



Karen Schmidt

Quick Facts

Birth: 1945

Los Angeles, California

Death:

Occupation: Travel Agency Owner

Party Affiliation: Republican

Years served: 1981-99

Office: Representative

District: 23 (Kitsap County)

Personal:

- Residence is Bainbridge Island
- Married, 2 sons

Education:

- Arizona State University

Community Service:

- Bainbridge Chamber of Commerce, past president
- North Olympic Chamber of Commerce, secretary/treasurer

Affiliations:

Awards:

- “Rotary Woman of the Year,” 1979

Legislative & State Service:

- Strong advocate of the state ferry system.
- Prime sponsor of the bill that reinstated capital punishment in Washington State.
- Resigned November 7, 1999 to become director of the state Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board. Beverly Woods was appointed to serve the unexpired term.
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Committees: (1981) Energy & Utilities; Ethics, Law & Justice; Transportation (1983) Commerce & Economic Development; Judiciary; Transportation (1985) Judiciary; Trade & Economic Development; Transportation (1987) Transportation, ranking minority member; Judiciary; Natural Resources (1989) Transportation, ranking Republican member; Financial Institutions & Insurance; Judiciary (1991) Capital Facilities & Financing, ranking minority member; Financial Institutions & Insurance; Transportation (1993) Transportation, ranking minority member; Judiciary; Financial Institutions & Insurance (1995) Transportation; Corrections; Rules (1997) Transportation Policy & Budget, chairman; Rules (1999) Transportation, co-chair

Leadership, Positions & Appointments:

- Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board, executive director
- Assistant Minority Floor Leader, 1984
- Appointed by Governor John Spellman to a State Tourism Commission.
- Represented Washington State on two national transportation committees.

Sources:

- “Schmidt to resign House post,” by Tim Christie, *The Sun*, October 16, 1999.
- “Schmidt will run for re-election,” by Adele Ferguson, *The Sun*, July 20, 1982.
- “Schmidt to be GOP’s assistant house floor leader,” by Adele Ferguson, *The Sun*, December 5, 1983.