

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 30, 2008

Contact: Kevin Kuros
508-803-5009

Kujawski Dodges, Refuses to Answer Tough Questions About His Failed Record

Uxbridge – At Tuesday night’s debate between Representative Paul Kujawski and challenger Kevin Kuros, Kujawski made a number of misstatements that are simply not supported by the facts.

Kevin Kuros, the Chairman of the Uxbridge Board of Selectmen, says that “My entire campaign, including Tuesday night’s debate, has been focused like a laser on Paul’s horrific voting record. Paul continues to try to dodge and rationalize votes he’s taken. We won that debate by staying focused on the issues and answering questions directly, while Paul sidestepped at least 3 of the 7 questions.”

Perhaps the most egregious distortion of his record came in his answer to the question “How did voting to eliminate the home heating oil tax credit and voting not to expand the number of senior citizens eligible for the circuit breaker deduction directly help anyone?”

Kujawski responded “to suggest that he would vote against seniors’ benefits and people whose lives are vulnerable is ‘absolutely absurd’.”

When interviewed after the debate by the Telegram Gazette, Kujawski further elaborated that “to the best of his knowledge, he has only voted to protect senior citizens, expand home heating oil tax credit and support additional allocations for home heating oil. He said he wasn’t sure what Mr. Kuros was talking about.”

What Kevin Kuros was talking about was [roll call vote #07-054](#) taken on House Bill 4000, on 4/23/07. Kujawski voted AGAINST extending the home heating tax credit that was created in the 2005 HEAT legislation.

Slightly earlier that same day, 4/23/07, in [roll call vote #07-052](#), taken on an amendment to House Bill 4000, Kujawski voted TO KILL the amendment which would have expanded the number of senior citizens who are eligible for the circuit breaker tax credit.

The entire language of the two amendments can be found by going to the house journal for that day: <http://www.mass.gov/legis/journal/hj042307.pdf>. Roll Call #052 can be found on pages 4 through 5. Roll Call #054 can be found on page 7.

Kevin Kuros is not happy about Mr. Kujawski's denial of the facts. "*Suggesting* Paul voted against seniors is *not* absurd, because he did. What *is* absurd is his subsequent denial of the votes which are part of the state house records. The fact of the matter is that Paul Kujawski voted against helping people – young and old alike – to be able to afford to heat their homes, and now he's lying about the votes. Look it up."

"Paul Kujawski is also hypocritical with his complaints about anonymous mailers, given that he's benefited from anonymous mailers from unions and the insurance industry in the past. And, as I pointed out during the debate, Paul voted TWICE – once on the original bill and once to override the governor's veto – to specifically **allow** anonymous campaign mailers. He also voted to repeal Massachusetts' Clean Election law in 2003. I guess Paul thinks anonymous mailers are OK until a group sends one that he doesn't benefit from."

Mr. Kujawski also completely ducked the following question posed by Kuros at the debate:

"Little League coaches, soccer coaches, and many municipal, government and private sector positions require a CORI check before the position can be accepted. Will you support Legislation that requires CORI checks for State Senators, State Representatives, and all State Constitutional offices?"

Rather than answering the question, Kujawski proceeded to provide his resume of coaching youth sports and talked about the balancing act between protecting children and not excluding coaches, but **did not speak a single word** about accountability of elected officials and whether or not he'd support CORI checks for Legislators. In his rebuttal, Kuros pointed out that Kujawski completely avoided the question and stated that he (Kuros) does support CORI checks for legislators.

Kuros said "It was so obvious that he was rambling to fill the whole two minutes until Gerry (moderator Atty. Gerry Lemire) had to cut him off, so he could avoid answering the hard question of what should be done with the Diane Wilkerson's and Ted Stevens' of the world."

In a final bit of irony at the debate, Kujawski was critical of some local officials who have volunteered on Kuros' grassroots campaign, just minutes after boasting of his own very close personal relationship with former Speaker and convicted felon Thomas Finneran.

Kuros concludes "Paul's comments are those of a desperate man, willing to do or say anything to be able spend another two years living his privileged life on his campaign donors and at the expense of his district."

The roll call votes and other information can be found on Kevin Kuros' campaign website, www.kevinkuros.org. A streaming video replay of the debate can be found on the Town of Douglas website, www.douglasma.org.

#####