

2000
Rouzer
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of Agriculture**

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October 25, 2007

(Name)
(Street Address)
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Dear (First Name),

I suspect it seems a little odd to get a letter on Rouzer 2000 letterhead. But as a conservative, I felt it was appropriate to save my campaign funds and use this letterhead that was left over from that race.

That was almost eight years ago, and you may recall that campaign was launched with the help of Jesse and Dot Helms. As long-time political observers know, the Senator had a policy of staying out of primaries so his dear wife, Dot, served as my campaign chairman in his stead. It was a great experience that I will always treasure.

Let me be clear, however. I'm not using my old campaign letterhead to run again for commissioner of agriculture. **Rather, I am declaring my candidacy for the State Senate seat representing Johnston County and a portion of Wayne County.** (This seat is currently held by my good friend, Fred Smith, who will be vacating it to run for governor.)

Since that initial run in 2000, I have worked for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at NC State University, served as senior policy advisor to U.S. Senator Jesse Helms (in a second stint after the primary) as well as senior advisor to U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole.

I was later appointed by the President to a senior post at the U.S. Department of Agriculture where I had oversight of a loan guarantee and grant portfolio of more than \$5 billion in investments in rural America – including significant investments right here in this State Senate district. I left that job to start my own company with a vision of helping to bring economic development to rural areas while also representing industries and initiatives on Capitol Hill and within the Executive branch that are important to the economy of North Carolina.

“Agriculture Working for You”

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It is with that experience and background that I was approached to run for the State Senate, and I have agreed to do so.

Let me lay out why I am running and what you can expect from me in the legislature. Our Founding Fathers created a government with limited powers founded on a common dedication to the fundamental principles of “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness”. For every individual in this state to have the opportunity to excel and achieve, we must work together to return to their vision of a smaller, less intrusive government that serves the entire citizenry.

If we are going to excel as a state in this new century, we must:

- 1) Significantly improve our public education system so that every child gets a quality education;
- 2) Invest in our roads, bridges, and water and sewer systems in order to accommodate the increased population growth, remain attractive for business and job creation, and improve our quality of life; and
- 3) Reform our state tax code so that it is fair to all businesses and every citizen – not just for those that are represented by the more powerful members of the legislature.

Together, we can reform our state government so that it taxes you less while providing you more.

History shows that a bigger, more expansive government detracts from individual initiative and creativity. It steals money that could be used for investment and savings, not to mention your paycheck. But a rapidly expanding government does something even more devastating than take your hard-earned money. It slowly leads to dependence on the government to do that which we could better do ourselves and robs us of the benefits of the free enterprise system that government could never duplicate.

There is no way to escape what I call the laws of exchange. The more power we give the government in the name of a popular issue of the day, the more we barter away our own ability to shape our individual destinies and that of the communities in which we live. Or to put it as Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1788, “The natural progress of things is for liberty to yield and government to gain ground.”

But history also shows that a relatively small group of committed individuals can make a big difference in this experiment of self-government that Jefferson wrote and spoke so eloquently about.

I am committed to a smaller, more effective and efficient government that works for all of us and takes less of your hard-earned tax dollars. But I cannot do it without your help and support in the Republican primary next May.

I do hope that we will have the opportunity to visit personally at some point during this campaign. In the meantime, I am enclosing an article that ran in the Clayton Herald more than a year ago that might be of interest.

Thank you for your time, and I appreciate your support for my candidacy for the North Carolina Senate.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Rouzer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "D".