

DONALD W. FRASER  
5TH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

X  
*Congressman's  
Career*

9/27/78

Dear Henry -

Many thanks for your  
note about the election -  
it was a tough one to lose,  
but your words help.

We're still sorting out  
what comes next. I  
appreciate your suggestions.

Regards,

*Don*

Subj: Congressional<sup>x</sup>  
Corresp.

STATEMENT OF REP. DONALD M. FRASER  
September 23, 1978

A careful review of the election returns filed with the Secretary of State and of the recent recount results in three legislative districts has not revealed enough errors to justify a recount. The election officials across the state have done their work well, and except for a few problems and irregularities the election was accurate and well run.

Bob Short is the winner and I congratulate him on his success. Mr. Short's candidacy, however, poses a special problem for me. His victory was clearly the result of a Republican crossover which he actively solicited in an effort to overturn the DFL endorsement after refusing to participate in the party's endorsement process. More importantly, Mr. Short's positions on fundamental public policy questions thus far bear little resemblance to the platforms and principles of the DFL and the national Democratic Party.

Thus I am unable to give Bob Short my support at this time. I am not, however, asking my supporters to vote against him. I suggest that they listen to the debate over the next six weeks, as I will, and make their own decision on election day.

Regarding other races, however, there can be no question, and I caution the 250,000 Minnesotans who voted for me not to fall into the hands of the Republicans in response to my defeat. The Republican Party does not share our commitment to economic and social justice and we cannot permit it to take over the political direction of our state. I, therefore, request my supporters not to waste time and energy on a write-in campaign. Instead, I urge them to move into the campaigns of DFL endorsed candidates -- to work in every precinct, every county, every legislative district of this state to assure the survival of responsible, progressive policies in Minnesota. I intend to concentrate my time and energies on electing Wendy Anderson and Rudy Perpich who will carry on our DFL traditions of concern for working people and the less fortunate. I ask those who supported me to join in this effort. Thank you.