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HOUSE REPUBLICANS MAKE SENATE BIDS

Hannah Report, November 1, 2007

With a number of Republican state senators running into term limits, their counterparts in the House continue to make plans to succeed them, with two more announcing campaigns Thursday.

Rep. Mark Wagoner (R-Toledo) announced his bid to take over the 2nd Senate District seat that is now held by Sen. Randy Gardner (R-Bowling Green), who is leaving due to term limits and is now running for the House.

With the announcement, Wagoner went from a House speaker candidate to a potential senator. His name was listed among the leading candidates for that leadership position earlier in the year, but Wagoner later struck a deal with Rep. Matt Dolan (R-Novelty) and Rep. Bill Coley (R-West Chester) to join forces and back Dolan.

"The future of our region depends on the talents and skills of our workforce and our ability to demonstrate to potential employers that Northwest Ohio is the best place to start and grow a business," Wagoner said in his announcement. "In the State Senate, my top priority will be continuing our improvement in education in Ohio and promoting policies that encourage economic development and job creation to get Ohio's economy moving again."

He already has backing from Senate President Bill Harris (R-Ashland) and Gardner, and he told the *Toledo Blade* Thursday that he has the support of Rep. Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green), who is running for the Congressional seat vacated by the death of Paul Gillmor. Before Gillmor's death, Latta was thought to be the leading candidate for the Gardner seat.

Meanwhile, Rep. Steve Reinhard (R-Bucyrus) announced that he will run for the 26th Senate District seat now held by term-limited Sen. Larry Mumper (R-Marion).

"I am privileged to have represented the families and individuals of Crawford, Marion and Wyandot counties since 2001," Reinhard said in a statement. "As a farmer and a former high school teacher and coach, I have focused my efforts on improving our education system and business climate for agriculture and manufacturing. As a lifelong resident of the district, I will continue to focus my efforts on these important issues and on improving our communities."

Reinhard said he has the support of Mumper, but he could face a stiff primary from Gillmor's wife, Karen, who told Ohio media that she will announce her candidacy for the seat sometime next week. Gillmor served in the Senate for two terms in the seat now held by Mumper.

The announcements now mean there is a House Republican vying to take the place of every term-limited or departing Senate Republican:

- Reps. Jim Carmichael and Bob Gibbs both have announced bids to replace Sen. Ron Amstutz in the 22nd Senate District.
- Rep. Chris Widener is seeking the 10th Senate District seat now held by Sen. Steve Austria.
- Current House Speaker Jon Husted is running for Sen. Jeff Jacobson's 6th Senate District Seat.
- Rep. Tom Patton is running for Sen. Robert Spada's 24th District seat, but is facing former Rep. Jim Trakas in the Republican primary.
- Rep. Jimmy Stewart has the support of Senate Republicans in his bid to replace Sen. Joy Padgett, who decided against another term even though she is not term-limited.

EXPECT BUSY ELECTION SEASON IN 2008

October 30, 2007, Ohio News Now

Next month's ballot will be free of statewide issues, but voters shouldn't think they'll get off so easily in 2008.

With the presidential contest coming, outside groups with a stake in who wins are sure to find Ohio's ballot an attractive place to help them reach their political goals.

The strategy helped elect President Bush in 2004, when conservative voters came out in high numbers to approve a gay-marriage ban supported by one of Bush's biggest contributors.

The groundwork is already being laid for issues that could bring out certain voters next year.

For example, a proposal to require bigger Ohio employers to offer at least seven sick days could resonate with working class voters who lean Democratic or independent.

CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISER EVENTS

The following is a compilation of current campaign fundraising events. All locations are in Columbus, unless otherwise noted. If you have any questions please contact [Dee Smith](#) in our office.

Date	Type	Who	Time	Location	Amount
11/7	FDR	Bacon	7:30-9am	Einstein Bros.	\$150
11/7	FDR	Book and Yates	5:30-7:30pm	Club 185	\$250
11/7	FDR	Batchelder	5:30-7pm	Double Eagle, Galena	\$250
11/8	FDR	Mecklenborg	5:30-7:30pm	Queen City Club, Cincinnati	\$125
11/13	FDR	Garrison	5-7pm	Capital Club	\$250
11/13	FDR	Skindell	5:30-7:30pm	Tony's Restaurant	\$250
11/13	FDR	Schlichter	5:30-7pm	Club 185	\$200
11/13	FDR	Schaffer	5:30-7pm	San Francisco Oven	\$300
11/13	FDR	Boyd	5:30-7:30pm	Jimmy V's	\$250
11/14	FDR	Okey & Sayre	5:30-7:30pm	Claddagh	\$250
11/14	FDR	Dyer & Szollosi	5:30-7:30pm	Tony's Restaurant	\$250
11/14	FDR	Mallory & Miller	5:30-7:30pm	Tony's Restaurant	\$250
11/16	FDR	Strickland	7pm	Pizzuti Club; Nationwide	\$150
11/28	FDR	Mecklenborg	5:30-7:30pm	Western Hill CC, Cincinnati	\$150