

NEW SENATOR PROFILES: TANYA COOK AND MIKE GLOOR

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Each week between now and the end of the year, we are profiling two of Nebraska's newly elected senators. This is the fifth in that series. Sixteen senators will begin their first term January 7, 2009.

Tanya Cook, Omaha (District 13), defeated Kurt Geschwender to take the District 13 seat vacated by Sen. Lowen Kruse, who was term-limited. District 13 lies in north Omaha and Douglas County. Cook, along with Brenda Council, who was elected to serve District 11, are the first two black women to be elected to the Nebraska Legislature.

Cook was born in Guam, but moved at a young age to Omaha, when her father took a job at Offutt Air Force Base. She received a Bachelor's Degree in International Business from Georgetown University, and worked in New York City before returning to Omaha. She currently serves as president of a strategic communications and public relations consulting group. Her civic activities are too many to record, and she served as Director of Urban Affairs for both Govs. Mike Johanns and Dave Heineman.

A Democrat, Cook was endorsed by the *Omaha World-Herald*. While she has been around politics much of her adult life, the Legislature is her first elected office.

Mike Gloor, Grand Island (District 35), defeated Gregg Neuhaus to succeed Sen. Ray Aguilar, who could not run for re-election due to term limits. District 35 lies in Hall County and mainly includes the city of Grand Island.

Gloor recently retired as President and Chief Executive Officer of St. Francis Medical Center in Grand Island. He has been involved in a number of civic activities in the Grand Island area, including chair of the Grand Island Area Economic Development Board. Most recently, he co-chaired the Grand Island United Way's annual campaign with his wife.

Gloor, a Republican, was endorsed by the *Omaha World-Herald* and the *Grand Island Independent*, as well as by Gov. Dave Heineman.

For more information on the Nebraska Legislature, please contact Andy Pollock at apollock@remboltludtke.com. Andy is a registered lobbyist at the Nebraska Legislature.

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