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DEMOCRATIC CHAIR MCNAMARA CONGRATULATES SENATOR RUGGERIO ON ELECTION AS SENATE PREX & SENATOR MCCAFFREY AS SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

WARWICK, R.I. – Rhode Island Democratic Party Chair Joseph M. McNamara early Friday congratulated Senator Dominick Ruggerio on his election as Senate President and Senator Michael McCaffrey on his ascension to Senate Majority Leader. The elections come on the heels of Senate President Teresa Paiva Weed's announced departure Wednesday from the Senate in early May, to become President of the Hospital Association of Rhode Island.

"There have been a few exciting announcements in the last 24-48 hours," Chair McNamara said, "and I'm delighted for both Senators Ruggerio and McCaffrey on their election as Senate President and Senate Majority Leader respectively. These two leaders have devoted their lives to building the Democratic Party, to serving our General Assembly and the people of Rhode Island, and to supporting the principles of fairness and opportunity for all."

"While we are pleased for Senator Paiva-Weed in her new venture, we will miss her energy and passion for public service. We know, though, Senator Ruggerio and Senator McCaffrey will bring their years of experience and deep commitment to building opportunity for all Rhode Islanders. We look forward to building our partnerships with these two leaders and between the two arms of the General Assembly," McNamara said.

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