

# Profile



## Senator Michele Brooks

### 50TH DISTRICT

Since her election to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 2006, the Senate in 2014, and her re-election in 2018, Michele Brooks has emerged as a strong voice for rural Pennsylvania, and a fighter for fiscal responsibility, regulatory relief, and commonsense solutions.

In addition to children's issues and the concerns of older Pennsylvanians, she has worked tirelessly on school safety, access to affordable health care, in-home care for senior citizens, pupil transportation, firefighter recruitment and retention, veterans' support, the dairy crisis, and other issues important to her constituents.

After serving several successful terms as a Mercer County Commissioner and State Representative for the 17th District, she was elected to the Senate in November 2014 to represent the 50th Senatorial District, which includes all of Crawford and Mercer counties and parts of Erie and Warren counties. Citizens overwhelmingly re-elected her in November 2018.

She now serves as Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, and Vice-Chair of the Aging and Youth Committee. She is also an active member of the Agricultural and Rural Affairs, Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness, Rules and Executive Nominations, Local Government, and Legislative Budget and Finance Committees.

In the prior two sessions, Senator Brooks served as Chair of the Senate Aging and Youth Committee. She also served as Vice-Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, and as a member of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Local Government, Rules and Executive Nominations, and Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committees. She was the Senate's appointee to the Senate Resolution 6 Commission, a bipartisan group devoted to developing strategies to recruit and retain firefighters and emergency medical technicians, and she has spearheaded legislation on online training for firefighters as a result. She has also led efforts to enact business-friendly depreciation changes for job-creators, safe havens for newborns in crisis, incentives for in-home care, displays of the POW-MIA flag, and more.

Brooks' election to the Senate made history when she became the first woman ever to represent the 50th District. She was also the first woman ever to represent the 17th District in the House.

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Her leadership has earned her numerous formal marks of recognition, including a statewide “50 under 50 Award” from City and State PA, a “Guardian of Small Business Award” from NFIB, a Capitol Caregiver Award from AARP, and a “Champion Award” from the Associated Builders and Contractors.

During her tenure in the state House from 2007 to 2014, Brooks actively fought against the tolling of Interstate 80; worked with business owners to create a more job-friendly business climate by reducing taxes on job creators; improved services for senior citizens; reprioritized government spending by limiting out-of-control borrowing by the Commonwealth; and supported the elimination of the inheritance tax on farmers to help preserve Pennsylvania’s rich agricultural heritage.

Before her 2006 election to the state House, Senator Brooks served as vice-chair of the Mercer County Board of Commissioners. In addition, she served as an executive board member of the Penn-Northwest Development Corporation, where she was liaison commissioner to the Mercer County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Mercer County Area Agency on Aging, Mercer County Cooperative Extension Office, and Mercer County Regional Planning Commission.

Senator Brooks served as a member of the Jamestown Borough Council from 1996 to 2002, where she led Jamestown Municipal Authority as vice-chair, and was part of the effort to preserve the Jamestown Stone Arch, developing the Children’s Park and updating infrastructure.

She is a graduate of the Anne Anstine Excellence in Public Service Series, past president of the United Way in northern Mercer County, and a member of the Greenville Rotary.

Senator Brooks and her husband Guy live in Greenville and have two adult children — a son, Brandin, and a daughter, Taylor, and a granddaughter, Sadie.