



HOUSE SPEAKER ARMSTEAD WILL NOT SEEK REELECTION

Posted on January 19, 2018 by Tyler Barker



CHARLESTON (WOAY) - West Virginia House Speaker Tim Armstead will not seek re-election next year.

Armstead released in part the following statement:

“After much prayer and thought, I have decided that I will not be running for re-election to the House of Delegates this year. I have been deeply honored to represent the people of the 32nd and 40th Districts in the House and I am looking forward to continuing my service to our state. As I discuss below, I am considering seeking other opportunities to serve our state in the future. Thank you to the people of the Elk River communities for allowing me to be your Delegate for almost 20 years!”

The full statement can be seen below.



Statement by Speaker of the House Tim Armstead

January 16, 2018

Nearly twenty years ago, when I was appointed to serve in the House of Delegates by Governor Cecil H. Underwood, I never imagined that I would have the tremendous honor to serve the people of the 32nd District and later the 40th District for ten terms in the House and to be elected as the first Republican Speaker to serve in our current capitol building.

In the past three years, I have worked alongside some of the most talented, hard-working West Virginians I have ever met to make historic changes that have placed our wonderful state on the right track. We have stabilized our budget situation, enacted policies to put our fellow West Virginians back to work, improved our educational system, begun rebuilding our infrastructure and given new hope to our fellow citizens. There is a great deal more to be done, but we have truly reversed course, eliminated the roadblocks that stand in our way, and are headed in the right direction. I have great optimism for our state and its future.

It has been a tremendous honor to have played a part in writing this exciting new chapter in the history of our state. It has also been incredibly gratifying to represent the people of the Elk River area as we, together, have worked to rebuild our communities after the greatest natural disaster to ever hit our area – the devastating flood of 2016.

Now, after much consideration and prayer, I have decided that I will not seek re-election to the House of Delegates this year. This has not been an easy decision for me or my family. My deep love for our state and admiration for my fellow citizens who have allowed me to be their representative is as strong as ever. It is now time, however, for me to explore other opportunities to serve our great state.

I am seriously considering the possibility of seeking statewide office in 2020. One of the offices for which I am considering becoming a candidate in 2020 is the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. In the event I do decide to seek such office, the election would be held in the Primary Election in May 2020. Were I to seek re-election to the House this year, it would be difficult for me to give full attention to my duties as Delegate and Speaker of the House, with the House remaining in session through the early Spring of 2020, and to also be able to travel our great state to discuss my vision for its future and meet my fellow citizens during the 2020 Primary campaign.

As always, I have a great sense of optimism and hope for my beloved State of West Virginia. I am deeply grateful to the people of the Elk River Communities and the 32nd and 40th Districts for letting me serve as their Delegate and to my fellow Delegates for electing me as West Virginia's 57th Speaker of the House. I will continue to fight for what is right for West Virginia throughout the remainder of this current 83rd Legislature and hope to have the opportunity to continue to serve our great State in the years to come.