



**NEWS RELEASE**

**January 10, 2024**

## **Mike Simon Announces Candidacy for U.S. Congress, Evoking Thomas Paine’s “Common Sense”**

ESCONDIDO, CA — Mike Simon, a serial entrepreneur and long-time resident of San Diego County, publicly announced today that he is running for election to Congress in California’s 48<sup>th</sup> Congressional District in 2024. Mike has chosen today to announce his campaign because January 10 marks the anniversary of the publication of Thomas Paine’s famous pamphlet, “Common Sense,” in 1776. Mike believes that voters in District 48 and throughout the nation are frustrated with partisan politics and that they are looking for new candidates who can use “common sense” in passing legislation to address the country’s most pressing problems.

Mike is one of four Democrats who have qualified for the March 5, 2024 primary ballot to run in District 48, along with one Independent and Republican incumbent Darrell Issa. Mike believes he is the candidate best suited to represent District 48 because of his commitment to work on a bipartisan basis with Congressional colleagues from all parties to seek common sense solutions, coupled with his extremely strong educational and business background. The theme of Mike’s campaign is “Partnership – Not Partisanship.”

Mike has stated, “Immediately upon taking office, I will propose balanced solutions to our most pressing problems that will appeal to every rational thinker in Congress, whether Democrat or Republican, liberal or conservative. Together, we will make smart investments to protect Social Security, develop new energy resources, reform immigration, combat the opioid crisis, defend democracy at home and abroad, and bring our fiscal house in order.”

A Stanford graduate with degrees in engineering, economics, and political science, Mike began his career with NASA in Washington DC and relocated to San Diego in 1982 to work for General Dynamics. Throughout the 1980s and early 1990s, Mike was a pioneer in advocating commercial space ventures. Mike left General Dynamics and moved to Escondido in 1993. Since then, he has founded and led three successful startup companies, all focused on developing clean transportation and energy technologies. His companies have accelerated the conversion of large trucks and buses to zero-emission hydrogen and battery-based technologies, and have created hundreds of high-wage jobs in District 48 and nearby communities.

Mike still lives in Escondido with his wife Kirsten, an attorney; their daughter Jessica, a high school senior who plans to attend college in the fall; their dog “Twinkie;” and five cats. For more information on Mike Simon’s campaign and his vision for America, please visit [www.mikesimonforcongress.com](http://www.mikesimonforcongress.com), e-mail [team@simonsays.vote](mailto:team@simonsays.vote), or call (760) 888-VOTE.