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Fri. May 26, 2006

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## Spering for supervisor

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The Daily Republic endorses Jim **Spering** for Solano County Supervisor, District 3, based on his leadership, independent thinking and track record as mayor of Suisun City.

As mayor, he took a town known for crime and blight and has redeveloped it into something citizens can be proud of - including a new City Hall and a welcoming water front.

Crime is number one on his list of issues - and rightly so. He wants to use his county position to help create a full-time team at the sheriff's office that can help cities deal with gang violence no matter where it strikes. This regional approach to combating crime is needed if we are to not just move the problem from city to city.

He encourages business and economic growth, but also doesn't allow business to dictate the rules - as evidenced by a meeting he initiated with Fairfield to make sure Wal-Mart wasn't pitting the two cities against each other in their bid to come here.

His goals include attracting more jobs here and improving roads - both which will help the local economy and improve vitality.

He's worked on a variety of boards representing transportation, water, sewer and planning, as well as multi-government coalitions. He has the contacts through his 20 years in government to build consensus and bring people together to get things done. We feel he will do the same on the county level.

We also like his ideas for Suisun Valley, including forming a special agricultural district there so that it can be planned as a destination area with bed and breakfasts, gift shops, restaurants, wineries and art galleries that all work together. With 90 percent of the county being rural, **Spering's** big-thinking and all-inclusive approach is necessary if people are to come to Suisun Valley and make it economically viable once again.

Jim **Spering** has proven that he can get things done. He's our choice for county leadership.

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