

A candidate who was planning to challenge incumbent U-S Congressman French Hill of Arkansas' second district is ending his campaign. Democrat Nick Cartwright announced today (Mon) he will instead run for state Senate District 18. Speaking with KUAR News, Cartwright said he made the decision for a number of reasons.

News01

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“...and my supporters.”

Cartwright says he also did not receive guidance from national Democratic Party organizers, who had invested significant resources in past campaigns for the 2<sup>nd</sup> District seat.

News02

0:25

“...Tucker before her.”

Cartwright says running for legislature will give him more time to focus on issues that affect rural Arkansans, like access to broadband internet service and improving public education. Republican Sen. Jonathan Dismang currently represents Senate District 18, but has not said whether he will run for re-election. Quintessa Hathaway is now the lone Democrat running in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District Congressional race.

A Democrat hoping to unseat central Arkansas' Republican incumbent U-S Congressman is dropping out of the race. Nick Cartwright says he will instead run for state Senate District 18, a seat currently held by Republican Jonathan Dismang of Beebe. This comes as the state legislature has proposed new district maps that would drastically alter the boundaries for the state's four seats in the U-S House of Representatives. Speaking with KUAR News, Cartwright said redistricting was not necessarily a factor in his decision to exit the Congressional race.

News03

0:25

"...with those folks."

The map passed by the legislature adds Cleburne County to the 2<sup>nd</sup> congressional district and excludes a portion of southeast Pulaski County. But Cartwright says the new state Senate district map creates a more competitive district, potentially boosting Democrats' chances.

News04

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"...this race goes."

Incumbent Republican State Sen. Jonathan Dismang has not said whether he's running for re-election, and has considered a run for lieutenant governor in the past. With Cartwright's exit from the race, Quintessa Hathaway is now the only Democrat challenging Republican Rep. French Hill for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District seat.