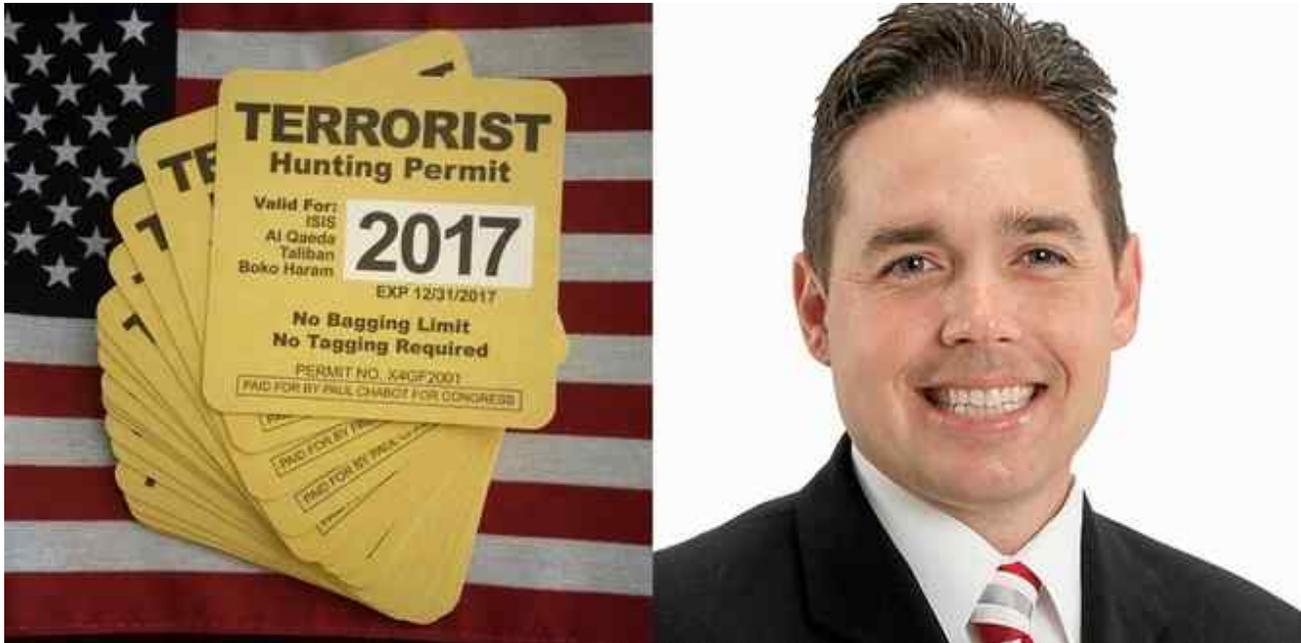


Congressional candidate Paul Chabot issues 'terrorist hunting permits' to donors

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By Beau Yarbrough , Redlands Daily Facts



The “terrorist hunting permits” donors receive when contributing to the campaign of Paul Chabot (right), who’s running in the 31st Congressional District. COURTESY PHOTOS

Congressional candidate Paul Chabot is sending donors a little something special in the mail: a “Terrorist Hunting Permit.”

The yellow cardboard square reads: “Valid for: ISIS, Al Qaeda, Taliban, Boko Haram. No bagging limit, no tagging required.”

The permits are being sold to those who donate \$99.17 to Chabot’s campaign via his website, www.VoteForAVet.com.

“Terrorism is out of control. I call the assault on our police officers — these are domestic terrorists,” Chabot said Thursday. “Terrorism in general is completely out of control around the world, and in our country as well.”

Republican candidate Chabot is running in the 31st Congressional District for the second time against Rep. Pete Aguilar, D-San Bernardino, [to whom he lost in 2014](#).

“Everybody’s been excited and enthusiastic” about the permits, Chabot said. “I think it gives meaning behind the candidacy. They’re not giving money to a candidate, but to a cause.”

According to Chabot, he’s received donations from 43 states and military mailing addresses overseas.

As of June 30, the [Federal Election Commission](#) reports that Chabot has received \$500,055 in donations, with a total of \$100,567 cash on hand and \$90,898 in debt. Meanwhile, Aguilar has received \$2.3 million, with \$1.5 million cash still on hand.

“Aguilar’s raising tons of money from special interests, no doubt about it, and we’re a grassroots campaign,” Chabot said. “But we just need to raise just enough to let us define ourselves, versus letting them define us.”

The permits may help: These new terrorism hunting permits are significantly more expensive than “ISIS Hunting Permit” car stickers that he [issued earlier this spring](#) in return for a \$25 donation.

According to a [poll of 1,091 likely general election voters](#) surveyed between June 14 and 15 by Kansas City-based [Remington Research Group](#) on behalf of Chabot’s campaign, the candidates are tied at 43 percent each, along with 14 percent of voters left undecided, if the election were held that day. In the same poll, respondents ranked terrorism as the No. 2 issue in the campaign, behind only jobs and the economy.

“We’re looking even better now than in ’14,” Chabot said.

On Nov. 24, 2014, Aguilar ended up beating Chabot, [51 to 48 percent](#).

“It’s a much different feel,” Chabot said. “People now believe that we can win this, because of how close we came in 2014.”