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Chelle DiAngelus Ends Congressional Campaign in Central Florida

By KEVIN DERBY - 04.22.20



This week, businesswoman **Chelle DiAngelus**, a technology consultant who previously worked as a healthcare executive, ended her bid for the Republican nomination to challenge **U.S. Rep. Stephanie Murphy**, D-Fla., in November.

DiAngelus said on Tuesday that she could not ask supporters to continue to back her campaign during the **coronavirus** pandemic and the economic downturn which has accompanied it.

"As a result of the impact that COVID-19 has had and will have on our nation, our community and all of the individuals therein who have lost family members, had their health impacted, lost jobs, lost their retirement, lost businesses, so much more, I cannot in good conscience ask supportive and civic-minded family, friends and patriots to consider contributing to a political campaign at this time," DiAngelus said. "I cannot in good conscience wage a costly campaign on the backs of generous supporters and willing neighbors whose next season is uncertain in a world where our citizens and economy have not had the opportunity yet to recover and rebuild.

"This decision was not easily made as I am deeply committed to the need for change in our government, and to being part of that change. I believe a true leader possesses patience, restraint, foresight, wisdom, servant leadership and ethical fortitude, among many other traits. I strive to embody those characteristics and when I run again in the future, I will bring those to bear," she added.

DiAngelus cited **Bishop Fulton Sheen's** quote that "Patience is power. Patience is not an absence of action; rather it is 'timing' that waits on the right time to act, for the right principles and in the right way" as she exited the race.

"Americans are strong and resilient. We cannot be kept down and we will come out of this crisis stronger, wiser and more united. Our future is ensured by our resilience, patience and ability to adapt. I am thankful to every individual who supported my candidacy through financial means and volunteerism. I am excited about being a part of rebuilding our nation to come back stronger, together. Thank you for your support and understanding," she said.

Even with DiAngelus leaving the race, there remains a crowded field of Republicans looking to defeat Murphy including DeBary City Councilman **Stephen Bacon**, businessman **Thomas Delia**, businessman **Richard Goble**, businessman **Sean Jackson**, attorney **Eddie Mejias**, businessman **Mike Thibodeau**, physician **Dr. Leon Valentin** and businessman **Yukong Zhao**.

First elected in 2016, Murphy represents Seminole County and parts of Orange County.

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