

STATE SENATOR • JOHN J. GLEASON • 27TH DISTRICT

Gleason Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 22, 2007

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Senator Gleason Fights to Save Fenton Secretary of State Branch

Following Monday's Rally to Save the Office, Gleason Offers Amendment to Restore Funding

LANSING—Today Senator John Gleason (D-Flushing) led the successful bipartisan effort to pass legislation that restores funding for the Secretary of State offices across the State of Michigan, including the Fenton branch.

“This is an issue that affects not only the entire community of Fenton, but surrounding residents and workers that also rely on the branch for assistance and convenience,” said Gleason. “Today’s action is a victory for seniors and disabled citizens who rely on Michigan’s Secretary of State branches for basic government services.”

Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land recently announced that she plans to close several Secretary of State offices, including the Fenton branch. The closing would be the second in Genesee County in just a few short years. In 2005, Genesee County lost a branch in Flint. Today’s bipartisan resolution ensures that all Secretary of State offices will remain open.

When Sec. Land first took office the State Department had a budget of \$182 million, which has since increased nearly 10%. However, the Department has claimed that the resources to keep these offices open do not exist.

This Monday, over a hundred members of the Fenton community rallied in the rain along with Sen. Gleason, Fenton Mayor Sue Osborn, Genesee County Commissioner Pat Lockwood (D-Fenton), and Linden Mayor David Lossing in an effort to save the Fenton Secretary of State office. A local business had collected over 3,000 signatures from Fenton residents opposing the branch closing, and Sen. Gleason presented them to the Secretary of State this afternoon.

If the proposed closing had gone through, Fenton residents would have been forced to travel to the Mundy Township or Clarkston branch offices to conduct their vehicle and voter registration-related business.

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