



The Republican Caucus

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Hinson Re-Appointed as Republican Majority Whip

COLUMBIA – Rep. Shirley Hinson was re-appointed today as the Republicans' Majority Whip for the 117th Legislative session by Majority Leader Jim Merrill.

Hinson, a Republican from Goose Creek, is responsible for lining up votes in support of Caucus priorities and will help set the direction of the 73-member Republican majority. Hinson is the first woman to hold the position.

"I'm honored by the continued trust the Majority Leader has placed in me," Hinson said. "This is always an important job with the number of major initiatives the Caucus undertakes each year. I look forward to working on the critical issues facing the General Assembly this year: reforming the Department of Transportation, government restructuring, and worker's compensation reform."

Hinson oversees the other 16 GOP whips, which in 2007 will include: Eric Bedingfield of Greenville, Catherine Ceips of Beaufort, Jeff Duncan of Clinton, Ben Hagood of Mt. Pleasant, Nikki Haley of Lexington, Nelson Hardwick of Surfside, Bill Herbkersman of Bluffton, Bob Leach of Greenville, Ted Pitts of Lexington, B.R. Skelton of Six Mile, Roland Smith of Warrentonville, Scott Talley of Spartanburg, Adam Taylor of Laurens, Michael Thompson of Anderson, David Umphlett of Moncks Corner, and Thad Viers of Myrtle Beach.

"Shirley had an immediate impact with helping the Republican Caucus pass major legislation during the past two years," said Merrill, R-Daniel Island. "Her work ensured passage of last year's historic property tax cut, eminent domain reforms, and the spending limit, among many others."

Rep. Hinson is an administrator for the College of Charleston, and was first elected to the House in 1996. She is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, where she chairs the Economic Development and Natural Resources subcommittee. She is also the Vice Chairman of the House Ethics Committee, the Vice Chairman of the Berkeley County Legislative Delegation, and is on the board of Women In Government – a national organization. She is a graduate of the College of Charleston.