

#### Lukert Accepts Garber Debate Challenge

(KNZA)--Democrat Steve Lukert says he accepts the debate challenge of incumbent Republican Randy Garber in the race to represent the 62nd District in the Kansas House.

Garber's campaign issued a statement Monday challenging Lukert to two debates, contingent on certain criteria. That includes an impartial sponsor, local media moderator and debate being held in a facility that doesn't receive funding from the state.

In the statement, Garber said *"I think there are major policy differences between Mr. Lukert and me. The public deserves a chance to see these differences debated in a fair setting."*

Garber also announced that St. Marys businessman Francis Averkamp will represent his campaign in negotiations regarding debate specifics, rules and procedures.

In response, Lukert said *"I was happy to see Representative Garber wants to have at least two debates. We accept and eagerly look forward to it. We have already met the three conditions they have listed and are now just waiting to hear from his representative when we can put it together."*

Lukert added he had requested to debate earlier in the campaign and was told Garber wasn't interested. He says he's glad to see Garber has changed his mind.

Garber is seeking his third term representing the 62nd District in the Kansas House. Lukert previously held the seat for five years from 2006 to 2010.

The 62nd District includes Brown and Nemaha Counties and portions of Atchison and Jackson.

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