

My Nickel's Worth

Michael Sipe for state representative

I'm writing to express my strong support for Michael Sipe to be our next state representative. Sipe is a local business and community leader, not a career politician. As a business owner of 39 years in Central Oregon, I look at elections like a hiring process and consider qualifications, not party or rhetoric, to be the paramount consideration. In terms of qualifications, Sipe is a stellar candidate.

Personally, he's navigated many challenging life circumstances, including poverty, a multi-cultural upbringing, 30 years of marriage to a spouse struggling with addiction and mental health issues that ultimately led to her death and single fatherhood. It's life experiences like these that produced the empathy Sipe displays in all his personal interactions and that will make him an ideal representative for all of Central Oregon.

Professionally, Sipe is a seasoned entrepreneur and business coach to many of Central Oregon's most successful business leaders. We desperately need representatives in Salem with real world business experience. He's the only candidate with those credentials.

Finally, Sipe has proven his servant's heart through action, not just talk. He founded and leads the annual Central Oregon Prayer Breakfast (largest in the state), produces the Bend Christmas Parade and the Central Oregon Business Forum. He's served as a Bend Chamber board member and past president of Greater Bend Rotary Club. He and his wife operate a nonprofit serving women graduates of addiction recovery programs.

For these reasons and many more, he's our common-sense choice.

Learn more at: voiceforcentraloregon.com

— *Connie Druliner, Bend*

Lori Chavez-DeRemer for Congress

I am writing this letter in support of Lori Chavez-DeRemer for Oregon District 5 representative! I have found her to be an incredible listener and problem solver. My husband and I are business owners and have talked with her about our concerns for the future of Central Oregon Agriculture! Agriculture in this area is headed for extinction due to radical environmentalists who support her opponent's campaign! No Farmers – No Food!

I believe Lori has the skills, temperament, common sense, integrity, and the experience to be an excellent representative for District 5! Her opponent, I believe, will only listen to people who support certain ideologies! We need representatives for all Oregonians!

Lori is the daughter of legal immigrants and has worked hard to achieve the "American Dream!" Success happens when people are willing to work hard like her and her husband! It's time to have a representative that has solid business experience and has signed the front of a paycheck – not just worked in government! We need to protect small businesses in this country-not decimate businesses with more governmental regulations!

Oregon has voted Democrat for over four decades! The problems of homelessness, crime, the economy, drug addiction, and education failures have increased in our state-not decreased! Einstein is said to have said: "insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results!" This is so true and it's time for Oregon to make positive changes!

Vote for Lori Chavez-DeRemer!

— *Trish Kentner Backsen, Culver*