

ALBANY, NY - (1/7/98) - The New York State Board of Elections announced today that Neil W. Kelleher of Troy, has been appointed by Governor Pataki, as a commissioner of the Board for a term to expire November 30, 1999. Mr Kelleher succeeds James A. Walsh whose term has expired.

Mr. Kelleher, a former Troy city councilman and mayor, was elected to the State Assembly in 1966 and served there for 26 years. Most recently, Mr. Kelleher was elected as chairman of the Troy Housing Authority, a post he resigned to accept this appointment.

Mr. Kelleher, a well known political figure in the capitol district when an assemblyman, served in leadership posts for the republican conference until his retirement in 1992 and has been a member of many service and charitable organizations. Mr. Kelleher is also a United States Navy combat veteran, having served in the South Pacific during WWII.

Mr. Kelleher, who will serve as vice-chairman, is one of four commissioners appointed to oversee the electoral process in New York State. Terms for the part-time positions are two years and compensation is \$25,000 per year.