

Senator Hensley Formally Announces Candidacy

William Hensley, D-Kotzebue, on April 19 filed for the U.S. House of Representatives in Lt. Governor Bouchers office, following is his statement.

"Every Alaskan who finds unbelievable prices at the grocery store; every Alaskan who cannot find a decent place to live or the money to pay for one if they do; every Alaskan who cannot understand why their paycheck (if they are lucky enough to have one) cannot keep up with the cost of living which constantly runs far ahead of them — every Alaskan who knows these issues must

realize that we are now represented by a Congressman who has endorsed and voted for every aspect of the national economic program which has created our present economic situation."

"I think Alaskans should squarely face the fact that the present Congressman has virtually supported every single aspect of the economic policies which have brought us where we are, and if you don't like where we are right now economically, then the way out is clear."

"For eight years in the Alaska State Legislature, I be-

lieve I have pursued the simple and direct goal of improving the basic quality of life in Alaska: fair prices, adequate housing, communications in transportation; bringing our cost of living closer in line with that of the Lower 48."

"Now, at a time when all Alaskans have been made the promise of better times because of the development of North Slope oil reserves, it appears that the national economic situation will rob us of whatever gain we will make."

"This is no accident — the

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present administration (with the consent and full encouragement of our present Congressman) has impounded funds which could make a difference, engaged in wage and price non-policies which do not work, and force our lives in Alaska to stand still while the present national political tragedy is played out."

"The events of recent months and days make it clear that the next Congress will be the most overwhelming Democratic Congress in four decades. Alaska, with its one vote in the House, must not penalize itself for the next crucial two years. It must be certain to have its representative in the majority and it must be certain that its representative is a person who will not follow the non-policies of the past two frightened years, but rather will bring Alaska into the new era which it expects and deserves."

"Today, I am announcing my candidacy for the U.S. House of Representatives."

"As a lifelong Alaskan, I have known every person who has represented Alaska in the U.S. Congress. I believe it is a tradition of excellence and a challenge, yet I believe the tradition is in peril if Alaska does not separate itself from the policies of the present administration which are so warmly embraced by our present incumbents."

"I do not believe that our education funds, our health

funds, and our basic social services funds should be held in a safe in Washington to which the Alaska Congressman has the key but refuses to use it."

"I do not believe Alaska should have a Congressman who hovers without firm direction on the best way to sell and transport our Alaskan natural gas; and I especially do not believe that Alaskans can afford two more years of support for all of the hardships that statehood was supposed to end."

"The Department of Interior that is taking Alaskan land; the administration policies which are making our dollars worth less and the political tragedy which immobilizes our system — these are the issues which make me believe that after eight years of serving Alaska in the state legislature and after a lifetime of knowing Alaskans — that we can do better, and that I cannot in conscience do less than stand as an alternative to represent all Alaskans in the U.S. Congress in the next two years."

"I pledge to address myself to the issues in depth, and to deal with the primary issues which affect the quality of our lives in Alaska in 1974."

"I look forward to years of continual public service to Alaska and to convincing Alaskans that they should learn to expect much better representation than they have received for the past two years in the U.S. House of Representatives."