

House Republican Press Release

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Klarides Appointed Deputy Republican Leader



Derby Legislator Ascends to Number 2 Spot in House GOP

HARTFORD- State Rep. Themis Klarides (R-Derby) will serve as the second-ranking Republican in the state House of Representatives for the 2007-2008 Legislative Session, according to an announcement today by House Republican Leader-Elect Lawrence Cafero.

Klarides, who was recently elected to her fifth term representing Woodbridge, Derby and Orange, will serve as one of Cafero's two top lieutenants, along with Rep. William Hamzy (R-Terryville).

"I am deeply honored by the confidence Representative Cafero has shown in appointing me to this post," said Klarides. "I look forward to working with him, Representative Hamzy, and rest of the House Republican caucus as we head into the challenges facing the legislature for the coming term."

"We have a tremendous caucus coming in as we start the new term," said Cafero. "I know that Themis will help each member of our caucus make life better for the people who sent us to Hartford, and for the entire state of Connecticut."

Klarides' appointment, which is expected to be confirmed at a House GOP caucus scheduled for November 30th, is the first of several caucus and committee leadership appointments that Cafero will make leading up to the January opening of the legislative session. Cafero was elected by the House Republican caucus to replace retiring Minority Leader Robert M. Ward after his 12 years of service as the GOP leader in the House.

As deputy leader, Representative Klarides will work directly with Cafero in developing the House Republican legislative agenda and strategy for pursuing and enacting specific legislative initiatives during the 2007 – 08 legislative session, promote the caucus agenda with rank and file members, and participate in negotiations with the majority leaders and governor on the budget and other significant legislation.

Representative Klarides, an attorney, has served as Assistant Minority Leader since 2002, and also served as Ranking Member on the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.