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PRESS RELEASE
November 7, 2006, 10:30 p.m. MST

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Voters Endorse Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Election returns tonight confirmed that voters in Arizona's Congressional Districts 5 and 8 favor comprehensive immigration reform. Championed by failed one-issue candidates Randy Graf and JD Hayworth, cheered on by the Minutemen, the “build a fence” crowd lost and lost badly as comprehensive reform candidates Harry Mitchell and Gabrielle Giffords swept to victory.

The Arizona Interfaith Network believes that voter endorsement in two key congressional districts for comprehensive reform has important national implications. These results will help establish a new baseline for immigration policy debate.

In CD 8, a district that is ground zero for illegal entry, reason prevailed over extremist rhetoric. Voters supported a candidate who favors a moderate, multi-dimensional solution.

In CD 5, Mitchell's come from behind defeat of JD Hayworth again placed reason before overheated, nativist posturing and bombast.

Arizona Interfaith Network (AIN) leaders applaud the wisdom of CD 8 and CD 5 voters and look forward with renewed energy to the pursuit of comprehensive immigration reform.

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For background information, see www.arizonainterfaith.org or contact Art Evans at 520-906-4504.