



KEY ARTICLE · ORP SUMMARY

The Toledo Blade: Acton's Debate Decision Is "Damaging"

The Blade editorial board, "Editorial: Acton debate decision damaging," published September 5, 2026. This page is the Ohio Republican Party's summary. The full editorial is a subscriber article.

- Amy Acton turned down two debates against Vivek Ramaswamy: a national debate on CNN and a statewide broadcast debate from Cincinnati. The Blade's editorial board called the decision damaging.
- The board said turning down both invitations makes no political sense unless a candidate is very weak.
- It said her refusal lends weight to the Republican case that she is a quitter.
- It contrasted her with Ramaswamy, who accepted both debates, and said he has shown a willingness to face the contest that she has not.
- It said Ohio's next governor will face hard decisions under pressure, and that ducking debates raises doubts about whether she can handle that pressure or lead from the governor's office.

"If Amy Acton doesn't have the skill set to handle a debate, she should never have run for governor of Ohio."

THE BLADE EDITORIAL BOARD

Read the full editorial at The Blade (subscriber article):

<https://www.toledoblade.com/opinion/editorials/2026/09/05/editorial-acton-debate-decision-damaging/stories/20260906070>