

Mr. Omar Ashmawy
Staff Director and Chief Counsel
Office of Congressional Conduct
U.S. House of Representatives
P.O. Box 895
Washington, D.C. 20515-0895

**RE: Request for Investigation into Representative Robert Bresnahan (PA-08) for
Improper Use of Campaign Funds for Official Communications**

Dear Mr. Ashmawy:

I respectfully request that the Office of Congressional Conduct immediately investigate U.S. Representative Rob Bresnahan of Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District for his apparent violation of federal law and U.S. House of Representatives rules that prohibit using campaign funds to pay for official communications.

Despite clear rules requiring Rep. Bresnahan to pay for the costs of official communications exclusively from his Member Representation Account (MRA), his campaign account apparently spent between \$12,000 and \$17,500 to broadcast a digital advertisement produced and initially broadcast with official funds, in violation of federal law and House Rules. In doing so, **Rep. Bresnahan has blurred the distinction between official and campaign communications and blatantly violated both the spirit and the letter of the Rules of the House.**

I respectfully request that you expeditiously investigate this matter to determine the extent of these violations and take appropriate action as soon as possible.

I. Factual Background

U.S. Representative Rob Bresnahan was elected to represent Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District on November 5, 2024.¹ He is a candidate for re-election in the 2026 election.²

In July 2026, Rep. Bresnahan's official office broadcast a digital advertisement in his district between July 11 and July 14, 2026 about official legislation and directing people to his official website (the "Advertisement"). His congressional office spent between \$4,400 and \$5,000 of taxpayer funds distributing the Advertisement.³ Then, according to Google's Ad Transparency Center, from July 14 to July 23, Rep. Bresnahan's campaign spent between \$12,000 and \$17,500 to broadcast the exact same Advertisement.⁴ Google Ads Transparency Center estimates that the Advertisement was shown between 265,000 and 320,000 times during the time it was broadcast

¹ *Pennsylvania Eighth Congressional District Election Results*, N.Y. TIMES, last updated Dec. 5, 2024, <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2024/11/05/us/elections/results-pennsylvania-us-house-8.html>.

² *Statement of Candidacy*, FEC Form 2, amended Apr. 2, 2026, <https://docquery.fec.gov/cgi-bin/forms/H4PA08124/1957250/>.

³ See Exhibit A (Google Ads Transparency Center, "Congressman Rob Bresnahan," last visited July 24, 2026, <https://adstransparency.google.com/advertiser/AR10152309811564249089?region=US&topic=political> [<https://perma.cc/36TH-HWPE>]).

⁴ See Exhibit B (Google Ads Transparency Center, "Rob for PA," last visited July 24, 2026, <https://adstransparency.google.com/advertiser/AR02385676151914758145?region=US&topic=political> [<https://perma.cc/GME4-9DLC>]).

by Rep. Bresnahan's official account, and an additional 440,000 to 505,000 times while broadcast by the campaign account.⁵

The Advertisement was identical in both broadcasts and focused on the Congressman's Local Farmers Feeding Our Communities Act. In both versions, it featured a disclaimer that read, "Paid for by Official Funds Authorized by the House of Representatives" and included Rep. Bresnahan's official office's logo and a link to his official office's website.⁶

II. Legal Analysis

Rep. Bresnahan's conduct, as outlined above, appears to be a blatant violation of federal law and House Rules. Under federal law, Members' official offices may not use campaign funds to pay for official communications.⁷ House Rules mirror this requirement, stating that a Member's principal campaign committee "may not be used to defray official expenses for mail *or other communications*["]."⁸ This is commonly referred to as the "unofficial office account" rule.

Rep. Bresnahan appears to have violated these clear restrictions by using his principal campaign committee to re-distribute official communications that were produced and created by his official office for official purposes. The Advertisement was clearly developed as an official communication meant to communicate the official actions Rep. Bresnahan has taken while in office to his constituents. Indeed, it bears his congressional office's official logo and URL, as well as the required disclaimer communicating that the Advertisement was "Paid for with Official Funds Authorized by the House of Representatives." As such, the Advertisement may only be paid for with funds from the MRA. Yet, the campaign chose to broadcast the same Advertisement bearing the same disclosures on its own digital platform to supporters of Rep. Bresnahan's campaign using campaign funds in direct contravention of 2 U.S.C. § 503 and House Rule XXIV.

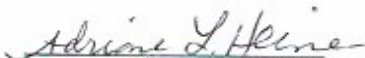
In addition to violating the unofficial office account rule, it appears that the Advertisement that was run by Rep. Bresnahan's campaign failed to include the proper FEC disclaimer "Paid for by Rob for PA" as required by 52 U.S.C. § 30120(a)(1).

III. Request for Action

I respectfully request that you commence an immediate investigation into this matter. Rep. Bresnahan must not be permitted to continue intermingling campaign and official communications, or to misuse campaign funds to broadcast official House communications. Immediate action is necessary to ensure that Rep. Bresnahan complies with federal law, House Communications Standards, House Rules, and the House Ethics Manual.

In accordance with 18 U.S.C. § 1001, I affirm that, to the best of my knowledge and ability, all evidence submitted was not obtained in violation of any law, rule, or regulation.

Sincerely,



⁵ See Exhibits A & B.

⁶ See Exhibit C.

⁷ 2 U.S.C. § 503(d).

⁸ House R. XXIV, cl. 1(b)(2).

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EXHIBIT A

Google Ads Transparency Center

Advertiser Details

All topics

Publicly ads

Search by advertiser name

Ads in United States

Congressman Rob Bresnahan

Advertiser has verified their identity

Legal name: Congressman Rob Bresnahan

EM: 55 6002525

Based in: United States

Ads

Insights

Search ads by candidate name

Number of times shown

Advertiser spent

Any time

All platforms

All topics



Congressman Rob Bresnahan
Spent: \$25K - \$30K (over)
From Jan 11 - 14, 2023 (3 days)
Open \$4K - \$4.3K



Congressman Rob Bresnahan
Spent: \$1K - \$2K (over)
From Jan 11 - 14, 2023 (3 days)
Open \$400 - \$500



Congressman Rob Bresnahan
Spent: \$0K - \$50K (over)
From Dec 26, 2022 - Jan 2, 2023 (6 days)
Open \$4.5K - \$5K

EXHIBIT B

Google Ads Transparency Center

← Advertiser Details

All topics

Published ads

Search by advertiser name

Ads in United States

ROB FOR PA

Legal name: ROB FOR PA

PAC ID: C06852127

Based in: the United States

Advertiser has verified their identity

Ads

Insights

Search by creative name

Number of times shown

Amount spent

Any time

All platforms

All time



ROB FOR PA
Shown: 488K - 498K times
From: Jul 14 - 21, 2020 (7 days)
Spent: \$10K - \$1.5K



ROB FOR PA
Shown: 48K - 49K times
From: Jul 14 - 21, 2020 (7 days)
Spent: \$2K - \$1.5K

EXHIBIT C

Google Ads Transparency Center



← Ad details

Congressman Rob Bresnahan

First shown: Jul 11, 2024, 12:39 AM (PST)
Last shown: Jul 14, 2024, 2:54 PM (PST)

Star icon: 4 stars
Format: Video

Report this ad

Report this ad

