



**For Immediate Release**  
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**INDIANA DEBATE COMMISSION TO SPONSOR THREE SENATE DEBATES**  
**Indiana venues can now apply as host sites online**

**INDIANAPOLIS**—U.S. Rep. Brad Ellsworth, Democrat; former U.S. Sen. Dan Coats, Republican; and Rebecca Sink-Burris, Libertarian; have agreed in principle to participate in three televised debates sponsored by the Indiana Debate Commission.

The commission is now soliciting venue applications as it did for the gubernatorial race in 2008. Three debates will be conducted at selected host venues in the northern, central and southern portions of the state.

Venues interested in hosting the debates can review the commission's guidelines and must complete an online application form by Friday, July 16, at:  
<http://www.indianadebatecommission.com/venue.htm>

Once venues are selected, dates of the debates, formats and other details will be confirmed with candidates and posted on the commission's website.

“The debate commission is building a solid record of hosting political events that enable voters to compare and contrast the political positions of candidates,” said Dennis Ryerson, debate commission president and editor of The Indianapolis Star. “With the cooperation of broadcast and print media statewide, we provide the largest audience and the strongest debate coverage of any such event in Indiana.”

The commission in April sponsored a one-hour televised debate among the five Republican candidates in the May primary, which was won by Coats. The commercial-free broadcast taped by WFYI-TV was carried live or delayed by 40 broadcast outlets in Indiana and also by C-SPAN in Washington, D.C.

**About the Indiana Debate Commission (IDC)**

The Indiana Debate Commission is a non-partisan, statewide group of 13 affiliate organizations dedicated to promoting debates at the state level. The commission works with candidates, sponsors, venues and citizen groups to promote open, unbiased and transparent debates for Hoosier voters. For more information visit:

[www.indianadebatecommission.com](http://www.indianadebatecommission.com)

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