

Dem Kolste won't seek reelection to Janesville-area Assembly seat

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State Rep. Deb Kolste, D-Janesville, won't seek reelection this fall, saying it is time to help her family and community on a more personal level.

Kolste, 66, was elected to the Assembly in 2012 after working as a medical technologist and serving on the Janesville School Board for nearly a decade.

During a speech on the Assembly floor Thursday night, Kolste said she will miss her colleagues but bemoaned partisanship in the Capitol.

"I feel that sometimes it becomes a politics of power and that's when I get concerned," she said.

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Her Janesville area district has a strong Dem tilt. Hillary Clinton won the seat with 54.6 percent of the vote in 2016.