

# Eddie Mannis is confirmed by state Republican Party

By Mike Stealy  
Senior Writer  
mstealy@knoxnews.com

Eddie Mannis had a rocky road to the Republican nomination to represent District 18 in the Tennessee State House. Last Wednesday the Republican Party of Tennessee voted 43-0 to accept the August primary election results of Mannis defeating Gita Oster by 99 votes.

Mannis said he was "grateful for the confidence that the 43 members had in me."

Mannis has been attacked publicly since announcing his candidacy by Knox County Republican Chairman Randy Pace and others questioning Mannis' voting history and his donations to various groups.

Office seekers. Pace spoke at the August Republican Victory Rally the evening of the primary, blasting the results and calling out Mannis.

Oster pleaded with the state party to accept her as the nominee because she said Mannis actively sought Democrat voters in the Republican Primary.

Mannis replied to Oster's accusations through his attorney, Billy Stokes, who stated, "At no point during his campaign did his campaign directly solicit Democrat voters to cross over."

Mannis will face Democrat Virginia Couch in November's general election. The winner will replace retiring Representative

## COUNTY OFFICIALS TAKE OATH



*New Knox County Law Director David Busch takes the oath of office as his mother, Dorothy Busch, holds the Bible and his predecessor, Bud Armstrong, looks on at the installation ceremony held at the Tennessee Theatre on Tuesday morning. Seven county commissioners, four school board members, the criminal court judge, public defender and property assessor also took oaths to serve Knox County that morning.*

## Jay and Schoonmaker named chair and vice chair of Knox Commission