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LEGISLATIVE OFFICES



# Creem and other incumbents fend off primary challengers

By [Andrea Estes](#)

Globe Staff / September 15, 2010

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**Page 2 of 2** -- In West Roxbury, mortgage broker Ed Coppinger beat out five rivals for the seat vacated by Representative Michael Rush, who won the Senate seat held by Marian Walsh.

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"I think a lot of people are looking for a candidate who has a lot of experience raising a family and living in the community for a long time," Coppinger said.

Eileen Donoghue, a former mayor of Lowell and city councilor, beat Christian L. Doherty, who served as an aide to Martin T. Meehan, former US representative, to succeed Panagiotakos, who is retiring

Representative James Welch of West Springfield won the race to replace senator Stephen Buonoconti, also of West Springfield. Buonoconti is running for district attorney.

Other incumbents who won included Stephen "Stat" Smith of Everett, Mark Falzone of Saugus, Rosemary Sandlin of Agawam, and Christine Canavan of Brockton.

In Quincy, Tackey Chan, a former assistant attorney general who worked as an aide to state Senator Michael Morrissey, won the seat held by Stephen Tobin, defeating Joseph Keegan.

In the Republican primary to face Senator Susan Fargo, Democrat of Lincoln, in November, Sandra Martinez, a Tea Party movement activist who lost to Fargo in an earlier race, beat Eric Dahlberg, whose campaign cochairman was Paul Cellucci, former governor.

In Framingham, Richardson lost to Chris Walsh by 209 votes. Two years ago,

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the results went the other way — Walsh lost to Richardson by 138 votes with a third candidate on the ballot. Walsh will face unenrolled candidates Jim Pillsbury and Jim Rizoli in November’s election.

“I’m amazed . . . The last campaign really set us up for this campaign,” said Walsh. He said his campaign workers were instrumental in his win. “The volunteers who do all of this, it’s very, very humbling.”

Republicans were looking to make inroads in the overwhelmingly Democratic Legislature.

“Our Republican candidates are out there listening to voters and talking about jobs and taxes,” said Jennifer Nassour, party chairwoman. “Democrats on Beacon Hill have no interest in creating jobs, as evidenced by their eight tax increases in the past four years. Voters have a clear choice and GOP candidates are ready to deliver fiscal sanity and real reform in 2010.”

*Globe Correspondents Cara Bayles, Matt Rocheleau, Megan Mckee, Brock Parker, Jennifer Fenn Lefferts, and Calvin Hennick contributed to this report. Andrea Estes can be reached at [estes@globe.com](mailto:estes@globe.com). ■*

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