

Indiana House of Representatives

News & Information

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BAUER SELECTS WELCH, DELANEY TO SERVE ON STATE BUDGET COMMITTEE

INDIANAPOLIS – Indiana House Speaker B. Patrick Bauer (D-South Bend) announced today that State Reps. Peggy Welch (D-Bloomington) and Ed DeLaney (D-Indianapolis) have been appointed to serve in prominent positions on the influential State Budget Committee.

Bauer said Welch will serve as the House Democratic voting member on the committee, succeeding State Rep. Dennis T. Avery (D-Evansville), who is retiring after serving in the House since 1974. DeLaney will succeed Welch as the caucus alternate on the committee.

“Dennis Avery has been a legislative champion for the interests of Hoosiers of all ages for more than 30 years, and we will miss him greatly,” Bauer said.

“We are fortunate, though, that Peggy Welch has stepped forward to take his place on the State Budget Committee, a group that plays a large role in the passage and administration of biennial state budgets,” the Speaker continued. “She has served with distinction as a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, and the expertise she has gained from that post will serve her well in this new position.

“I also am pleased that we will be able to have Ed DeLaney serve on the Budget Committee,” Bauer noted. “These two fine lawmakers will be able representatives of the interests of Indiana House Democrats as we enter into a difficult budget-writing time for our state.”

The Budget Committee is composed of four legislators – one Democrat and one Republican from both the Indiana House and Senate – and the director of the State Budget Agency.

The group begins the process of writing a new state budget every two years by conducting public hearings and examining future revenue estimates, then making a recommendation to the governor.

The Budget Committee provides continuing legislative oversight of the budget when the Indiana General Assembly is not in session, meeting regularly during the interim between sessions. The committee reviews and approves most appropriation requests in the budget before any funds are allotted or spent. The group also gives final approval for all construction projects at state-supported facilities that have a cost greater than \$100,000.

Welch has represented the 60th District in the Indiana House since 1998. She presently serves as the vice-chair of the House Ways and Means Committee’s Budget Subcommittee.

DeLaney is in his first term as 86th District representative in the House. He has been a member of the Ways and Means Committee the past two years.