

One-on-one with Henry Brown

Oct 30, 2008

Live 5 News
Charleston, SC

CHARLESTON, SC (WCSC) - "We have a lot of people who can't find help someplace else," says Henry Brown, who is running for re-election in the US House.

Brown is proud of his constituent service. He calls himself a work horse not a show horse; he also cites his work on highways and bridges like helping to get funding for I-73 connecting Myrtle Beach to Michigan and money for the the new Cooper River Bridge, the Arthur Ravenel. He also says he works hard to help make life better for our veterans.

"We have been able to enhance the healthcare budget every cycle and so I'm grateful for that. We got the best health care for veterans in Charleston than any other place in the whole country. In fact, the national rating is something like number 10," says Brown.

Brown knows he's in a real fight with Democrat Linda Ketner. She has criticized the congressman for another fight he had with the US Forestry Service several years ago.

A fire on his property crossed the line and burned about 20 acres of the Francis Marion Forest. He was fined several thousand dollars by the US Forestry Service and Ketner maintains his response to that fine revealed his arrogance, when she claims he threatened to retaliate against the forest service.

"I did not threaten them, Bill I've never threatened anybody." And the congressman says Ketner is blowing the fight out of proportion.

"It's pretty difficult when you have somebody making a statement about you, not to your face, not that you have the opportunity to defend. I could say anything about you, you know, if you didn't have a defensive position. That thing was absolutely misstated," he said.

Ketner accuses the congressman of sending more junk mail home at taxpayers' expense than any other congressman in the country, a statement he denies. "That's not true. That's not the only thing she's accused me of, but that's her platform. You know, she's always going to run a negative campaign. She's all about running information about me, instead of running on her record, which she has no record.

"What's she not saying that in these 8 years that I've been a member of congress, we actually returned back to the treasury over a million dollars," he said.

The congressman says with all the trouble we're having right now in the country, now is not the time to change horses in midstream. "This is going to be the toughest time in my

career, that's the reason I think it's so important, that somebody with experience, somebody who's been there, that knows how the process works, can help us go through some difficult times."