

From the Dayton Business Journal:

<http://www.bizjournals.com/dayton/news/2011/12/30/austria-drops-bid-for-re-election.html>

Austria drops bid for re-election

Dayton Business Journal by Joe Cogliano, Senior Reporter

Date: Friday, December 30, 2011, 2:36pm EST

Related:

[Politics](#)



Joe Cogliano

Senior Reporter - *Dayton Business Journal*

[Email](#) | [Twitter](#)

U.S. Rep [Steve Austria](#) will not run for Congress next term, citing last minute changes to a new redistricting map.

"Since the redistricting process began, it has been done in secrecy and with closed door deals," Austria said, in a statement Friday afternoon. "I join my constituents, who are frustrated and disappointed about the new maps forced upon them and the fact that they didn't have a voice in the process. There have been multiple maps and multiple election dates, which have continued to change up until just 14 days ago."

Austria, R-Beavercreek, had been gearing up for a primary race with U.S. Rep [Mike Turner](#), R-Centerville, for a newly created 10th Congressional District.

The initial redistricting map included four of the eight counties in Austria's 7th Congressional District.

"Less than a week later, without any notice or public input, the primaries were consolidated with a very significant change to the new 10th District," he said. "Only Greene and part of Fayette counties are included in the newest map and will comprise just 25.7 percent of the new 10th District, while Montgomery County would represent the balance of the new district."

Austria said the possibility of a multi-million dollar, negative primary would have divided the region and hurt **Wright-Patterson Air Force Base**. He also ruled out moving to another district to run, saying it wouldn't be fair to uproot his family.

"My track record in the Ohio General Assembly and in Congress speaks for itself," Austria said.

"I have tried to be a positive leader for our state, one who believes that honesty and integrity still matter, and a role model for my three sons."

He will serve out the remainder of his term until 2013 – using his appropriations committee assignment to advocate for and protect Wright-Patterson Air Force Base – and indicated that he will remain politically active.

"I'd like to be one of the first to thank Steve for his service to Ohio and our country," Turner said, in a statement. "I know he is an honorable man and throughout his time in office he has done what he thought was right for Southwest Ohio and his constituents. I have filed for reelection and to represent the Tenth Congressional District of Ohio. With signatures of support from Montgomery, Greene, and Fayette counties, I look forward to continuing the call for an end to the reckless spending of taxpayer's dollars in Washington and working on behalf of our community to grow jobs and protect Wright-Patterson Air Force Base."

Austria has not ruled out a future run for public office. He was first elected to Congress in 2008.

E-mail jcogliano@bizjournals.com. Call (937) 528-4424. [Twitter.com/joecogDBJ](https://twitter.com/joecogDBJ)