

# NEWS RELEASE



## **Reno Sparks Chamber Endorses Heller, Krolicki, Kieckhefer, Carter, Kirner, and Zadra for June 8 Primary**

***Chamber Also Endorses Miller for Secretary of State in General Election***

[www.RenoSparksChamber.org](http://www.RenoSparksChamber.org)

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**For Immediate Release** (05-06-2010) – The Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce has endorsed the following candidates for the June 8 primary ballot:

- Dean Heller for U.S. Congress
- Brian Krolicki for Lt. Governor
- Ben Kieckhefer for Nevada Senate District 4
- Bernie Carter for Nevada Assembly District 25
- Randy Kirner for Nevada Assembly District 26
- Sharon Zadra for Reno City Council, Ward 2

Since taking office in 2007, **Congressman Dean Heller** has been a champion for economic opportunity and fiscal discipline. He has cast principled votes on numerous issues, and has received the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Spirit of Enterprise Award repeatedly. As a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Heller will be well-positioned to contribute to help reduce the nation's growing budget deficits. Heller is a strong leader who warrants re-election.

In the Republican primary for lieutenant governor, the Chamber supports the incumbent, **Brian Krolicki**. Krolicki is a strong advocate for economic development, tourism, and fiscal responsibility, who has served the state for nearly 20 years.

In Senate District 4, several Republicans are vying for an open seat. Assemblyman Ty Cobb has compiled a strong voting record that reflects his strong commitment to reforming government and limiting taxes. Another candidate, Ben Kieckhefer, has worked in advertising, journalism and state government since moving to Nevada. His priorities include education, job-creation, and reforming government before taxes are increased. The Chamber endorses **Ben Kieckhefer**, on the belief he will provide effective leadership in advancing an agenda that promotes our economic vitality.

In District 25, several very good candidates are competing for the Republican nomination for an open seat, including businessman and former delegate Pat Hickey and public defender Orrin Johnson. The Chamber believes, however, that **Bernie Carter**, with his vast business experience in real estate and property management is the best candidate. His thoughtful, commonsense approach to issues such as the state budget and education will make a positive impact in Carson City in 2011.

There are also several strong candidates running in the Republican primary in Assembly District 26, another open seat, including community leader Ellie Lopez-Bowlan. The Chamber believes the strongest candidate is **Randy Kirner**. A retired IGT executive, he currently serves as Chairman of the Nevada Public Employee Benefits Program (PEBP) Board. His business experience, thoughtful answers regarding the SAGE Commission recommendations, and his record of saving taxpayer dollars through the PEBP Board position him well to deal with the difficult issues that lay ahead.

In recent years, the Reno City Council has been required to make difficult decisions due to budget shortfalls. The Council has exhibited fortitude to stand up to public employee unions when their demands are not reasonable. The Chamber believes the City will benefit from keeping the current Council in place. **Sharon Zadra**, a small business owner, has always been willing to work with constituents on solutions and understands the need for policies that encourage business development. The Chamber supports her re-election.

The Chamber also endorsed one incumbent who is seeking re-election unopposed. Nevada Secretary of State **Ross Miller** has proven that he understands how important his office is to the economic vitality of our state. His efforts to implement a web-paged "Business Portal" as a one-stop shop for businesses to receive and pay for their state and local business licenses are exactly the kind of steps that Nevada needs to take to remain competitive. The Chamber was pleased to partner with Secretary Miller on this initiative and we support his election to a second term.

"In 2010, it is critically important that voters carefully evaluate the positions being advocated by our candidates for public office," stated Reno Sparks Chamber CEO Doug Kurkul. "The candidates we elect will make policy decisions that will affect our economic vitality and quality of life for years to come. With early voting about to begin, it is important that business leaders vote and remain engaged in the public policy process."

The deadline for registering to vote in the June 8 primary election is May 18. Early voting begins May 22. Click [here](#) for more information.

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