



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Congressional candidates Bera, Jones agree to debate

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Democratic incumbent Ami Bera and Republican challenger Scott Jones, competing in one of the nation’s most closely watched congressional contests, have agreed to participate in a debate broadcast live from KVIE-TV studios on Tuesday, October 18.

The candidates accepted an invitation from media outlets The Sacramento Bee, Capital Public Radio and KVIE Public Television, as well as Folsom Lake College and the Los Rios Community College District.

The live debate is scheduled for one hour – 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. – before a studio audience of about 100.

“We’re pleased to be hosting this debate for one of the most visible congressional races in America,” said KVIE President and General Manager David Lowe. “Whether or not our viewers are in the voting district, they will receive a front-row view of democracy in action.”

The 7th Congressional District, which includes eastern Sacramento County and the cities of Folsom, Rancho Cordova and Elk Grove, is considered a battleground race given the district’s nearly even partisan divide.

“This is an important election for us locally,” The Bee’s Publisher and President Cheryl Dell said. “This debate will provide a valuable opportunity for voters to hear directly from the candidates on a variety of questions and concerns important to the voters of this congressional district, the state and the nation.”

In addition to the television broadcast on KVIE-TV’s Channel 6, Capital Public Radio plans to air the debate live on 90.9FM Sacramento and all sponsors intend to carry a live stream of the event on their respective websites.

“We’re excited about the opportunity to bring these candidates together for a face-to-face conversation. It’s an important part of our mission,” said Capital Public Radio’s President and General Manager Rick Eytcheson.

Area journalists will make up the panel that asks the questions of Bera and Jones, who is Sacramento County’s elected sheriff. Jason Shoultz of McClatchy

will serve as moderator. Panelists will include: Bob Moffitt, Sacramento Region Reporter for Capital Public Radio; Dan Smith, Capitol Bureau Chief for The Sacramento Bee; and Zainub Tayeb, a student journalist for The Talon at Folsom Lake College.

Residents of the 7th Congressional District are encouraged to submit questions by email to the panelists for their consideration. Please address emails to debate@sacbee.com, and please include a mailing address and phone number with your question.

A panel of experts will convene earlier in the day at Folsom Lake College to preview the event and discuss political debating. More details about this event will be released next week.

"For the Los Rios District and Folsom Lake College, we embrace our role of educating the citizens and voters of the 7th Congressional District about the issues that matter, and how the two candidates propose to take on those challenges," said Los Rios Chancellor Brian King. Folsom Lake College, one of the four Los Rios Colleges, sits in the 7th Congressional District.

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