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CONTACT:

Vanessa Brito

Vanessa@ehrforcongress.us, 305-985-9141



Former Defense Secretary William J. Perry Endorses Phil Ehr for Congress

Endorsement reflects Ehr's decades of military service and national security leadership

MIAMI — Phil Ehr, retired U.S. Navy commander and Democratic nominee for Florida's 28th Congressional District, announced today that he has received the endorsement of William J. Perry, the 19th United States Secretary of Defense.

"It is a profound honor to receive Secretary Perry's endorsement," Ehr said. "He first observed my work in 1999, when he co-directed the Stanford-Harvard Preventive Defense Project and I served as a national security affairs fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace."

The bipartisan project brought together senior national security leaders and emerging experts to develop strategies for preventing future threats to the United States. Ehr contributed research and ideas and was specifically credited alongside former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General John Shalikashvili in the chapter *Keeping the Edge in Joint Operations*.

"Secretary Perry represents the sound judgment, intellectual rigor and uncompromising ethical standards our country should demand from its leaders," Ehr continued. "His expertise in mathematics, engineering, scientific research and national security helped make America safer. His confidence in me carries tremendous personal meaning—and strengthens my determination to bring principled, informed leadership to Congress."

Perry served as Secretary of Defense from 1994 to 1997 after previously serving as deputy secretary and undersecretary of defense. He will celebrate his 99th birthday just weeks before the November 3 general election.

"At a moment when America faces rapidly evolving military, technological and geopolitical threats, Congress needs members who understand national security and respect the constitutional responsibilities that come with it," Ehr said. "I am grateful to have Secretary Perry standing with us."

Note: Secretary Perry is currently unavailable for public comment. He authorized a trusted colleague to formally convey his endorsement of Phil Ehr for Congress on his behalf.

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