

TO: Financial Supporters and Interested Parties

FROM: Hunt for Congress

RE: Post Filing Deadline State of the Race

DATE: December 11, 2019

Wesley Hunt has established himself as a strong candidate with a compelling personal story who can appeal to a broad spectrum of voters in this suburban Houston district narrowly won by Hillary Clinton in 2016. With the filing deadline having past on December 9, Hunt continues to outraise and outwork the competition, and has been added to the NRCC's Young Gun program. A recent <u>poll</u> even has Hunt defeating Rep. Lizzie Fletcher by two points, showing he is the best Republican candidate to win this seat.

Despite a strong campaign and recent internal polling showing Hunt with a double digit, growing lead, the simple math of six Republican candidates on the ballot, several of whom could self-fund to the tune of hundreds of thousands in the primary, could force Hunt into a runoff. A runoff would waste valuable resources and make what will be a difficult general election battle even more challenging. The best way for Hunt to avoid a runoff is to increase our primary budget by an additional \$250,000 in paid media to dramatically out communicate his primary opponents.

FUNDRAISING

No one is working harder at fundraising than Wesley Hunt. Hunt has continued to dominate the field in fundraising, doubling the amount raised by all three of his Republican primary competitors combined in Q3 with over \$450,000, and once again outpacing incumbent Democrat Lizzie Fletcher compared to the same point in the 2016 election cycle. Recently, the Hunt campaign became one the first Republican challenger candidates in 2020 to achieve an important milestone—raising over \$1 million dollars. **Despite the fundraising success, we have to do even more to contend with several potentially self-funding opponents and the six candidate field while winning the Republican nomination without a runoff.**

GRASSROOTS SUPPORT

Team Hunt has built a grassroots army that continues to pound the pavement to introduce Wesley to voters. Jim Hilk, who previously managed competitive congressional races, is leading a team of paid staff, volunteers and interns which has already knocked on over 25,000 doors with a goal of 30,000 by the end of 2019. By March 3, the campaign will complete another 75,000 door-to-door visits and make 225,000 phone calls.

Hunt has been endorsed by Senator Ted Cruz and dozens of local Republican elected officials, party officials and conservative activists. With the recent opening of Hunt campaign Headquarters, the team will continue to reach thousands of voters across the Houston area.

COMMUNICATIONS



The Hunt campaign has continued to target Republicans to introduce Wesley to primary voters while also increasing Wesley's digital presence to bolster him in the general election. Hunt's was the first campaign to release a digital ad about impeachment, challenging Lizzie Fletcher for voting with Pelosi 100% of the time and falling in line with her party to support the recent impeachment inquiry. Fletcher had campaigned as a moderate who promised to work with Republicans.

Houston is an extremely expensive media market, but the campaign will aggressively target likely primary voters through digital ads, direct mail and conservative cable and radio.