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NEWS RELEASE

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District Attorney Lynne Abraham's Statement Re Rep. Dennis O'Brien's Election to House Speaker

District Attorney Lynne Abraham today issued the following statement:

“Dennis O'Brien has always been in the forefront when it comes to advocacy for children, especially children with disabilities. Additionally, he has been an ardent supporter of crime victims' rights and legislative measures to keep people safe from crime throughout the Commonwealth.

Most recently, he was instrumental in getting the legislation passed to further protect children from sexual predators. And in 1998, it was Rep. O'Brien who in 11 days led the way for passage of a new law granting convicted murderer Ira Einhorn a new trial that not only ensured his return to the United States but also ensured justice for the family of Holly Maddux.

I also want to thank Rep. John Perzel for being extremely receptive to my office. He was always available to discuss my concerns about public safety, and I am grateful to him.

Rep. O'Brien is a consensus-builder who will encourage robust legislative debate and someone who will work across party lines. I am very pleased for him and for the citizens of Pennsylvania. I offer him my congratulations and best wishes for a productive tenure.”