## Our next Congressman had better have some answers.

# Les AuCoin does.



#### Les AuCoin has been setting examples for Congress since 1970. And he's not even a Congressman. Yet.

"One of the biggest problems we've got today," says Les AuCoin, "is government *itself.* Including Congress."

While Congress has been slow to act on problems, Les AuCoin has been working in Oregon to show how these problems can be solved.

Take the paralyzed national economy. Representative Les AuCoin helped shape a new lowinterest home law for Oregon veterans *before* skyrocketing costs crippled the housing industry. AuCoin helped draft a ballot measure to provide economic development grants and loans to create jobs in Oregon communities *before* the unemployment problem hit.



Congress has been dragging its feet on government reform. But here in Oregon Representative AuCoin helped pass strict laws that regulate lobbyists, limit campaign spending, expose conflicts of interest, and guarantee that government business is conducted in open meetings.

For years, Congress has had a problem of overspending. Meanwhile, Les AuCoin has been serving as a member of both budget committees in the State Legislature—and he has helped keep Oregon's books *balanced*.

And while Congress can't agree on a comprehensive health program, Les AuCoin has helped pass Oregon's hospital cost-review law and a measure that will ease small town doctor shortages.

That record is what makes the difference in the First District race for Congress. Named "outstanding Democratic freshman" in his first term, chosen House Majority Leader in his second, AuCoin is the only candidate who has been equipped by experience for the job in Congress. And his experience has given him some answers that he'll take to Congress.

### William Simon says tight money is the right way to stop inflation. Les AuCoin says he's dead wrong.

Treasury Secretary Simon says the pain of tight money and high unemployment is an economic necessity. Les AuCoin says it's a disgrace.

Today's inflation doesn't respond to the old treatment because it's a *new* inflation — caused by shortages of fuel, food, and a lot of other things.

Les AuCoin says, "To stop an inflation based on shortages we must stress *conservation* to make what we have go farther, and *increased production* to ease pressure for higher prices. Tight money can't do that. It can only push unemployment over 10%.

Les AuCoin knows Oregon's unemployment rate is well over 6% — and projected to be nearly 7% by the end of this year. That's because administration policies have pushed interest rates so high people can't buy homes. The result: thousands of jobs lost in construction and wood processing in the First District alone.



Les AuCoin wants to get at the roots of inflation and unemployment:

- lower interest rates for housing, small businesses, and community development.
- increased farm production to lower food prices.
- a national energy policy based on conservation and the development of new, safe sources of power.
- tax reforms to equalize the burden of fighting inflation.
- spending cuts (such areas as the \$27 billion spent for military hardware cost overruns or \$36 billion spent for military aid to repressive dictators).
- increased employment to provide more tax income without raising tax rates.

#### Saving the environment means risking your neck.

A lot of people want to roll back our hard-earned environmental progress. They blame the environment for unemployment and inflation.

A lot of people haven't thought the problem through.

Oregonians enjoy unmatched natural beauty. So did people in some other parts of the country before they sold out their environment for short-term economic gain.

"Oregon can have both a sound environment and a sound economy," said Les AuCoin. "I don't say it'll be easy. I say it'll be worth it... if our kids are to have a decent future. What it takes is politicians who are willing to risk their necks to do what's right."



Les has been acting on this belief for years. As a member of the Oregon House Environment Committee, AuCoin carried the Air Pollution Abatement Act on the floor of the House and sent it on to become law.

Les stood up to the big lobbyists and helped lead the fight on the House floor for Oregon's Bottle Bill.

Les helped pass the law that removed billboards from interstate highways in Oregon.

Les was a leader in giving state and local governments the tools they need to control suburban sprawl.

And Les played a key role in the passage of \$160 million in bonds to help cities and counties build facilities to control air, water, and solid waste pollution.

As Congressman, Les AuCoin wants to work for environmental answers at the federal level.

Les will work for legislation to protect agricultural land and open space. Three million acres have been lost in the last decade alone. Les will push legislation to compensate property owners for financial losses caused by land use planning decisions.

Les wants to expand programs to provide reforestation of our timberlands—more than five million of those acres need replanting today.

State Representative Les AuCoin is the one candidate for Congress whose job has been to *create* and to *pass* the laws which protect the Oregon environment. In politics, that means risking your neck. Les AuCoin has done just that, because that's what the job takes.

For more details on Les AuCoin's plan for the economy, environment and other major issues, stop by the AuCoin for Congress Headquarters, 12955 S.W. Canyon Road, Beaverton, and ask for copies of his position papers on the issues. Or call 643-5474.

#### Les AuCoin thinks it's time you were your government's special interest group.

Wouldn't it be nice to know your next Congressman cares about you?

Take the people of Hillsboro, for example. They know Les AuCoin cares about them.

Over the last 10 years, Hillsboro people have been trying to get a dangerous railroad crossing fixed. The crossing had killed 3 people and injured 8 others but the Burlington-Northern Railroad refused to pay a dime to help fix it. The law said that was all right.

The people began to think the case was hopeless.

Les AuCoin decided to change the law. He thought railroad crossings should be safe and that railroads should pay *half* the cost of making them that way. The Public Utilities Commissioner, Diarmuid O'Scannlain, wanted railroads to pay only 10 percent and the taxpayer to pay the remaining 90 percent.

Les AuCoin passed his 50/50 bill, despite heavy lobbying against him from *both* the railroads and the Public Utility Commissioner's office. Today, unsafe railroad crossings around Oregon are being fixed. And railroads are at last paying their fair share. In Hillsboro, the Burlington-Northern is still delaying, but the law says Hillsboro—as well as every other Oregon city—will have safe crossings. Les AuCoin will see that it does. Because it's his job.



#### How many times have you heard someone say, "What can a politician do about my problem?"

#### Wait'll they hear about Les AuCoin.

Representative AuCoin headed out of his office in Salem one day and motioned to his assistant that they were late for a committee hearing. The aide finished a phone call, grabbed his notes, and picked up the pace with Les.

"What was that about?" asked AuCoin.

"A veteran in Hillsboro says some bureaucrat lost his check," the assistant replied, looking at his notes. "I'll take care of it as soon as we get out of the hearing."

Les took the notes, stopped at a telephone for five minutes, then went to the meeting.

Two hours later, the veteran was told his check was in the mail.



About a year ago, the Hope Neighborhood Food Center in Buxton, Oregon, got word to Les AuCoin that needy people in the region weren't taking advantage of the center's low-cost food because they couldn't find the center. They couldn't find the center because they couldn't find Buxton. The food center people took the problem to Les. He talked to the Highway Division about putting up a bigger road sign pointing to Buxton.

It's up. And people are getting their food.

Les AuCoin's file cabinet at the Capitol is full of cases where people turned to him for personal help... and got satisfaction.

None of these are what you would call earth-shattering solutions to glamorous problems. Anyone in state government could have handled them. The point is, they didn't. Les AuCoin did.

Les is the only candidate in this race whose job has been solving problems for constituents of his district.

That's the kind of know-how he'll take with him to Congress.

#### Les AuCoin doesn't follow the rules.

For a while, it looked like Les AuCoin was going to fit the political mold perfectly.

Native Oregonian. Check.

Pacific University graduate. Check.

U.S. Regular Army veteran. Check.

Successful journalism career; winner of national awards. *Check.* 

Beautiful wife. Check.

Two lovely children. Check.

Perfect, politically. But then Les AuCoin started breaking the political rules.

Rule One was, *If you want to win elections in Washington County, you've got to be a Republican.* Les AuCoin is a Democrat. And he was the first one elected to the Legislature from Washington County in 34 years. Rule Two is, *If you don't want to lose votes, avoid the tough issues.* Les Au-Coin thinks you deserve to know exactly where he stands. He's the candidate who has prepared position papers on the major issues, written in strong, clear language without mincing words.

Rule Three is, *if you want to build a nice*, secure political career, stay out of tough races. Les AuCoin hasn't been in an easy race yet.

When there's a job undone, getting it done is more important to Les AuCoin than playing it safe. In 1970, there was a job to do for Washington County in the Legislature. In 1974, there's a job to do for the First District in Washington, D.C.

And that brings up Rule Four: If you want to go to Congress from the First District, you've got to be a Republican. Les Au-Coin isn't following "the rules."



#### Les AuCoin. Democrat for Congress.

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