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## **Patrick Bohan Declares Run for Colorado's 7<sup>th</sup> District November 2023**

### **Focusing on Solutions, not Politics**

Buena Vista, CO, January, 2023 – Had enough anger, polarity, and divisive politics? There is a better choice. Patrick believes “The sole purpose of government officials is to protect the rights of all constituents, equally. Officials do not answer to a Party, individual, or a majority; they work for every citizen they represent. They are to be neutral arbiters of the law.”

Patrick highlights the ugly truth “Every stain on American history is because the government took sides on how we think or look. Eugenics, slavery, segregation, internment, sterilization, abortion, denying rights to women and socialist, and exclusionary immigration policies. Yet, today, instead of learning our lessons from the past, the government continues to take sides and promote sexuality, preferred classes of people, wokeness, climate change, political correctness, and so on.”

The present state of American politics is what Patrick likes to call “The age of rage.” Furthermore, “Divisive and polarizing politics have created fringe elements within society that are filled with anger and hate. I would like to try to heal this disease by uniting those in the middle with a louder, bigger, and more powerful message of tolerance. Liberty is about tolerance and acceptance. Liberty is about community and caring for our neighbors.” Patrick explains “The objective of the government is to promote domestic tranquility, not to categorize the populous based on demographics or ideology to create culture wars.”

Patrick wants to focus on solutions, not politics. First, Patrick wants to educate the public that “We the People” are the most sovereign entity in the United States, not the government. Patrick concludes “The government answers to the people, not the other way around. Remember, the Constitution is a prohibition on government, not on the people. If the government is limited, they do not have the power nor the capacity to be destructive and create culture wars by taking sides on how we look or think.”

Second, Patrick wants to address the biggest fallacy about our country. Patrick explains “Americans need to understand that our Founders created a Constitutional Republic, not a Democracy. A Republic is a nation of laws, not of men.” Our Founders feared democracy and majority rule. Our second president, John Adams would declare “Remember, democracy never lasts long. It soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself. There never was a democracy yet that did not commit suicide.” In a democracy, the law is whatever a majority says it is. However, in a Constitutional Republic the law should always protect Liberty or the rights of individuals regardless of what the majority opinion may preach.

Patrick elaborates further “Our rights have not changed since our Founders wrote the Constitution; thus, it begs to reason that there is no reason to change the Constitution. That is precisely why our Founders made it difficult to amend the Constitution and why the document needs to be interpreted based on the Founders original meaning. A living or evolving

Constitution provides politicians too much power and leeway to input the biases and opinions of what a majority believes into the law.” Patrick concludes “The stains on American history are majority failures that I highlighted earlier.”

Finally, the structure of the Constitution has to be protected. The foundation of a strong Constitutional Republic is one that has checks and balances and separation of powers. The Founders did not want one person, a majority, or a branch of government to have too much authority. As Patrick said “The bottom line, too much authority in any entity leads to reduced Liberty since man historically abuses power.”

The most unique separation of power and check and balance that the Constitution protects is federalism. Patrick concludes “What makes the United States amazing, unique, and exceptional is because it is 50 Republics within One National Republic. The federal government is confined to the narrow scope outlined in Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution. All other responsibilities belong to the states per the Tenth Amendment. Most federal government agencies control aspects of society that the Constitution does not provide any grant of power. In order to restore Liberty, the size, scope, and mission of the federal government must be reduced.”

Patrick’s first objective to reign in government and provide people more liberty is to pass a fundamental rights amendment that highlights the most critical rights of humanity and how they should be identified and protected. The goal here is to reinstate the Ninth Amendment to protect unenumerated rights which have been trampled on throughout history such as the right to work a lawful profession, to travel, to make choices that do not harm another citizen, to contract, to obtain knowledge, to pursue health, to marriage, to friendships, to family, to safety and protection, to profit from our labors, to enjoy lawful recreational activities, and to raise a family.

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