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By EARL WATT

Leader & Times

After just one term as the representative for the 125th Kansas House District, Reid Petty has announced he will not seek re-election.

Petty narrowly defeated Carl Holmes in the 2012 Republican primary. Holmes had served in the Kansas House since 1986.

Petty has accepted a teaching job in Plains beginning in the fall.



Below is a news release issued by Petty's office:

Rep. Petty Won't Seek Re-Election this Fall

State Representative Reid Petty announced on Monday that he will not seek re-election this fall.

Petty recently accepted an area teaching position that he will begin in the fall.

“I said all along that I didn’t want to have a career in politics. I recently accepted a job that is a great opportunity for me and is in the field that is going to be my career,” Petty said.

Petty will remain a resident of Liberal and said he will fulfill his full term which lasts until January 12, 2015.

“If anyone has any issues at the state level before my term expires, please don’t hesitate to contact me. I have appreciated the opportunity to serve and represent the citizens of the 125th District in Topeka, and look forward to doing so for the rest of my term,” Petty said.

The legislature will wrap up their duties for the year with veto session that begins on April 30. It is expected to last anywhere from approximately three to ten days.

While serving in the Kansas House, Petty has helped fight for funding to stay in place for transportation projects for Highway 54. No money was cut from T-Works while Petty represented the district and miles were added to the upcoming project to add four lanes just outside of Liberal on Highway 54.

Petty has also helped lead the charge in the legislature by pushing for more transparency, along with being a strong advocate for pro-life and pro-2nd Amendment issues.

Petty was elected to the State House in 2012. His past experience included being elected to the USD 480 Board of Education in 2009, as the top vote getter. He served as Board President from 2010-2012. Petty also served as the Seward County Republican Chairman from 2010-2013.

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