

Feb 10, 2006 PRESS RELEASE

PORTER THANKS ENGLISH FOR PROOFREADING...BUT...

“I would like to thank Mr. English for pointing out a typo in my website, a link to Erie County, New York which should have been, of course, to Erie County, Pennsylvania,” said Dr. Steven Porter, Democratic Congressional candidate for the 3rd District, today. “It was an error which is now being corrected.

“But I am saddened that Mr. English has nothing better to do with his time than to berate such innocent errors, and even more saddened by the obvious glee he takes in doing so. And, like a broken record, in ranting over a typo, Mr. English again notes that some years back I ran unsuccessfully for the New York State Senate. Since he keeps harping on that, I would like you to know why I ran.

“I was asked to by the Democratic Party. I ran as a favor to them and to the candidate who ran before me, a candidate who was so maligned in her race that she resigned her job as the Commissioner of Public Health in Broome County and moved to the West Coast. I shouldered my party’s standard in a heavily Republican district not to win (there was no real chance of victory; the seat has been Republican for more than 100 years) but to give voice to an opposition viewpoint. I would do it again, if asked. The alternative would be a *de facto* one-party system making my America more like the Communist China, to which Mr. English has given “Most Favored Nation” trade status, than the country I love.

“There is nothing wrong with serving one’s party, and certainly nothing wrong with coming from New York. Some of Mr. English’s biggest \$1,000 contributors come from New York. What is wrong is the childishness of Mr. English’s attitude, his willingness to waste his time as your representative on silliness, particularly when he so cavalierly takes millions of special interest dollars, goes on so many paid trips, tells you he believes in term limits and imported Canadian drugs and anti-CAFTA votes and then breaks his every word to you. *Those things*, Mr. Congressman, are worth spending a little time on.

“Or if you are too embarrassed to talk about your record, Mr. Congressman, maybe you will tell us how you plan to solve the President’s mess in Iraq—for which you voted unquestioningly—or how you plan to provide affordable health care for all our people, or how you would bring industry back to a district which has seen it evaporate on your Congressional watch.

“So thanks again, sir, for pointing out the miscue. I apologize for it. When will you apologize for all of *your* miscues—which have been far more devastating to your constituents than a simple typographical error?”