FROM PA. REP. TOM SCRIMENTI 5EB-23-1993 12:31

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# House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA HARRISBURG

#### BIOGRAPHY OF

### REPRESENTATIVE TOM SCRIMENTI

# Political Experience:

In November of 1988, at the age of 28, Tom Scrimenti was elected to his first term in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. This election was a natural progression for him, having been elected to three local offices prior to that.

His political career began while a senior in high school, when he served as a Democratic Committeeman. One year after graduating from high school, he was elected to the school board in North East at the age of 19, making him one of the youngest elected school board members in the state.

After completing that two-year term, he was elected mayor of North East, making him the youngest mayor in the United States and the first Democratic mayor in North East in more than 100 years. He was re-elected mayor in 1986.

## Education:

B.A. in Criminal Justice from Gannon University

# Work Experience:

Harborcreek School for Boys Erie County Prison Edmund L. Thomas Adolescent Center

# Legislative Accomplishments:

- -- Refused to accept a \$12,000 legislative pay raise which was approved by the General Assembly in 1987. Used the money instead to Set up a Community Account, which funds small project requests, from groups and needy individuals.
- -- Sponsored House Bill 540, which extends the Homeowner's Emergency Assistance Program for three more years, thereby allowing the state to give short-term mortagage assistance to homeowners who run into unexpected financial problems.
- --Sponsored a bill--which became law--that designates part of Interstate 90 as AMVETS Memorial Highway, as part of an effort to honor veterans of World War II, the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War.

## COMMITTEES

AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS MILITARY & VETERANS AFFAIRS GAME & FISHERIES LIQUOR CONTROL

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- --Successfully lobbied state officials to open the new State Job Center in Corry, which helps train workers and connect them with employers.
- --During 1990, obtained \$140,000 in legislative initiative grants for the 4th District.
- --Sponsored House Bill 1281, part of a tough anti-drug package which passed in the House. Scrimenti's bill imposes a mandatory life prison sentence on anyone who commits a crime involving drugs, if that crime results in a death.
- --Sponsored House Bill 2320, which prohibits the use of four toxic chemicals in the manufacture of packaging materials. This bill is designed to prevent these toxins from entering landfills and leaching into groundwater.
- --During the 1989-90 session, helped obtain millions of dollars in state funding for economic development projects, infrastructure improvement projects, public welfare projects and recycling projects in the 4th District.
- -- Obtained a \$20,000 state grant for the Pennsylvania Grape Industry Association to help promote the industry and fund research in grape production. Also sponsored a bill which would create a Pennsylvania Grape Development and Promotion Committee, to assist the Grape Industry, which is an important part of the economy of northwestern Pennsylvania.

## Thomas J. Scrimenti State Representative 4th Legislative District

State Representative Tom Scrimenti is a lifelong resident of North East, Pennsylvania. He has nine brothers and sisters and included in the number is his twin brother, Tim.

Representative Scrimenti's involvement in government began when, as a senior in high school, he ran for his first elected office and won a committeeman post. The year after he graduated from high school he ran for school director and, at the age of 19, became one of the youngest elected school directors in the state.

In 1982, Representative Scrimenti, after completing his two-year term on the North East School Board, began his first term as Mayor of North East. He was elected as the youngest Mayor in the United States and the first Democratic Mayor in North East in over 100 years. He was reelected in 1986 and served the people of North East for two terms.

Representative Scrimenti's tenure as Mayor is marked by his active community involvement in local economic development initiatives as well as being a strong senior citizen advocate. He is past chairman of and remains a member of the Senior Citizen Health Care Council of Erie County.

Representative Scrimenti's interest have evolved from his criminal justice background. He holds a BA in Criminal Justice from Gannon University and has gained experience in his field from his work at Harborcreek School Boys, Erie County Prison and Edmund L. Thomas Adolescent Center.

The 4th Legislative District consists of part of Erie County.