

TENNESSEE DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Dear Drew:

I heard you've been working hard on rural talk radio in this election cycle touting Dolores Gresham for State Senate. It seemed odd since your "free-market think tank" bills itself as nonpartisan. And, of course, political activity for tax-exempt groups like yours is a no-no under IRS rules.

But as it turns out, you endorsed Gresham on-air twice without telling voters about her history of taking nearly \$36,000 in taxpayer-funded farm grants after using her position on the House Agriculture Committee to promote them. Dolores Gresham's situation seems like the kind of thing TCPR likes to rail against — especially given your opposition to farm subsidies, like the boll weevil eradication program that helps West Tennessee. For some reason, you're M.I.A. on this one.

I'm assuming your silence means you either support Gresham's ethical lapse or that your organization is, as we all figured, basically a partisan shill group. But if it turns out that you're really serious about ethics, we invite you to point your normally prolific pen toward Dolores Gresham's ripe misuse of public office.

Best,

Gray Sasser
Chairman
Tennessee Democratic Party