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Date: 11/15/2012 11:36:31 AM

Subject: Times and Democrat: Clyburn seeks to maintain leadership role in House

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http://thetandd.com/news/clyburn-seeks-to-maintain-leadership-role-in-house/article_1cda8fb8-2ee5-11e2-89c1-0019bb2963f4.html

Sixth District Congressman James E. Clyburn is seeking another term as assistant Democratic leader of the U.S. House of Representatives.

"We Democrats rightly look with pride on the fact that we won the popular vote for Congress by an impressive margin of a half-million votes," Clyburn wrote in a letter to his colleagues on Wednesday.

"Our nation's diversity is the heart of our democracy, and our caucus's diversity shows that we are the face of America. Indeed, for the first time in history, women and minorities will constitute a majority of the Democratic Caucus," he wrote.

Clyburn's communications director, Hope Derrick, said he is the only announced candidate for the position, as far as she knows.

The Democratic Caucus will elect its leadership team Nov. 29. Clyburn has announced his support for the re-election of Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California as the House Democratic leader, Derrick said.

Clyburn, a graduate of then-South Carolina State College, was first elected to the U.S. House in 1992. After Democrats won control of the House in 2006, he was elected majority whip.

When Republicans took control of the House following the 2010 election, he became assistant Democratic leader.

In Tuesday's statement, Clyburn said, "I remain uniquely positioned to work with all seven internal caucuses of our Democratic Caucus. I have always sought to build bridges and to make sure all points of view are represented and all voices are heard at the leadership table."

"Throughout the 112th Congress, I have worked in the trenches to defend Democratic priorities. ... I worked vigorously to prevent the Tea Party Republicans from implementing their draconian 'cuts only' budget that would have decimated essential services for the most vulnerable among us.

"I'm proud of my accomplishments during the current term, and I want to build on that record. ... As a veteran of the Appropriations Committee, I am well prepared for the struggle of budgeting and fiscal issues that are likely to dominate the legislative agenda in the next Congress. ... Fairness must be the guiding principle in the budget debate going forward, and I believe I have the credibility to make that case on behalf of the Democratic Caucus."

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