

Area Legislator Won't Seek Re-election

(KNZA)-- An area Kansas legislator has announced she won't seek re-election.

State Representative Becky Hutchins, a Holton Republican, made the announcement in a news release.

Hutchins has represented the 61st District, which includes most of Jackson and Pottawatomie Counties, since 2015. She previously served in the Kansas House for 12 years from 1994 to 2006.

Hutchins said it was a tough decision not to seek re-election, but there were several reasons why she came to that conclusion.

She said she told those who asked her to run for the office in 2014 that she would only run for one term.

Prior to the 2014 election, Hutchins was retired and enjoying helping her two adult daughters and their children when needed.

Hutchins said she and her husband, Joel, have a new grandson, and she wants to spend as much time with him as possible.

Hutchins said after seven campaigns throughout the years, she and her husband are tired of campaigning and doesn't want to ask him to do it for her again. In addition, she said they are planning a trip to China this fall and that would take them away from the campaign trail if she ran.

Hutchins expressed appreciation for the support she and her family have received while serving in office. She said she will continue to represent the district until her replacement is sworn in next January.

So far, Holton Republican Dan Brenner is the only candidate who has filed for the seat. Candidates have until noon, June 1st to file.

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