



ERNEST N. ABATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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ERNEST N. ABATE, Democrat, of Stamford, was born in New Haven on August 10, 1943. He attended St. Francis Parochial School and Notre Dame High School and graduated from Villanova University in 1965 with honors. While at Villanova, Abate was president of his Senior class, selected as a Rhodes Scholar nominee, appeared in Who's Who among Students and was designated as Outstanding Youth of the Year. He holds a bachelor's degree in Political Science and received his law degree from Notre Dame University.

In 1967, Representative Abate joined the U.S. Marine Corps and began active service in 1969. He was honorably discharged as a Captain in 1972 and is the recipient of the Navy Achievement Medal.

Abate was elected to the State House of Representatives in 1974. In 1977, he was chosen as House Chairman of the Judiciary Committee and in 1979, he was elected Speaker of the House and as such is Co-chairman of the Joint Committee on Legislative Management.

He is a partner in the law firm of Abate, Fox and Farrell with offices in Stamford. He served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Health Systems Agency for Region I from 1975-1978 and is currently a member of the Board of Touch, Inc., for parents of handicapped children, Aid for the Retarded, Inc., and Community Return, Inc., which provides services for those in transition from correctional institutions to community life. He is an Incorporator of the Stamford Hospital.

In 1976, he was awarded the distinguished service award as Outstanding Young Man of the Year in Stamford and has been selected to appear in Who's Who in Government, Who's Who in American Politics, Who's Who in Connecticut and Outstanding Young Men of America.

Married to the former Barbara Zemple, he and his wife reside in Stamford with their two children, Chas and Ned.