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Press Release Democrats Blast LD28 Republican "Robo" Phone Calls

Tucson, AZ - At the Eleventh hour of Primary Election campaigning, a slimy trick is being pulled on voters in Legislative District 28 (LD 28). Many voters in LD 28 received a automated phone call late Saturday night from a speaker repeatedly railing about the Arizona Democratic Party and State Representative Ted Downing. Downing, an LD 28 Senate Democratic candidate, is running in a contested primary race for the Senate seat currently held by fellow Democrat, Paula Aboud. The automated message makes repeated statements which suggest that the Arizona Democratic Party has taken sides in the primary and is upset with Representative Downing and one or more of his votes.

The "robo-call" message states at the end that it is "paid for by the Arizona Republican Party", although one must listen to the end of the repetitive message to hear those words. "This is an outrageous set of distortions and outright lies issued under the name of the Arizona Republican Party and it's no wonder that people are tired and dissatisfied with Republicans being in charge," said Donna Branch-Gilby, Chair of the Pima County Democratic Party. "The message misrepresents the position of the Arizona Democratic Party regarding Representative Downing, and his voting record, and falsely implies that the Party is taking sides in a primary race between Democrats."

The Arizona Democratic Party and the Pima County Democratic Party do not endorse any Democrat in a contested Democratic primary and would never issue attack messages against fellow Democrats. The contents of the call are fictitious, created by callers who make false representations. The Arizona and the Pima County Democratic Party take no position in the primary race between Democrats Downing and Aboud.

"The timing and content of this automated message are repugnant to any responsible political entity. It insults the integrity of the political process. The Republicans may be used to eating their own," said Donna Branch-Gilby, apparently referring to recent TV attack ads by the Republican National Congressional Committee against Republicans in Congressional District 8, "but we Democrats believe that there should be integrity in politics and our government."

No Republicans are running for any legislative seats in Legislative District 28.

Paid for by the Pima County Democratic Party <u>www.pimademocrats.org</u> Donna Branch-Gilby, Chair. Bill Cozine, Treasurer. Not authorized by any candidate or candidates committee.