

EMBARGOED. TEXT FOR
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ANNOUNCEMENT FOR REELECTION
CONGRESSMAN PAUL TSONGAS (D-MASS.)

When I announced my candidacy for Congress two years I made a number of promises. I promised to be open and honest. I promised to work hard to represent and assist constituents. And I promised to direct my attention towards the economic problems of this district's older cities and the high technology, Route 128 communities. I believe I have fulfilled these commitments.

As Congressman from the Fifth District, this commitment has meant demanding Congressional reforms of Carl Albert, working for an urban renaissance in Lowell and Lawrence, assisting companies in competing for contracts and energy monies, and fighting for jobs at Hanscom, Mitre, Lincoln Labs, and Fort Devens. And this commitment has meant working for individual constituents. From social security to veteran's benefits to lending an ear when no one else will listen.

Today, I stand before you to say that a good many more commitments must be made by the Congressman and the people of the Fifth District. We must continue to work together to demand Congressional and government reform. We must continue to face up to important local and national problems. We must continue to make the commitments that are necessary to answer this district's needs and ask the appropriate questions about America's future. As a candidate for reelection to the Congress, I am ready to make these commitments.

In the past two years our national institutions have witnessed great turmoil. Watergate has left scars and suspicion that have yet to heal. Recession unparalleled since the Great Depression and the vetoing of critical economic recovery measures have placed great pressure on the Congress for leadership.

The record is mixed. Attempts to override Presidential vetoes of the jobs bill and housing bill, for example, failed. The recent Wayne Hays affair has again raised doubts about conduct in Washington.

In contrast, the infusion of 75 Democratic Freshmen in the Congress have made a difference. I believe it is the type of difference that the people of this country are looking for. Unresponsive Committee Chairmen have been overthrown. The Freshmen successfully challenged the House leadership to be more effective. The Freshmen have been the critical difference on such crucial votes as the resolution to control the federal budget and the repeal of the oil depletion allowance.

I am proud of my role in the Freshman Class. As its Secretary, a member of its Executive Committee, and as the spokesman in the challenge to Speaker Albert, I feel I have contributed to the important dialogue for change in the Congress.

Equally important are the efforts to serve the people of the Fifth District. Our Congressional office was organized to concentrate on district needs. Our Job Resources Section has worked dilligently with businesses and federal agencies. I believe this effort has made a significant contribution. The attempt to attract the Solar Energy Research Institute, the establishment of a Lowell Development Corporation, and the successful fight to save Mitre Corporation and Lincoln Laboratories jobs are but the more visible of hundreds of services provided to area industry.

This is my record. I have presented this record at 46 "open town meetings" in the District and now present it as the basis for my candidacy.