

## Congressional district candidates removed from - Herald-Times (Bloomington, IN) - March 21, 2014

March 21, 2014 | Herald-Times (Bloomington, IN) | Lindsey Erdody 812-331-4368 | lerdody@heraldt.com

Two congressional candidates were recently removed from the ballot, which eliminated one contested primary race.

The Indiana Elections Commission struck Democrat William Bryk and Republican Trent **Feuerbach** from the 8th and 9th Congressional District races, respectively, in late February.

**Feuerbach's** candidacy was challenged for using "TeaParty" in front of his name on the filing form, which would be considered a nickname. Nicknames can be used on ballots only if the candidate is commonly known by the name, like using Tom instead of Thomas.

Bill Eggleston, who is a Republican candidate for Bloomington Township Trustee, filed the challenge against **Feuerbach**. Attorney Paul Ogden argued on behalf of **Feuerbach**, saying Eggleston doesn't know him well enough to determine whether people refer to him as "TeaParty" Trent.

**Feuerbach** was not at the hearing.

The commission unanimously voted to remove **Feuerbach** from the Republican ballot. This leaves only one Tea Party-associated candidate, Kathy Lowe Heil, on the ballot. In an email, **Feuerbach** said he would now endorse Heil for the seat.

"Before this happened, there were two 'tea party candidates' in the race, and I was actually regretting this because we were going to 'split' that vote. We both filed the same day, not knowing that it was the other's intention to do the same," **Feuerbach** said. "We can all put our support behind one tea party candidate now. Kathy certainly has my endorsement."

Republican Mark Jones and incumbent Todd Young also will be on the Republican ballot.

During the same meeting, the commission heard arguments for striking Bryk from the Democratic ballot for U.S. Representative in the 8th District.

Sandra Stewart challenged Bryk's candidacy because of an error on his declaration form. To be eligible to run in a primary election in Indiana, a candidate must prove party affiliation by either certifying that the last primary in Indiana in which he or she voted was a primary of the party the candidate is now seeking nomination in or by receiving certification from the county chairman of the county in which he or she resides stating the candidate is affiliated with that party.

Bryk, who unsuccessfully ran for the seat in 2012, didn't check either box to indicate either applied to him. He listed an address in Brooklyn, New York, and stated he was a registered voter in Kings

County, New York.

No one spoke on behalf of Bryk at the hearing.

The commission also unanimously voted to strike Bryk from the ballot. This means Democrat Tom Spangler no longer has a challenger in the primary election. Spangler owns L.U.I. PLUS, which is a furniture marketing and distribution company. It is based in Jasper.

Reporter Rachel Bunn contributed to this report.

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