

Farry beats incumbent King

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It was close, but Republican Frank Farry upset incumbent Democrat state Rep. Chris King in the 142th District.

Farry won by 1,095 votes, according to unofficial tallies.

"I want to thank the people of the 142nd District for electing me to represent them in Harrisburg," Farry said. "It's a humbling experience to go through a campaign like this and receiving the opportunity to serve your community. ... Tonight's victory sends a clear message that we need to move in another direction in Harrisburg. ... I'll stand up for the people of this district every day, even if it means standing up to the leadership of my own party to advocate for the people I represent."

King's campaign would not comment late Tuesday night. King didn't show up at a rally scheduled in Lower Southampton.

From the start, the candidates agreed on issues such as health care, property taxes and the environment. And both agreed that bringing new businesses to Bucks County is necessary to continue economic growth. But their differences were on how to approach the issues for the betterment of the community.

On health care, King had said he supported the ABC plan that proposes using Pennsylvania's share of settlements of lawsuits against tobacco companies to extend health insurance coverage to 400,000 more state residents.

Farry has proposed a health care package that would push for a patients' bill of rights and responsibilities, increase tax credits and encourage health savings accounts, lower the regulatory burden to make health care more affordable, put incentives in place to make OB-GYN services more affordable and other measures.

Farry's platform included putting community first and lowering property taxes and energy costs.

Farry, a lawyer, was former township manager in Middletown and has been the Langhorne-Middletown fire chief for seven years.

King, who served one term, worked for several Democratic committees in Harrisburg before unseating the longtime Republican state representative, Matt Wright, in 2006.

During his term, King passed legislation including the amendment to the state's Right-to-Know Law and a bill to keep low income seniors in the PACE/PACENET program.

Both candidates are Neshaminy High School graduates who grew up in Middletown.



Frank Farry