



**For Immediate Release**

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## **Dr. Hiral Tipirneni Calls on Career Politician Rep. Lesko to Fully Support Veterans**

*Candidate for Arizona's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Calls for Support of Veterans'  
Counseling for Student Loans*

**GLENDALE, AZ** – Today Dr. Hiral Tipirneni, an emergency room physician, cancer research advocate, and candidate for Arizona's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, called on Congresswoman Debbie Lesko to support student loan counseling tailored to veterans.

"Last week, my opponent failed to stand with veterans by voting against student loan counseling specific to veterans, whose financial and family circumstances often differ from other, perhaps younger, students," stated Dr. Tipirneni. "Our veterans, service members, and their families have sacrificed for our country, and we need to stand with them always, including in their pursuit of higher education."

On September 5<sup>th</sup>, Congress passed on a bi-partisan basis House Resolution (HR) 1635 to require parents and students taking part in student loan programs to participate in online counseling so they could be better informed and prepared for their student loans. Rep. Lesko voted against an expansion of HR 1635 that would have tailored that counseling to address veterans' circumstances.

[Nationwide, all student loan debt exceeds \\$1.5 trillion](#), an astronomical increase over the past decade. For the past ten years, Congress has consistently reduced federal grants and need-based aid relative to what is needed, which has allowed unsustainable loan debt to take its place.

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Dr. Hiral Tipirneni ("HERE-uhl tipper-NEH-nee"), an emergency room physician and cancer research advocate, is a candidate for Arizona's 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. After losing her mother and nephew to cancer, she left emergency medicine to concentrate on cutting-edge cancer research. Now she leads teams of researchers, clinicians, and patient advocates in the fight against breast cancer, prostate cancer and childhood leukemia. At the age of three, Hiral came to America from India with her family in pursuit of the American dream. Hiral and her husband met while in medical school in Ohio. They have lived in the Phoenix area, where their three children were born and raised, for more than 20 years. She is on the board of directors for the Maricopa Health Foundation.

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