

March 11, 2006 PRESS RELEASE

**PORTER BACKS CONYERS' SELECT COMMITTEE ON IMPEACHMENT**

In a press release issued today, Dr. Steven Porter, Democratic candidate for Congress in the 3<sup>rd</sup> district of Pennsylvania, called for support of Michigan Congressman John Conyers' bill establishing a select committee to investigate whether or not impeachment charges should be brought against President Bush.

"This administration has violated the law so often and so seriously," Porter said, "that the survival of our democracy requires Congress to investigate the facts to determine whether President Bush should face impeachment proceedings.

"The recent Harper Forum panel, which consisted of both Democrats and Republicans, considered a host of potentially impeachable acts by the Bush administration. Some of them, like the administration's acts of warrantless surveillance, were described by panel members as prima facie examples of the 'high crimes and misdemeanors' cited in the Constitution as grounds for impeachment and removal from office.

"From the manipulation of the 2000 election results to the misrepresentation of intelligence before the invasion of Iraq; from civil rights violations in Guantanamo to encouraging torture by our military and intelligence personnel; from a disregard of the Foreign Intelligence Security Act to President Bush's declaration that he does not consider himself bound by the legislation he signs into law; from misleading the American people about federal preparedness before Katrina to a total disregard of the required congressional notification and 45-day investigation period in the Dubai ports deal; there is an ample list of apparent 'high crimes and misdemeanors' to obligate members of the House to join with Congressman Conyers in asking for a balanced select committee which would take testimony under oath.

"Not only do *I* support Conyers' bill," Porter went on, "but I call upon my opponent, longtime incumbent Republican Phil English, to publicly support the bill. Mr. English is currently filling us with rhetoric that he is independent of a President he has slavishly obeyed. Well, here is a perfect way for him to demonstrate that he is telling the truth. What better proof could he offer that he puts the rule of law above party politics than to support an investigation into whether or not President Bush and his administration have imperiled our democracy?

"Integrity is a key issue in this campaign," Porter concluded. "Not only the integrity of Mr. English himself, but of the administration he has so thoroughly supported. I call upon him to join me in endorsing the Conyers' bill."