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40-YEAR INCUMBENT REP. JIM SENSENBRENNER BLASTED FOR REFUSING TO DEBATE OPPONENT

Brookfield, WI—Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner has spent 40 years in the U.S. House and more than 50 years as a politician, but this year has refused invitations from his opponent and independent groups to participate in a public debate for the residents of the 5th Congressional District.

“You’d think a half-century as a politician would give him the necessary experience to debate the issues, but he has been unwilling to stand on a stage with me and defend his positions,” said Palzewicz, a first-time candidate who owns an Elm Grove-based business and served in the U.S. Navy on a nuclear submarine.

Palzewicz challenged Sensenbrenner to schedule a series of public debates, but Sensenbrenner refused. Sensenbrenner also refused invitations from independent groups such as a local school district. On Friday, Sensenbrenner was scheduled to appear at a private forum organized by the Waukesha County Business Alliance, but was apparently unwilling to appear side by side with Palzewicz as the forum was formatted so that each candidate addressed the audience alone with the other candidate not in the room. He then cancelled at the last minute, due to an ongoing health issue.

“Debates are opportunities for the public to hear the policy positions of the candidates, but Rep. Sensenbrenner has repeatedly declined invitations to defend his views,” said Palzewicz. “Apparently he realizes his votes to deny coverage to Americans who have pre-existing conditions, his lack of effort on ensuring federally-funded road projects are completed, and his complete unwillingness to address climate change, are all indefensible. It is unacceptable that Rep. Sensenbrenner doesn’t respect his constituents enough to defend his views on the major issues that affect them.”

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Tom Palzewicz is a Navy veteran and business owner who is running to bring responsible and common-sense solutions to Congress. The general election will be held Tuesday, November 6, 2018.