

## **Senator Jeffrey E. Piccola**

Jeffrey E. Piccola is a former member of the Pennsylvania State Senate, where he represented the 15th District, and the Pennsylvania State House, where he represented the 104th District. He was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1976, where he held his seat until he was elected to the Pennsylvania State Senate in 1994. Piccola was made Majority Caucus Administrator of the State Senate in 1999, and, in 2001, he was elected Senate Majority Whip.

As a member of the Pennsylvania state legislature, he spearheaded a number of legislative initiatives in the areas of public safety and judicial reform, business and economic development, improving public education and urban revitalization. Piccola authored the “Property Rights and Protection Act,” signed into law in 2006 to fight government abuse of eminent domain powers. As Chairman of the Senate Education Committee and member of the Governor’s Advisory Commission on Academic Standards, he led a comprehensive school choice plan that included the creation of an opportunity scholarship program, reform of the state’s charter and cyber charter school laws, expansion of Pennsylvania’s Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program, and the successful enactment of the State Board of Education regulation to implement the Keystone Exams. Piccola has served as Chair of the Senate Committee on Aging and Youth, and as a member of Senate Committees on Community, Economic and Recreational Development, Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, Judiciary, and Rules and Executive Nominations.

Piccola is a 1970 graduate of Gettysburg College, and a 1973 graduate of George Washington University Law School. From 1973 to 1974, he served as first lieutenant in the United States Air Force.