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## HOUSE SPEAKER ENDORSES CASTEEL RE-ELECTION

NEW BRAUNFELS, TEXAS –Speaker Tom Craddick (R-Midland) formally endorsed State Representative Carter Casteel (R-New Braunfels) for re-election to the Texas House today. “I whole-heartedly support Carter Casteel’s decision to continue her service as a state representative, and I wish her the best of luck,” Craddick said.

“I am grateful for Speaker Craddick’s support,” Casteel said. “Tom and I have worked together to advance the Republican Party’s conservative values. We both come from West Texas and were shaped by communities that taught the importance of conviction and integrity. Under his leadership, those principles guide the Texas House of Representatives.”

In January 2003, Tom Craddick, who has served 37 years in the Texas House of Representatives, became the first Republican to be elected speaker in more than 130 years. He was re-elected last year.

“Carter Casteel is a dedicated and loyal public servant to her constituents,” Craddick continued. “The people of House District 73 have a hard working leader in her when it comes to representing their interests here in Austin.”

Casteel is seeking a third term as the state representative for Bandera, Comal, Gillespie and Kendall Counties. An attorney and former public school teacher, Casteel was first elected to the Texas House in November 2002. A New Braunfels resident since 1973, she previously served eight years as Comal County Judge (1990-98) and six years on the Comal Independent School District Board of Trustees (1984-90).

The statewide primary election is March 7, 2006.

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