

Tell the Truth

Letter to the Editor, Brunswick Beacon, 1.28.21

Ben Franklin said: "Half the truth is often a great lie." Rep. Rouzer's failure to tell the whole truth about January 6 perpetuates The Big Lie that the election was stolen. That lie has threatened our Democracy and led to a deadly insurrection.

Rep. Rouzer voted against certifying elections he says "were not conducted based on laws passed by the state legislature and therefore are unconstitutional". He doesn't say that Pres. Trump lost over 60 lawsuits making those claims, some by decisions of judges Trump appointed: Judge Scudder, who said Wisconsin's changes were made under "authority expressly granted by the Legislature"; and Judge Ludwig, who called Trump's lawsuit "bizarre", and said "This court allowed the plaintiff the chance to make his case and he has lost on the merits."

Nor does Rep. Rouzer mention that those claims were also made in a United States Supreme Court case Trump called "the big one", brought by Texas, and supported by a brief filed by Rep. Rouzer himself. Most tellingly, Rep. Rouzer does not say that the Supreme Court ruled that Texas (and Rep. Rouzer) had no right to complain about the way other states conducted their elections.

In short, Rep. Rouzer failed to tell us that not a single court supports his position. Knowing that, and even after the insurrectionists overran the Capitol, screaming "hang Mike Pence", Rep. Rouzer perpetuated the Big Lie by voting against certification. He continues it still when he falsely claims that his vote was based on "solid constitutional grounds". It was not.

If he truly wants to restore trust in government, he should heed Sen. Romney's advice: "The best way we can show respect for the voters who are upset is by telling them the truth. The truth is that President-elect Biden won this election."

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