



MASSACHUSETTS
WOMENS
POLITICAL CAUCUS

Political Action Committee

9B HAMILTON PLACE
1ST FLOOR
BOSTON, MA 02108

TEL: (617) 451-9294
FAX: (617) 523-2292

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Contact: Priti Rao

Executive Director
617-451-9294

Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus PAC Endorses Simmons, Harkins in State Senate Special Elections

BOSTON, MA—The Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus PAC has endorsed State Representative Lida Harkins and Cambridge City Councilor Denise Simmons in the April 13th special primary elections for the Massachusetts State Senate. Rep. Harkins seeks to represent the Norfolk, Bristol & Middlesex district previously held by U.S. Senator Scott Brown. Councilor Simmons seeks to represent the Middlesex, Suffolk & Essex district previously held by Former Senator Anthony Galluccio. The general elections for both seats will be held on May 11th.

"Both Rep. Harkins and Councilor Simmons are great candidates for State Senate, and we are proud to support them. Their dedication to supporting equality and fairness for women and their families is unparalleled," stated MWPC PAC Co-Chair, Pam Nourse. "Rep. Harkins has proven herself a committed public servant with a strong track record of service delivery that has improved the quality of life for working families. Councilor Simmons, a former school committee member and current small business owner, brings a diverse base of experience and support as well as a commitment to enhancing public education and ensuring that small business owners are at the table during these challenging economic times."

"I am especially gratified to receive this endorsement because of our shared commitment to issues that affect women", said Representative Harkins. "I look forward to working with the MWPC during this campaign and in the future."

Rep. Harkins has been a Needham resident for 38 years and is Chair of the Needham Democratic Town Committee. She has proven herself a strong supporter of issues concerning women throughout her career in public service. During her tenure at the State House, Harkins has been devoted to improving public education, advancing equal rights for women and minorities, and advocating for strengthened relations with labor conditions. Harkins has also spoken in support of a statewide network of health care workers for in-home elderly care, and has worked for a relief in property tax for seniors.

"The MWPC is a wonderful organization and I am delighted to receive their endorsement," said Councilor Simmons. "As the only woman in my race, the support of an outstanding, well respected women's organization will be a great asset to my campaign."

Denise Simmons is a life-long Cambridge resident and former Mayor of Cambridge. She is currently serving her fifth year as Cambridge City Councilor. Her ten years on the Cambridge School Committee and her time as a small business owner give her the experience to guide her constituents through these tough economic times. Councilor Simmons has worked to diversify involvement in civic life. As a woman, African-America, and member of the GLBT community, Simmons strives to ensure that every constituency group is given a strong voice in state government.

About the MWPC

Founded in 1971, the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit, multi-partisan organization that works to increase the number of women elected and appointed to public office and public policy positions and to increase the involvement of women of all ages in the political process. Our Educational Fund provides campaign skills training, legislative workshops, an internship program, and an informational resources program designed to give women the skills they need for effective political and public policy participation.

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