

F. GARY SIMPSON  
STATE SENATOR  
Eighteenth District



SENATE  
STATE OF DELAWARE  
LEGISLATIVE HALL  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

COMMITTEES  
Administrative Services  
Agriculture  
Bond  
Education  
Judiciary  
Natural Resources &  
Environmental Control  
Permanent Rules  
Veterans Affairs  
Delaware Economic &  
Financial Advisory Council

*For Immediate Release*

NEWS

Contact: Gary Simpson 855-1620 (w)

422-3460 (h)

November 21, 2008

Liane Sorenson

234-3303 (h)

**DELAWARE SENATE REPUBLICANS CHOOSE LEADERSHIP FOR  
2009-10.**

The Republican Caucus of the Delaware State Senate selected its Leadership for the upcoming 145<sup>th</sup> General Assembly at a meeting in Dover on Thursday evening November 20, 2008.

Senator F. Gary Simpson (R-Milford) was named Senate Minority Leader and Senator Liane Sorenson (R-Hockessin) was reelected as Senate Minority Whip. Sen. Simpson replaces Sen. Charlie Copeland who left the Senate to run for Lt. Governor in the 2008 election.

Senator Simpson said "I am honored to be elected to the Leadership by my colleagues, and we look forward to working with Senators across the aisle on the important and difficult issues facing Delaware. This is a time of serious challenges, and a cooperative effort will be required."

Gary Simpson was first elected to the Senate in 1998. He lives in Milford and represents the 18<sup>th</sup> Senate District which stretches from Milford south to Rehoboth Beach and the Long Neck area. A lifelong resident of southern Delaware, he is a graduate of Milford High School and earned bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Delaware.

Simpson works in the Office of Alumni and University Relations for the University of Delaware in Kent and Sussex Counties and was previously General Manager of the Delaware State Fair for many years.

In the legislature, Simpson has served on the capital budget Joint Bond Committee and DEFAC (Delaware Economic and Financial Advisory Council). His legislative priorities have included fiscal integrity, environmental protection and alternative energy initiatives.

Senator Liane Sorenson was first elected to the Senate in 1994. She was a Member of the House of Representatives from 1992-94, where she served as Chair of the Education Committee. Liane has served in the Senate Leadership as Minority Whip since 2000.

Senator Sorenson is a full-time legislator. She retired from the University of Delaware after serving as Director of the Office of Women's Affairs. Her earlier professional career included service as Director of Parent Education and Counselor at Battered Women's Shelter, CHILD, Inc.

Sorenson earned B.S. and M.C. degrees from the University of Delaware.

Sorenson also serves as Chair of the Delaware Family Law Commission. Her volunteer community activities and leadership positions include the Delaware Cancer Consortium, American Cancer Society, Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, International Trade Council, Rotary Club, Newark Symphony, Friends of the Newark Free Library, Friends of the Hockessin Library, Hockessin Historical Society, Newark Historical Society, Friends of the White Clay Creek State Park, Delaware Nature Education Society, and Planned Parenthood.

Sorenson has held national leadership positions on the Board of the Eastern Region of the Council of State Governments (CSG), the CSG Eastern Region Criminal Justice Board, and as President of the Women's Legislative Network of the National Conference of State Legislatures.

###