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'Ron Paul Democrat' Files To Run For U.S. Senate

Terry WHITNEY, a 37-year-old Waterford technology executive, has filed paperwork with the Federal Elections Commission to raise money as a Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate, but don't look for Whitney's new committee to report a lot of donations.

Whitney said today he doesn't see raising more than \$50,000 for his race, but he is willing to pay circulators if he and his dozen supporters struggle picking up the 15,000 signatures needed to get on the Aug. 2014 primary ballot.

The 18-year Michigan resident said he's trying to bring conservative values back to the Democratic Party, which he said has been taken over by "liberal extremists."

"I think Obamacare is the worst law. It's a horrible law. It's killing jobs. It creates a pseudo-political class that is completely and totally exempt from the law," Whitney said. "The law applies to everyone except 1,100-plus campaign contributors to the Democratic Party, some big businesses and the government, itself, and it's wrong."

Whitney said he voted for Republicans Mitt ROMNEY and John McCain in the last two presidential elections, but would have voted for Ron PAUL had he been on the ballot.

"Obama has had four years and we haven't seen a lot of financial good," said Whitney, adding that he voted for U.S. Sen. Debbie STABENOW (D-Lansing) but switched over and voted for now-U.S. Rep. Kerry BENTIVOLIO (R-Milford) over Democrat Syed TAJ.

Asked why he was running as a Democrat as opposed to a Republican, Whitney said, "Certain ideologies shouldn't be limited to one political party or the other. To be a Republican, I'd have to believe that people are nothing but a number on a spreadsheet and I can't do that."

Whitney made his announcement at the Waterford library, an event captured on a YouTube video. However, the excited supporter taking the video forgot to take the lens cap off, Whitney said. The video now contains Whitney's 9:27 announcement speech with his campaign logo on the screen.

A friend suggested that they reshoot the video the next day, but Whitney vetoed the idea.

"I'm like, um, 'Hi, there are three of us here now. It's midnight now. I need to get this up and posted. You guys suck,'" he said.

U.S. Rep. Gary PETERS (D-Bloomfield Twp.) has received nearly unanimous support among the establishment of the Michigan Democratic Party for his candidacy to replace retiring U.S. Sen. Carl LEVIN (D-Detroit).