

The Honorable Robert D. Robbins  
Pennsylvania Senator, District-50  
Inducted 1998

The Honorable (HON) Robert D. Robbins was born and raised in the northwestern Pennsylvania borough of Greenville. He graduated from Greenville High School in 1962 and subsequently entered the United States Military Academy at West Point with the Class of 1966. After graduation from West Point, HON Robbins was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Regular Army and served two tours in Vietnam as a paratrooper, eventually serving as Company Commander with D Company, 501st Airborne Infantry Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. During his time in the U.S. Army he earned the Bronze Star with Valor, Soldiers Medal for Heroism, the Combat Infantry badge, and Ranger tab. He left the Army in 1971 with an honorable discharge at the rank of captain.

With his Army service complete, HON Robbins earned his teaching certificate from Geneva College in 1973 and then returned to Greenville, where he became a teacher and wrestling coach at Greenville High School. HON Robbins also worked as an insurance agent for Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company.

In 1982, HON Robbins won election as a Republican to a Mercer County-based seat in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, and subsequently served four terms in the body.

In 1990, HON Robbins ran for State Senate in the 50th Senate District to replace fellow Republican Roy Wilt, who was retiring.

HON Robbins rose through the ranks of Senate Republicans to become Majority Caucus Secretary. HON Robbins currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee, and also serves as Chairman of the bipartisan Local Government Commission, Vice Chairman of the Athletic Oversight Committee, and a member of the Keystone State Games Commission.