
THIS WEEK IN TRENTON



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Assembly Speaker Joseph Roberts, Jr. Will Not Seek Re-election

Assembly Speaker Joseph J. Roberts, Jr. announced today that he will not seek re-election to the Assembly this November. Roberts announced his decision to his South Jersey colleagues at a breakfast meeting in Cherry Hill this morning followed by a press conference in the State House this afternoon.

Roberts has served as Speaker since 2006 and served as Majority Leader from 2002 to 2006. He was first elected to the Assembly in a special election on July 28, 1987 and was re-elected eleven times. Prior to joining the Assembly, Roberts served on the Camden County Board of Chosen Freeholders from 1980 through 1987, and was freeholder director for four of those years. He also served on the Bellmawr Borough Council and Board of Education.

Roberts' replacement on November's ballot is expected to be Donald Norcross, President of the Southern New Jersey AFL-CIO Central Labor Council. Norcross is also co-chairman of the Camden County Democratic Committee and the brother of South Jersey political boss George Norcross.

PSI in the News: PSI's own Harold Hodes and Bill Maer Top Ranked Lobbyists on PolitickerNJ.com Power List

The PolitickerNJ.com Power List 2009 identifies New Jersey's 100 most politically influential personalities. This is an Insiders List consisting of New Jerseyans with clout, with an impact on politics and government in the Garden State.

Harold and Bill were ranked #38 on the list, which is the highest ranking of any lobbyists in the state. According to the ranking: "*Brendan Byrne's ex-chief of staff retains his influence in a world where the faces are constantly changing, especially as a mentor of young Democrats, like Bill Maer and Corzine Campaign Manager Maggie Moran.*" To view the complete list, visit http://www.politickernj.com/files/PowerList2009_PolitickerNJ.pdf