

HYPOCRISY, INEFFECTIVENESS RULE CONGRESS, SAYS PORTER

In a statement issued from his home today, Dr. Steven Porter, independent candidate for Congress in the 3rd district of Pennsylvania, criticized Republican incumbent Phil English for his hypocrisy on the issue of health care for children and criticized the Democratic congressional leadership for its ineffectiveness with respect both to Iraq and to Health Care.

“English voted against HR 3162, the bill to extend and improve children’s health care. (A similar bill passed the House and Senate and was then vetoed by President Bush.) That English and Bush complained about the \$35 billion the bill would have cost when they have wasted nearly \$1 trillion on the Iraq War is hypocrisy enough,” said Porter, “but the real hypocrisy occurred when English supporters began to run TV ads touting him as a champion of children’s health care. Once again, Mr. English is demonstrating his tactic of voting against the people while promoting himself as their advocate. I really don’t know how he has the nerve to do it, but he does it—over and over and over. And when he wants to give the illusion he supports something, he votes for it knowing that Bush will veto it. It’s called a “safe vote,” and English is a master of it.

“Not that the Democratic leadership is much better at serving the people,” continued Porter. “Pelosi and the Democrats had their chance to impeach this administration—to rid us of their arrogance, their lies, their policies of death and greed. They chose not to do so. Rather, they have given Bush everything he has asked for and only feigned opposition by saying that they would try to overcome his policies and vetoes ‘at a later date.’ How does one say that and look in the face of a family whose child will be killed in Iraq between now and a later date? How does one say that to a mother whose child might die between now and a later date for lack of health care?”

“War and health are big, big businesses,” said Porter, “and the people in Washington who take political money from those businesses—and they are on both sides of the aisle—will never, never vote for the people they are supposed to represent before they vote for the special interests who pay and own them.

“It is hard to know which is worse, the people in government who betray us or the electorate itself for continuing to put them there. Perhaps in 2008 the public will awaken to new voices, voices which are not owned and which have the courage to speak out on behalf of the citizens of our nation.

“We have had enough of politicians. It is time for caring statesmen.”