



News Release

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Carolyn Treiss to Lead PCSW

HARTFORD -- Carolyn M. Treiss, Policy Director for the Senate Democratic Caucus, has been named the new executive director of the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW).

Treiss, who holds a J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law, an M.S.W. from the University of Connecticut School of Social Work and a B.A. in political science from Bates College, is a former legislative program manager at the Department of Social Services (October 2009 to August 2013), Chief of Staff for Commissioner Cristine Vogel at the Office of Health Care Access (May 07 to Oct 09), and the former director of NARAL Pro-Choice CT (July 2005 to May 2007).

Treiss brings to the PCSW, which is a 40-year-old public policy arm of the General Assembly, a background in public policy, social services and grassroots advocacy. She has served as board president of CT NOW and is a former board member of CWEALF.

"I am truly honored to have been chosen to lead the PCSW, particularly to follow in the footsteps of women whom I have admired for my entire career," Treiss said. "The Commission has done a great deal to secure and enhance women's rights, but of course much remains to be done. So I'm excited to begin working together with the PCSW staff and commissioners to craft our vision for the organization's future."

"We are very excited to welcome Carolyn Treiss to the PCSW," said Toni Moran, PCSW Commission chair. "She brings years of practical political and expert policy experience to the work of our bipartisan commission. She knows our issues, she knows our state, and the PCSW will continue to be a strong voice for Connecticut women under her leadership."

Treiss, 44, lives in Glastonbury with her husband and two sons. She succeeds Teresa Younger, who led the PCSW for nearly seven years until June, when she became head of the Ms. Foundation for Women.

About the PCSW: The Permanent Commission on the Status of Women was formed in 1973 under Sec. 46a-1 of the Connecticut General Statutes to study and improve Connecticut women's economic security, health and safety; to promote consideration of qualified women to leadership positions and to work toward the elimination of gender discrimination. As a non-partisan arm of the General Assembly, the agency monitors, critiques and recommends changes to legislation in order to inform public policy, and assesses programs and practices in all State agencies for their effect on the state's women. The PCSW serves as a liaison between government and its diverse constituents, and convenes stakeholders, including the business, non-profit and educational communities, local governments, and the media, in order to promote awareness of women's issues.