



HEARD CONGRESS

7TH DISTRICT



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Craig Heard takes fight for lower taxes in Morris County to State Legislature

*Chairman of Roxbury-Mount Arlington Consolidation Study Commission
presents three-year study to Assembly and Senate Budget Committees,
Challenges Legislators to, “Put their money where their mouths are.”*

March 21, 2016 (Trenton, NJ) - Craig Heard, the Republican candidate for Congress in the 7th District and current Chairman of the Roxbury-Mount Arlington Consolidation Study Commission, testified today before state legislators in an effort to secure necessary funding and consolidation studies from the state of New Jersey.

Heard stated that the Commission requires the promised funds and studies, which are guaranteed under state petition law, to complete their evaluation of the consolidation. Once the studies are complete and it is agreed by the Commission that a merger is recommended, the question would be placed on the ballot for the voters of each municipality to vote “yes” or “no.” If a majority of the voters in each town approve, the Commission will begin the next step for implementation, resulting in dramatically lower property taxes.

“This grass roots effort to do the Study, started in 2012, was approved by receiving the necessary votes from Roxbury and Mount Arlington residents,” Heard said. “It’s a delicate process but any time you can lower property taxes and streamline a town’s fiscal management then it is well worth the effort.”

Heard presented the Study Commission requests to both the Assembly Budget Committee and the Senate Budget & Appropriations Committee. Heard, along with members of Roxbury TEAM & Mt. Arlington TEAM, spearheaded the initiation of the Consolidation Study Commission four years ago as President of Roxbury TEAM, a taxpayer group focused on the reduction of property taxes and fiscal management of spending.

“I have always been a strong advocate and fighter for accountability and efficiency in government,” Heard said. “It’s something we desperately need at all levels of government.”

Heard said his commitment to making government work better and more responsive to the people was the fuel for his decision to take on four-term Congressman Leonard Lance in the 7th District.

“Congress has an 8% approval rating,” Heard said. “And Lance is unfortunately another career politician who has had four terms to address issues like illegal immigration, our stagnant economy, jobs going overseas and the safety of our communities. He hasn’t done the job and that makes him part of the problem instead of the solution.”

Heard, born and raised in New Jersey, pointed to his long history of community involvement and local leadership as to why he thinks he will make a difference in Congress.

“People are tired of being ignored by politicians who talk a good game and then do nothing,” Heard said. “I’ve served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees at County College of Morris, worked with elected officials to curb drug abuse, fought to lower local taxes and even put on a concert to help raise funds for a memorial honoring New Jersey’s Vietnam Vets. So when the non-partisan Commission came together to unanimously elect me as Chairman, I was honored to represent this effort on their behalf. I will show them the leadership they expect of me to secure the information in order to do an accurate and complete study for the voters to decide.”

Heard, a successful business owner who forged a career in the outdoor advertising industry is a graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University, where he earned a BA in Accounting and an MBA in Taxation & Finance. He resides in Succasunna with his wife, Madeline. They have three children and one grandchild.

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