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It is time for new leadership and new direction in Congress

By DAVE BRUDERLY

This election marks a crossroads: America is on the verge of reaching our highest potential, from finding cures for the worst diseases to new ways to light our homes and fuel our cars. We have the ability to educate every child and provide health care for every American.

Unfortunately leadership in Washington blocks progress. It's time for change. I'm Dave Bruderly. I ask to be your new voice in Congress.

Congress is plagued with partisanship and committed to those professionals who fund and win elections, not voters. Special interests corrupt leaders who no longer fight for real people. Education and health care go unfunded while the super-rich receive tax cuts.

I'm a traditional conservative; I support the Constitution, balanced budgets and wise use of government power and public resources to serve the public interest, not private greed or executive power.

Our \$8 trillion-plus national debt is unacceptable. Leaving our children the bill is irresponsible.

I want America to reach its full potential. We must restore honest, responsible government and invest to rebuild America's infrastructure with clean, efficient energy systems, convenient transportation, reliable telecommunications, affordable, high quality health care and a world-class education system. I support full funding for non-military R&D — the life blood of the University of Florida — not 10 percent budget cuts.

In 2002, I opposed the Iraq occupation in favor of finishing the job in Afghanistan, inspecting cargo entering American ports, securing our borders and international cooperation to capture terrorists. I advocated aggressive alternative energy policies to end our addiction to oil. Rather than working smarter to enhance our security, prevent war, reduce pollution and create good new jobs in America, my opponent rubber-stamped failed policies. He did not do his job and he did not look out for you.

My opponent rushed our troops to Iraq without question then blocked Marion County Sheriff Ed Dean's shipment of body armor to Ocala's National Guard troops.

He voted down funds for adequate medical care to returning veterans earning a rating of "zero" by Disabled American Veterans.

I have proposed over 130 solutions on my Web site, from solving the Iraq mess with the creation of a Middle East Security Organization, similar to NATO to ensuring that benefits for veterans and retirees are secure.

I'm a strong supporter of public schools. We must value our teachers as professionals and fully fund education — at all levels. I will not be a rubber-stamp for failed policies, corruption and cronyism. Performance matters.

A graduate of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, Columbia University and a retired Naval officer and ship's officer with Vietnam-era service, I've worked throughout the world and Florida as a professional engineer and environmental consultant in small businesses.

I want my four grandchildren to enjoy a sound economy, healthy communities, happy families and secure jobs — and I want the same opportunities for your family.

Think globally, act locally. Please vote Dave Bruderly — your new voice in Congress. (www.bruderly.com). Together we will bring new energy, new leadership and new direction to Congress.

Dave Bruderly, a Democrat, is running for Florida's congressional District 6 seat.
