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ABBLOUD SAYS MANZULLO'S "NO OIL EXECUTIVE LEFT BEHIND" ENERGY PLAN IS BLOW TO WORKING FAMILIES

Barrington Hills Mayor proposes to create long-term federal energy partnership and scrutinize oil profits

ROCHELLE – Bob Abboud, 16th District Congressional candidate and nuclear engineer, on Tuesday called Rep. Don Manzullo's (R-IL) plan to abandon further levies on oil companies "another blow to working families," demanding that oil company practices be scrutinized to avoid price gouging while Congress enact long-term policies aimed at reducing America's dependence on oil.

"Manzullo has been one of the principal architects over the last 16 years of a failed energy policy that has allowed big oil companies to gouge working families with out of control gas prices," Abboud said. "Manzullo's leadership has created an environment where the free market system is not functioning in a way that encourages competition, innovation, and efficiency. Essentially he has done everything he can to ensure gas prices for consumers are never reduced and oil companies continue to be supported by corporate welfare."

Manzullo has received more than \$100,000 in political contributions from oil, gas and energy companies over the years and has voted repeatedly to increase tax subsidies for oil companies, including \$25.7 billion in tax breaks in 2003. Manzullo also voted against increasing fuel efficiency standards while gas prices continued to skyrocket and renewable energy languished.

"For 15 years Manzullo has refused to support legislation that will help reduce prices at the pump while putting oil companies under the microscope," Abboud said. "He has not provided oversight to ensure that these tax breaks and subsidies were invested by the oil companies in refineries, exploration, and production. Ultimately, Don cannot be trusted to provide leadership that moves us away from oil as our primary source of energy and helps America become energy independent."

Abboud has proposed to redirect the billions from these big oil company tax giveaways, along with federal gas tax revenue, to invest in research and development programs to make hybrid technology more accessible and affordable. The Barrington Hills mayor also has proposed a long term plan that would move America toward real energy independence by creating the American Power Authority, a public-private partnership designed to build 100 new nuclear power plants and add substantial other renewable sources of energy that will provide clean, renewable power to people and businesses.

"My plan actually solves the problem; it doesn't spin the problem like Manzullo's does," Abboud said. "Establishing a federal energy partnership will eliminate America's dependence on foreign oil and immediately impact market speculation, forcing oil companies to lower prices to compete with new technology."

For more information on Bob Abboud and his plan to protect the environment, reduce the cost of gasoline and put America on a path toward real energy independence please visit www.robertabboud.com.