

# Report to the People

FROM

## Senator Scott E. Hutchinson

WINTER 2013

21st SENATORIAL DISTRICT



Dear Friend:

As your state senator, I look forward to working closely with you on issues that are important to the 21st Senatorial District.

I am now working on key issues that affect the region, including creating more jobs and improving the quality of life for all residents of all our communities. We need to continue to encourage companies to locate in this area, or expand their operations – to create good, high-paying jobs for area residents.

My district offices are up and running and ready to assist you. If you have a question or concern, please do not hesitate to call me. I know many people are extremely busy. That's why I also set up a website at [senatorscott-hutchinson.com](http://senatorscott-hutchinson.com) where you can learn about state programs and pending legislation. Again, it's an honor to serve you.

Sincerely,

*Scott E. Hutchinson*

## Senator Hutchinson Takes Over 21st District Seat

Scott E. Hutchinson was sworn into office on New Year's Day 2013 as the State Senator representing the 21st Senatorial District in northwestern Pennsylvania during a ceremony in the Senate Chamber of the state Capitol in Harrisburg.

"I am humbled and honored to have been elected and sworn in as a state senator," Senator Hutchinson said. "It's a very happy day for me and for my family, but also an exciting and challenging time. I am looking forward to working closely with the people across the 21st District. It is a great day and a day for us to get ready to roll up our sleeves and get to work for the people of Pennsylvania."

Senator Hutchinson said that his experience as state representative provided an excellent foundation for his new job, adding that his focus and goals remain unchanged by his new position.

"I believe the counties of northwestern Pennsylvania are all very similar. We have a lot of the same goals and



Senator Hutchinson (center) and colleagues Senator Elder Vogel (left) and Senator Don White (right) recite the oath of office administered by Commonwealth Court Judge Renee Cohn Jubelirer during a January 1, 2013 ceremony in the Senate Chamber of the state Capitol.

aspirations and a lot of hard-working, good people," Senator Hutchinson said. "The big thing on their minds across the district is jobs and the economy. We must provide more stability in their lives. We're going to be working very hard to create a better job climate here in Pennsylvania. That goes across the 21st District. That goes across the entire Commonwealth. I think that is a key thing as we go into this session and as we go forward."

## Hutchinson Focusing on Protecting and Creating Local Jobs

Senator Scott Hutchinson said efforts to improve Pennsylvania's economy and encourage job growth in the state are among his top priorities for the 2013-14 Legislative Session.

"The big issues revolve around the economy, especially the job climate in Pennsylvania. People are hurting; our economy has been stagnant for a while – in the 21st District, across the state and across our nation," Senator Hutchinson said. "There is a lot of uncertainty out there. Many employers are stuck in neutral and are hesitant to hire people. We need to change that climate."

The lackluster economy has also directly impacted state government and its ability to provide programs and services, he stressed.

"Pennsylvania's economy has been stagnant and the revenues coming in have not been as strong as they should be. We

have a lot of tough fiscal decisions to make," Senator Hutchinson said. "We've had a couple of tough budgets in a row and unfortunately we are going to have to face it again. We have to live within our means and accept the fiscal reality facing state government."

Senator Hutchinson said state government could improve the climate for business development and job growth by reviewing and addressing problems created by Pennsylvania's business regulations.

"I am very much interested in financial issues based on my background, and I will work to continue to improve the jobs climate in Pennsylvania," Senator Hutchinson said. "I am looking at some ideas about altering the way regulations are enacted in Pennsylvania. Our regulatory climate is stifling to job creators."



Senator Hutchinson and state Agriculture Secretary George Greig look over Pennsylvania produce at the Farm Show.

Please see **FOCUSING** on back

## Meet Senator Scott Hutchinson

Scott E. Hutchinson was elected in November 2012 to represent the 21st Senatorial District in the Pennsylvania State Senate.

Senator Hutchinson represented the 64th Legislative District in the state House of Representatives from 1992 to 2012. Prior to election to the House, he served as the Chief Deputy County Treasurer for Venango County from 1984 to 1992.

A member of the Oil City Area School Board from 1985 to 1992, Senator Hutchinson served as its vice president and chairman of its budget and finance committee. He was appointed by Gov. Dick Thornburgh in 1986 to the Venango County Board of Assistance, serving until 1992.

Born in Oil City, Hutchinson graduated from Oil City Area High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania. He has taken additional courses at the University of Pittsburgh at Titusville and Thiel College in Greenville.

While serving in the House, Senator Hutchinson led the fight to repeal Act 44, which would have imposed tolls for Interstate 80. He promoted economic development and job growth by sponsoring legislation repealing the 2 percent Annuity Premiums Tax, and grandfathering the Oil and Gas Act bonding provisions for pre-1984 wells. He was also a prime mover in shaping legislation to increase the safety of workers in emergency response areas and he worked to enact changes in the County Code to allow for "cafeteria" employee benefit plans, and



Senator Hutchinson was joined by his daughter Anne Marie, his wife Mary Beth and his daughters Lucy and Sophie on Swearing In Day.

revisions concerning the election of county auditors.

In an effort to support our homeland heroes, Senator Hutchinson sponsored Act 59 of 2005, which increased the death benefits for the families of firefighters, police officers, National Guard members and emergency responders who gave their lives to keep the public safe. This law increased the family death benefits paid by the state to those who die in the line of duty from \$62,000 to \$100,000, with future increases tied to inflation.

Among his many community activities, Hutchinson is active in St. Joseph Church and was a member of the Oil City Lions Club, Venango Video, Inc. Board of Directors, and the Oil Heritage Region Board. He is a former board member of the Venango County Association for the Blind.

He is married to the former Mary Beth Radkowski. They have three children, Sophie, Anne Marie, and Lucy, and live in Oil City.

## Focusing On Local Jobs

Continued from front

As part of that review, the state must consider the unintended consequences of some of the regulations that were imposed for the Marcellus Shale industry and how they impacted Pennsylvania's pre-existing small oil and gas producers, Senator Hutchinson said.

"The 21st Senatorial District has lots and lots of small, independent oil and gas producers. It's a very different industry than the big Marcellus guys. They shouldn't be subjected to some of the regulations," Senator Hutchinson said. "They have hurt that industry and are putting jobs at risk. We are going to work very hard to help those folks out."

### State Services & Info Are Just a Click Away

As part of his effort to make state services and programs easily accessible to the people of the 21st Senatorial District, Senator Scott Hutchinson regularly posts news about legislative activities and state services on his website: [senatorscotthutchinson.com](http://senatorscotthutchinson.com) and on his Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/SenatorScottEHutchinson](http://www.facebook.com/SenatorScottEHutchinson).

The Internet is an excellent way for people on the go to get updated information on a number of state-related topics and issues. Senator Hutchinson's website provides information on a variety of topics organized in several easily accessible sections:

- Press releases and newsletters.
- Special sections on business, health, youth and senior citizen's issues.
- Information on laws and pending legislation.
- Links to state, federal, and county agencies.



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