



H. WILLIAM DEWEESE  
THE MINORITY LEADER

THE STATE CAPITOL  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2020  
PHONE: (717) 783-3797

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

JAN 21 2005

January 20, 2005

Honorable Thomas A. Tangretti  
PA House of Representatives  
328 Irvis Office Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representative Tangretti:

This is to inform you that I have appointed you to serve as Democratic Subcommittee Chair on Capital Budget for the Appropriations Committee and as Democratic Subcommittee Chair on Financial Service & Banking for the Commerce Committee of the House of Representatives, for the 2005-2006 Legislative Session of the General Assembly.

I am pleased to make these appointments and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

H. William DeWeese  
The Minority Leader

HWD/kcw

BILL DeWEESE  
THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER



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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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HARRISBURG

**April 11, 2007**

**Honorable Dennis M. O'Brien  
Speaker  
PA House of Representatives  
139 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2169**

**Dear Mr. Speaker:**

**I hereby recommend Representatives Thomas Tangretti, Robert Freeman and David R. Kessler for appointment to the Local Government Commission for the 2007-2008 Legislative Sessions of the General Assembly.**

**Thank you for your continued cooperation.**

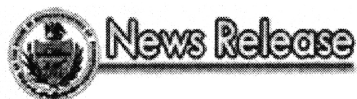
**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill DeWeese".

**Bill DeWeese  
The Majority Leader**

**HWD/kgs**

**cc: Representative Thomas Tangretti  
Representative Robert Freeman  
Representative David R. Kessler  
Representative Keith McCall, Majority Whip  
Michael P. Gasbarre, Local Government Commission  
Governor's Office of Boards & Commissions**



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

State Rep. Tom Tangretti  
D-Westmoreland  
[www.pahouse.com/Tangretti](http://www.pahouse.com/Tangretti)

    
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## **Tangretti gets key appointments for 2007-08 legislative session**

### Westmoreland legislator to chair tourism committee, serve on House reform panel

**HARRISBURG, Jan. 16** – State Rep. Tom Tangretti has been appointed chairman of the House Tourism and Recreational Development Committee and to serve on an important bipartisan committee created by the House speaker to study ways to reform the House's rules and procedures during the 2007-08 legislative session.

For Tangretti, who is beginning his 10<sup>th</sup> term in the House representing Greensburg and surrounding municipalities in Westmoreland County, it is his first committee chairmanship. Tangretti said serving as majority chairman of the Tourism and Recreational Development Committee presents a great opportunity to enhance the visibility and economy of southwestern Pennsylvania and other areas of the state.

"Tourism is now one of the top two industries in Pennsylvania," Tangretti said. "Several of the issues I have been working on for a number of years in the legislature – including historic preservation and transportation – are key components of the tourism industry and integral to building the success of that industry and of our economy."

Tangretti said he is also excited about the opportunity to help shape reform in the House of Representatives. New House Speaker Dennis O'Brien announced creation of a Speaker's Commission on Legislative Reform, a bipartisan panel charged with rewriting the rules of the House to make the process of government more open and accountable to voters. Majority Leader Bill DeWeese and Majority Whip Keith McCall named Tangretti as one of the 12 Democrats to the panel on Friday.

"Reform in Harrisburg is a huge issue for the people of Pennsylvania, and it is a priority of mine, as well," said Tangretti, who was part of a bipartisan group of legislators that successfully pushed for repeal of the pay raise last session and advocated several reform initiatives for the new session.

"We need to restore confidence in our state government, and the only way we can do that is with more transparency and more accountability," he said. "I will be working hard with other members of the Speaker's Commission on Legislative Reform to come up with and gain adoption of new rules and procedures to improve the way the House does business and the way it serves the people who elect it."

###mjh/2007/agh

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State Rep. Tom Tangretti  
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## **Tangretti to seek leadership of House Democratic Caucus**

**HARRISBURG, Nov. 13** – State Rep. Tom Tangretti, D-Westmoreland, informed members of the House Democratic Caucus today that he intends to run for the position of caucus leader when the caucus' leadership elections are held tomorrow.

Tangretti said he is running because he sees a historic opportunity to both change the way the legislative caucuses do businesses and improve the legislative process.

“With the right leadership, I believe the House Democratic Caucus can be the caucus that pulls back the curtain to allow the light of public scrutiny on how decisions are made and to make the legislature more responsive and accountable to the people,” Tangretti said. “My platform is to provide that leadership.”

The House Democratic leader oversees both the administration of the House Democratic Caucus and its rank-and-file members and staff, and also sets the direction for House Democratic policy and legislative strategy. Tangretti said as House Democratic leader, he would shift strategy for both caucus administration and legislative policymaking toward more involvement for rank-and-file members and, as a result, the people they represent.

“The House Democratic Caucus can and should be the caucus that ensures that its rank-and-file members, and thus the hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians they represent, guide caucus policy and direction, not just a powerful few,” Tangretti said. “That kind of leadership – based on openness, consensus and cooperation – will result in a stronger caucus and better policy.”

Tangretti said while the pay raise was a huge mistake, he believes its aftermath has presented the legislature with an opportunity to improve Pennsylvania government.

“The pay raise, in large part, was a mistake borne of the way the legislative caucuses are currently run and the impact it has had on the legislative process,” he said. “The voters of Pennsylvania have now given us a historic opportunity to turn that mistake into real reforms, reforms that result in legislative caucuses and a General Assembly that are much more open, much more responsive, and much less likely to produce decisions like the pay-raise vote in the future.

“Our leadership elections are a first step in that reform process, a process I believe is not only important but essential for this legislature. That is why I have decided to run for leader of the House Democratic Caucus.”

Tangretti has represented that 57<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, which includes Greensburg and surrounding municipalities in Westmoreland County, since 1989.

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