

## Press Release

### Folmer for State Senate

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Today, “Citizen Mike” Folmer announced his candidacy for reelection to the Pennsylvania Senate: “After praying and deliberating for months, I’ve decided to seek another term as Senator for the 48<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District”, said Folmer.

Earlier in the year, over 100 constituents, friends, and supporters surprised Folmer at a public gathering urging him to run for another four-year term.

“In thinking what people said to me, I realized I waited eight years to become Senate State Government Committee chair and I’d like eight years as chair.”

The State Government Committee is where many of the reforms of Folmer’s “Promise to Pennsylvania” are referred: tax and spending reform, legislative and political reform, and legal and labor law reform.

Additionally, Folmer continues to pursue implementation of his signature legislative accomplishment: bringing medical cannabis to Pennsylvania.

“Although it took over two years to pass, I’m proud my medical cannabis bill was signed into law. It will give patients and their families one more arrow in their quivers to fight diseases, illnesses, and medical conditions. I’d like to see this important program up and running and have the bugs worked out”, said Folmer.

Republicans and Democrats alike praised Mike for his work to successfully “change hearts and minds” in getting his medical cannabis bill into law in 2016.

Folmer is also a key player in the ongoing efforts to eliminate school property taxes. In 2015, Folmer and other advocates fell just one vote shy in getting these much needed and long overdue reforms passed by the Pennsylvania Senate.

“I continue to believe no tax should have the power to leave you homeless and I remain a tireless fighter in the battle to eliminate school property taxes.”

Senator Folmer has also successfully had a host of other initiatives become law, including: Asset Forfeiture reforms, Election Code changes providing independents and third-party candidates greater ballot access, requiring “Paid for with Pennsylvania Taxpayers Dollars” for Commonwealth advertising, and giving more information on state collective bargaining contracts before they’re signed.

As chair of the State Government Committee, Folmer was also instrumental in making the Office of Inspector General more independent in overseeing state expenditures, increasing openness and accountability in state procurements, and holding government officials more accountable to taxpayers.

“I hope the voters will agree: much has been accomplished during my time in the General Assembly and much remains to be done over the next four years.”

Since joining the Pennsylvania Senate, “Citizen Mike” has “walked the talk” by declining membership in the legislative pension program and health care plan. He also returns his automatic cost-of-living increases to the State Treasury with a monthly personal check. He has never run for another office during his tenure and didn’t miss a vote during his non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma cancer treatments.

The 48<sup>th</sup> Senatorial District is comprised of all of Lebanon County, parts of Dauphin County (the Townships of Conewago, Londonderry, Lower Swatara, and Swatara and the Boroughs of Highspire, Middletown, Paxtang, Royaltown, and Steelton, and parts of York County (the Townships of Conewago, East Manchester, Newberry, and Springettsbury and the Boroughs of Goldsboro, Lewisberry, Manchester, Mount Wolf, and York Haven).

For more information on Senator Folmer and his “Promise to Pennsylvania”,

visit: [www.citizenmikefolmer.com](http://www.citizenmikefolmer.com)

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