

John McKinney (R-28) is serving his seventh term in the Connecticut State Senate representing the towns of Easton, Fairfield, Newtown and Weston. He was elected Minority Leader of the Senate in June 2007 and is a ranking member on the General Assembly's Housing and Legislative Management committees. He also serves on the Executive Nominations Committee.

In the Senate, John has fought to lower taxes, create jobs and eliminate wasteful government spending. In the tradition of his father, the late Congressman Stewart B. McKinney, John is a fiscally conservative, socially moderate centrist who is at the forefront of state efforts to preserve and protect our environment, increase access to affordable housing and end homelessness.

John served on the Transportation Committee for nine years, leading efforts to change the state's transportation policy to address the long-term challenges of increasing congestion and rising gasoline prices. He was instrumental in helping to pass major transportation initiatives in 2005 and 2006 that will improve I-95, replace all 342 Metro-North rail cars and create a new Metro-North maintenance facility to service them.

In 2007, he helped author and pass Jessica's Law for Connecticut establishing strong mandatory minimum jail sentences for convicted child sex offenders and online child predators.

A parent of three children who attend Fairfield public schools, John is committed to ensuring every Connecticut student receives a quality education. He has led efforts to improve indoor air quality regulations for public schools.

A leading voice for job creation, affordable housing and inner-city economic development, John was named the 2007 Legislator of the Year by the Bridgeport Regional Business Council.

He has been recognized as an Environmental Hero by the League of Conservation Voters for his ongoing efforts to preserve Connecticut's open spaces and clean up Long Island Sound.

John was raised in Fairfield and is the youngest of five children of the late Congressman Stewart McKinney and his wife Lucie. Congressman McKinney, who represented Connecticut's fourth congressional district in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1971 until his death in 1987, served as Republican Leader in the Connecticut House of Representatives from 1969 - 1970.

John graduated from Fairfield Prep in 1982, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University in 1986 and received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Connecticut School of Law, with honors, in 1994. Prior to being elected to the General Assembly, John practiced law at Cummings and Lockwood and was a law clerk to Connecticut Supreme Court Justice Richard N. Palmer.

John is actively involved in several nonprofit organizations. He is a former member of the Board of Directors for the Center for Women and Families in Bridgeport. He currently serves on the Boards of the Westport/Weston Family YMCA and Operation Hope. He is also a past member of the vestry of Trinity Church in Southport. John and his family help provide housing and care for people with AIDS through the Stewart B. McKinney Foundation.

John lives in Fairfield with his three children, Matthew, Graysen, and Kate.

