



By [Lisa Zambito](#), [October 5](#) in

The 9th district in South Jersey is one where local issues, in addition to Gov. Chris Christie's policies, are tops in the minds of voters.

Following last year's election, Governor Christie's 9th district includes Sen. Christopher Christie and Assembly members DiAnne Grove and Brian Rumpf, all Republicans. Connors is a longtime state representative, having been elected to the Assembly in 1989. He moved up to the senate four years ago.

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The incumbents are running against Democrats Dorothy Ryan for senator, and Bradley Billhimer and Carla Kearney for the Assembly. All three ran unopposed in the June 2011 primary. Both Ryan and Kearney hold

Connors serves on the Senate Community and Urban Affairs and the Law and Public Safety and Veterans Affairs committees. Prior to entering state-level politics, he was on the Lacey Township committee and served as its mayor. He is an attorney in private practice in Ocean County.

Also an attorney in private practice, Rumpf was elected to the Assembly in 2003. Before that, he served on the Little Egg Harbor Township committee.

Grove is a full-time legislator finishing her first term in the Assembly. Before that, she was a Long Beach Township commissioner. She also served on the Ocean County Advisory Commission on the Status of Women.

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