

June 13, 2008

To the editor:

The 7th District Congressional election is less than two months away and my opponent, incumbent Marsha Blackburn is leveling ridiculous and untrue charges against me. Most recently, she and her campaign operatives allege that I support the Democratic Party version of SCHIP. I do not, and I have never said that I do.

What I have said is that the incumbent was being hypocritical when she opposed SCHIP on the basis that it was a waste of tax dollars but then went on to support a pork-barrel earmark providing \$300,000 to the Houston Zoo. In her guest editorial, Blackburn stated that she would like to see a "one-year moratorium on wasteful budget earmarks." We should permanently stop this wasteful spending and the back room deals that lead to them. We need consistent, conservative fiscal responsibility; I have provided this during my years in office. Congresswoman Blackburn has shown that she cannot.

Sincerely,

Tom Leatherwood

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