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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Next month, I will vote for Libertarian Brian Peotter for US Senate, and I encourage all Colorado Conservatives to do the same.

The reasons are clear: Brian Peotter is the only conservative on the ballot for US Senate. The COGOP's candidate in the race has no grounding in conservative positions, nor any **proven** interest in supporting them.

Foremost among conservative principles is protecting the unborn. Libertarian Brian Peotter is Pro-Life. The COGOP's candidate, Joe O'Dea, pretends to be, but he supports murderous abortion before 20 weeks of gestation. To O'Dea, apparently, some murders in the womb are acceptable, depending on the calendar.

Libertarian Brian Peotter is a fiscal conservative. He believes the Biden Inflation Reduction Act **and** the Infrastructure Bill are inflationary. The COGOP's candidate O'Dea has no such clarity: He has declared one inflationary, but not the other. Such cloudy logic becomes clearer when we learn he and his core supporters have become wealthy from government contracts.

On abortion and other issues, Libertarian Brian Peotter is vastly more conservative than this "pay-to-play" fake Republican who bought his way on to the ballot, skipping the traditional caucus and assembly process, avoiding Republican voters by paying for petition signatures.

Avoiding the state assembly was not merely political cowardice. It was a deliberate strategy to hide his true political views from Republican voters. When O'Dea's liberal positions were revealed, many in the so-called conservative media were surprised, and some have since declared him unsupportable.

The squishy state party, their wealthy donors, and RINO media pundits sold out rank-and-file Grassroots Conservatives by advocating for this fake Republican **and** for open primaries – which allow non-Republicans to choose our Republican nominee. Those same RINOs also deliberately ignored Election Integrity – as though a serious problem most Americans believe is a top priority will somehow fix itself. It won't.

This upcoming election will be a powerful referendum on the RINO's actions and inactions. Even with unchecked manipulation of the voting process, such as inaccurate voter rolls (see Judicial Watch's lawsuits), mail-in ballot harvesting (see 2,000 Mules), and hackable electronic voting systems (see Kamala Harris talking about it in 2018), we will see waning support for the COGOP's weak Republican candidates.

Recent credible polling puts the anemic campaign of "Pay to Play O'Dea" 10 to 14 points down. Only his campaign has declared the race close – a cynical effort to attract donations and reduce the personal costs of losing big.

O'Dea is definitely not a conservative, nor a Republican for any reason other than convenience. It is well documented he contributed to over a dozen hard-left, socialist Democrats – including the one he is feebly losing to in this 2022 race. Conservatives see through his failed political venture as a safety valve for leftists, on the remote chance the elections might spin out of control.

During the campaign, O'Dea laughably declared he would govern like Joe Manchin, the Democrat Senator from West Virginia. Joe Manchin gave in to the corrupt demands of Chuck Schumer after negotiating a better price for

his vote. Far from a hero, Manchin has proven himself to be a mere political prostitute, interested only in the best price for his services. In his self-assessment of his presumed legislative style, I believe O'Dea to be accurate.

If the COGOP's candidate O'Dea were elected, he would be to the left of every other fake Republican in office, including the contemptible Mitt Romney. Another Mitt Romney or Liz Cheney will not move the red wave forward, nor make America great again. Another spoiled apple in the US Senate is not a solution to the problems we face – it is a recipe for more pain and disaster.

But we know the COGOP's candidate O'Dea has near-zero chance of being elected. Thus, Colorado Conservatives should stand up and defend their belief in conservative principles by voting **for** conservative principles. This cycle, those principles are best upheld by Libertarian Brian Peotter. Such a vote is not an abandonment of our true, honest, beloved Republican Party – it is a statement that we clearly see Colorado's Republican Party has abandoned us. Colorado's Grassroots Conservatives want our party back. We can leave this sclerotic COGOP a resounding message that unelectable establishment candidates are not worth our time, money, or consideration.

The Republican Party – the Party of Lincoln – used to advocate for government **Of The People, By The People, For The People**. It has been led down a cynical path of indifference to principles – and of NO difference from the opposition party. After predictably dismal results this November, it will be time for conservatives to restore the Republican Party to its founding principles. We need those principles now more than ever.

If there were a real Republican on the Colorado ballot for US Senate, I would support him or her. There isn't. There is only a fake Republican, a pay-to-play opportunist with no conservative values or agenda. He merits no support, and he's not likely to get much. Let the COGOP know we will have a party with conservative principles, not squishy candidates with a power fetish.

Our Republic is at stake, and it must always come first, not our political party.

For US Senate in 2022, Libertarian Brian Peotter is and ought to be the choice of all Colorado Conservatives.

For God and Country,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron Hanks". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ron Hanks, Colorado State Representative, House District 60