

Middleton Enters Race for Aurora's House District 42 (10/1/07)

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Middleton Enters Race for Aurora's House District 42
Education Leader Brings Extensive Experience to Run for State House

AURORA — State Board of Education Member Karen Middleton has decided to continue her service representing the people of Aurora by announcing her candidacy for House District 42. "This is a unique opportunity for me to continue my efforts to improve education for our children while making sure that we find solutions to other key issues such as supporting Aurora's economy and ensuring our citizens can access the health care they need," Middleton said. "A well-prepared and well-trained workforce can help boost our local economy especially in health-related professions at the Fitzsimons Campus and in the push for expanding opportunities in renewable energy, aerospace, bioscience, transportation, logistics and other key industries critical to our state."

"I am pleased to support Karen Middleton in her bid for the Colorado State House," said Representative Michael Garcia. "Her experience on the State Board of Education and her involvement in our community make her uniquely prepared to succeed me."

Middleton, 41, is a Member of the Colorado State Board of Education and represents the Seventh Congressional District. She was appointed to fill a vacancy in 2004 and won her election in 2006 to complete the original unexpired term which ends in 2008. During her time on the board, Middleton has been active in promoting P-20 education opportunities (preschool through postsecondary), improving civic education, expanding support of libraries, seeking new strategies for financing schools and she was successful in her efforts to hire a new commissioner of education for Colorado. Middleton is the Vice President of Sales and Development for ScholarCentric, a Denver-based education publishing company. She has been an adjunct instructor at the Community College of Aurora and active in a number of community organizations.

In 2007 she was named one of Colorado's "Movers and Shakers" by The Colorado Statesman. Middleton holds two master's degrees, one in Political Science from the University of Colorado at Denver and a second in Higher Education Policy from the University of Denver.

She has a bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke College. She is married to Aurora City Council Member Larry Beer and they live in Aurora's Park East neighborhood.

House District 42, in central Aurora, has been served by Representative Michael Garcia since 2001. Garcia is term-limited and has announced his candidacy for State Senate District 29.

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