign. Doug Butzier, Bob Quast, Ruth Smith, and Rick Stewart are accusing Iowa television stations KCCI, KWQC, KCAU, and newspapers such as the Des Moines Register and the Quad City Times of misleading Iowa voters, pointing to Thursday's announcement they will be supporting debates which include only two of the six candidates on the ballot.

"Money in politics has proven, right here in Iowa, that voters no longer matter. The entry fee for the debates is millions of dollars in TV advertising - this is an insult to every Iowan," said the group's communiqué. "The [most recent poll](#) shows 20% of Iowa voters do not support either Joni Ernst or Bruce Braley. Both of those candidates also have [negative ratings higher than their positive ratings](#), a clear indication voters are lining up against them, not for them."

The four candidates strongly express, "When a state known for honest politics falls into the hands of wealthy outside financiers with the collusion of Iowa media outlets, it is a sad day for everyone. Democracy should never be for sale to the

highest bidder, especially here in Iowa." It is high priority for the four candidates to work closely as a team to bring democracy back to Iowa's senate race. The group firmly believes, "Iowans aren't naive. They know outside dollars are buying all those negative TV and radio ads, and they're fed up with it."

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