

Four candidates announce for vacated District 2 seat

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Three Democrats and one Republican have filed as candidates for an open seat in the New Hampshire House of Representatives representing Congressional District 2 following the recent resignation of former state rep. Tony Maiola.

Retired optometrist Dr. Steve Cunningham of Croydon is the lone republican seeking the vacant seat representing Newport, Croydon, Goshen, Springfield, and Washington.

Vying for the democratic nomination for the seat are former state representatives Arthur Jillette of Goshen and Peter Franklin of Newport, in addition to Newport School Board member John LaRock.

Cunningham appeared before the Newport

Board of Selectmen at a meeting Monday to introduce himself to board members. Franklin also attended the meeting to continue questioning selectmen about a discrepancy regarding the boundaries of his property in Newport. Town Manager Dan O'Neill urged Franklin to hire a land surveyor.

A primary election is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 8, to determine the democratic candidate in the special election, which is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2010.

Citing health reasons, former state representative Tony Maiola, R-Newport, resigned his post late last month. Maiola, who injured his arm while recovering from surgery he underwent this past spring, said he regretted having to leave the Legislature, but trips back and forth to Concord were just too difficult.

Maiola's term is scheduled to expire next year.