

# Kevin Raye for Congress

## PRESS RELEASE

---

For Immediate Release  
Thursday, January 5, 2012

Contact: 207-200-RAYE (7293)  
info@rayeforcongress.com

### **KEVIN RAYE FILES CANDIDACY FOR CONGRESS** *Senate President to seek 2<sup>nd</sup> District Republican Nomination*

Maine Senate President Kevin L. Raye (R-Perry) filed the necessary paperwork Thursday to run for Maine's Second Congressional District seat.

"I am encouraged by the excellent response and expressions of support I've received across the district, from Waldo County to the St. John Valley, and from Fryeburg to Eastport," said Raye, who had been exploring a potential candidacy for the past several weeks.

"I look forward to running an issue-oriented campaign focused on making Congress work better for the American people, encouraging job creation and getting federal spending and debt under control. Everywhere I go, I hear enormous frustration with Washington. The bitter atmosphere in our nation's capital won't change until there are enough people in Congress who are willing to roll up their sleeves and work through differences respectfully to make government work for the people. That's what we did in Augusta last year, and it can be done in Washington, too," Raye said.

A hallmark of Raye's leadership in the Maine Senate has been his work to engage members of both parties to work through differences in a constructive bipartisan way to balance the state budget, encourage job creation in Maine, reduce state debt, pass the largest tax cut in Maine history, strengthen the state retirement system, reform welfare, and make education a priority.

"Poll after poll shows that Mainers feel the country is headed in the wrong direction. In Congress, I will work to move America in a new direction, away from explosive federal spending and a heavy-handed health care law that raises taxes on small business and cuts Medicare for seniors. We need to encourage job creation, rein in runaway debt that threatens future generations and prioritize spending in a way that protects national security and cares for the truly needy," Raye said.

"Maine needs a strong voice in Congress, and Washington needs a dose of Maine common sense, where we are able to talk with each other and debate the issues in a way that encourages mutual respect and allows us to get things done," said Raye. "My background and proven track record of leadership has prepared me to be that voice and to carry that message."

"Building on the constructive tone I have worked to bring to the Maine Senate, I will run an issue-oriented campaign and reject the use of negative personal attacks, which are too often used in politics to divert attention away from the critical issues affecting the everyday lives of working families. I call upon my opponent and his allies to do the same. Maine people deserve no less," Raye concluded.

In 2010, Raye was re-elected to a fourth term in the Maine Senate with 71.3% of the vote, and was unanimously elected by the Senate's 20 Republicans, 14 Democrats and one independent to serve as President of the Senate. A small businessman, he and his wife Karen own and operate Raye's Mustard Mill in Eastport. He is also a former Chief of Staff to U.S. Senator Olympia Snowe.

Prior to his election to the Maine Senate, Raye won a four-way GOP primary for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District seat in 2002, and went on to capture 48% of the vote in that year's general

election. He holds the record for winning the highest vote percentage of any 2<sup>nd</sup> District Republican candidate in the past 20 years.

The Raye for Congress campaign can be reached at P.O. Box 207, Eastport, Maine 04631, at [info@rayeforcongress.com](mailto:info@rayeforcongress.com), or at 207-200-RAYE (7293). A formal campaign kick-off is planned for the near future.

# # #