Column/Mark Templar

Tsongas' decision is regrettable

Earlier this month, Sen. Paul E. Tsongas, D-Mass., announced that he would retire from politics when his term ends in November. Tsongas has disclosed that he has cancer of the lymph nodes, a serious, but not necessarily fatal, disease. While his doctors indicated that Tsongas could run for re-election and serve a second term, he has chosen to return to the private sector and concentrate on his deepest responsibility — his family.

Tsongas is walking away from almost certain re-election because he loves his career. He is bowing out with class.

Paul Tsongas' decision to leave the Senate is typical of the injuries that beset the liberal wing of the Democratic Party today. He is one of the few politicians in Washington who has stuck to his principles in these turbulent post-Watergate years.

Tsongas was not afraid of criticizing his own party when he thought it was straying from reality in the late 1980s. He was the man responsible for extracting unpopular concessions from Chrysler Corp. workers in exchange for the compromise federal bailout bill of 1979. He is also the man who warned throughout 1980 that liberals would be buried by Reagan if they did not listen to the public's frustration with big government.

Tsongas had the guts to criticize his party when it was not in his political interest to do so, and he also had the courage to stick with his liberal guns in the face of an angry political j unmanned juggernaut. Tsongas was one of the handful of Democratic Senators to vote against an abor
gination in his state. I am sorry for making this public.

The 1981 selection of Tsongas for vice-chairman and an abor
gation in his state. I am sorry for making this public.

The French equivalent of the American newspaper, the Tech, has an editorial board that meets weekly to discuss the news and determine which topics should be covered in the Tech. The Tech is a student-run newspaper that is owned and operated by the students of MIT.

This week, the Tech's editorial board discussed the decision of Sen. Paul Tsongas, D-Mass., to retire from politics. The editorial board expressed regret at the news and noted that Tsongas had been a leader in the liberal wing of the Democratic Party. The editorial board also noted that Tsongas had been a vocal critic of his own party when it was not in his political interest to do so, and that he had the courage to stick with his liberal beliefs in the face of political opposition.

The editorial board concluded that Tsongas' decision to retire was a loss for the liberal wing of the Democratic Party and for the country as a whole. The editorial board also noted that Tsongas had been a leader in the fight against nuclear arms and had been a vocal critic of the Reagan administration's foreign policy.

The editorial board expressed support for Tsongas' decision to retire and noted that he would continue to be a force for liberal ideals in the country. The editorial board called for the support of the American people for Tsongas and his work in the fight against nuclear arms and for liberal ideals.

Feedback

Disapprove ofcolumn

Should Approve of column

To the Editor:
The impression of cultural understanding demonstrated by The Tech's editor-in-chief, Robert E. Malchman, in "Home is where the hot water runs" is reassuring. It is said that a spokesperson for a student body as highly international as MIT's takes pride in the uniqueness of the potential for personal growth which travel abroad provides. I nonetheless trust that his perceptions about France and the French are so obvious, cliché and xenophobic that those of us in the MIT community who value individual and cultural differences will find reason not to offer for opinion but simply to dismiss.

Edward B. Turi
Head, Foreign Language and Literatures Editor note: Malchman is not a spokesperson for the student body. As editor in chief, he is the spokesman in all matters of Tech editorial policy. Any opinions contained in a signed col-
umn, however, unless otherwise noted, are his own, and do not reflect the policies of The Tech.