



John Bonifaz

Democrat for Secretary of the Commonwealth

*Returning
Voters to Power*

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Congressman Dennis Kucinich Endorses John Bonifaz

BOSTON – John Bonifaz, Democratic candidate for Massachusetts Secretary of State and the first Latino to run for statewide office, received the endorsement today of former presidential candidate Congressman Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio), who is in his fifth term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

“John Bonifaz stood up on the eve of the Iraq war, representing a coalition of soldiers, families of soldiers and members of Congress in a Constitutional lawsuit seeking to prevent George W. Bush’s illegal invasion of Iraq. I was honored to serve as one of his clients in that case. His vision and leadership to stand up for what he believes and to take on the most powerful forces in the country on behalf of voters is second to none. I am proud to endorse John Bonifaz for Massachusetts Secretary of State because these are exactly the qualities that he will bring to the office, to the people of Massachusetts and to the nation.

“We need more citizen leaders like John in elected office -- Democrats who are not afraid to stand up to entrenched interests. John Bonifaz was the first to stand up in my home state of Ohio in the aftermath of the 2004 presidential election. He came to Ohio and demanded a full recount of the presidential vote when few others had the courage to do the same.

“We need to take back our democracy and no position is better suited to lead this fight than that of Secretary of State. I stand with John Bonifaz in his vision for what our democracy should be about: public funding of elections to level the playing field for all of us, Early Voting to ease the burdens of voting on a workday, proactive enforcement of the Voting Rights Act and other reforms that will return voters to power.

“John Bonifaz is the leader Massachusetts needs as its Secretary of State. I encourage the voters of Massachusetts to support and vote for John Bonifaz on September 19.”

“I am honored to receive Congressman Kucinich’s support today,” said John Bonifaz, “He consistently fights for the core values of our democracy and I am proud to stand with him in our shared vision for change.”

The first candidate to officially declare his candidacy for Secretary of State, Bonifaz launched his campaign last December. He founded the National Voting Rights Institute in 1994 and defended the Massachusetts Clean Elections Law, passed overwhelmingly by voters in 1998, against a Legislature that turned its back on the voters it represents and refused to fund the law.

For over a decade, Bonifaz has been a powerful voice and dedicated leader working with people throughout Massachusetts and across the country to protect the right to vote, demand a full recount in Ohio, overhaul the nation's campaign finance system and broaden citizen participation in the democratic process. Bonifaz has also worked to hold corporations accountable for their actions, having sued both Texaco and Unocal for environmental and human rights violations, respectively.

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