



**For Immediate Release:**  
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Ann Gillespie is Victorious in State Senate District 27

A path that started with the 2017 Women’s March in Washington D.C., has led Ann Gillespie to the Democratic nomination for State Senator in the Northwest Suburbs. Gillespie defeated Joe Sonnefeldt by a wide margin in a race to challenge sitting State Senator Tom Rooney in the November general election.

Gillespie attributed her success to the grassroots organization, We the People Mt. Prospect Area, which provided initial encouragement and volunteers for the effort. “From that first postcard party after the Women’s March, when we saw that there were a whole lot of us who wanted to stop sitting on the sidelines, to the 2017 elections when we supported slates of Board of Education candidates; from postcards and marches to witness slips and meetings with our elected representatives to influence their votes; from organizing the community on minimum wage and earned sick leave to leading the charge to support immigrants and school referenda, from two of our own getting appointments to the library board and village planning commission to now standing our first candidate and winning the primary – we accomplished all this in just 14 months!,” she exclaimed.

In her speech to a cheering crowd of almost 100 supporters, Gillespie stood ready to challenge Senator Rooney. “Our campaign will be working to unseat Rauner-appointed Republican Tom Rooney, who has been in lockstep with Rauner's divisive social and economic agenda which has hurt working families, put small businesses and organizations in jeopardy, and undermined the values that we care about – inclusion, investing in people, supporting working families,” said Gillespie.

Gillespie said she will work to bring together other northwest suburban primary winners in the upcoming campaign. “I am looking forward to reaching out to State Representative candidates Maggie Trevor and Mark Walker, and with the winners of the contested races so we can all work together to flip the district and represent working class families in November.”

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