

Friends,

I wanted to let you know today that I am very seriously considering running for Congress in 2016.

Our current Congressman, Marlin Stutzman, will be vacating the 3rd Congressional District seat to run for U.S. Senate. This presents us with an opportunity and an obligation to elect a conservative leader who has experience dealing with the most pressing issues facing Northeast Indiana.

Many of you have reached out, encouraging me to make this run and I appreciate your confidence. I have started speaking with key stakeholders across Northeast Indiana and I have appreciated their inspiration and advice.

Our family business has been farming in Northeast Indiana for seven generations and I've been proud to be a part of that family business. Together, we have grown Tom Farms into an industry leader.

I've also had the opportunity to serve my state and community for eight years as a member of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, where our singular focus was bringing good-paying jobs to Indiana and I'm happy to say helped Indiana break records for job creation and attraction nearly every year.

In the next few weeks I intend to meet with and listen to our neighbors all across the 3rd district before making a final decision, but the encouragement so far has been overwhelming and for that, I'm grateful.

I believe Congress needs a lot more conservative citizen legislators who have created jobs, met a payroll, helped improve their communities and a lot fewer career politicians.

As I go through this process over the next several weeks, I'd love to hear what you think, so please don't hesitate to contact me to let me know.

--Kip