

August 20, 2008

Greetings,

It feels early to be thinking about local political races, but the primary season is right around the corner. I know that phones are ringing and mailboxes are being filled with political advertising, so I'll be brief.

I am running for the New Hampshire Senate District 5 seat. Senator Peter Burling has decided not to run again, and I am proud to have his endorsement for my campaign.

Since the 4th of July, there have been a number of parades, old home days, and political gatherings. At each event, I have enjoyed the opportunity to talk with people, tell them why I am running for the state senate, and ask what issues are of interest and/or concern to them. This informs my campaign for the state senate, but it also informs what should happen in the next legislative session. I have had discussions about the coming winter and difficulties anticipated with the price of heating the home; infrastructure concerns in light of the weight restriction imposed on a bridge between New Hampshire and Vermont; the Sullivan County community correctional facility; and, of course, the issue of how we are going to fund state priorities.

In the last legislative session, action was taken on many issues that had been neglected for too long, including tough decisions surrounding education and the state retirement system. Some of the other major accomplishments of this past session include expansion of access to health care insurance, increasing the minimum wage, providing consumer protection from predatory lenders, and protecting individual liberties. I am eager to continue my efforts to affect positive change in Concord – while maintaining the best of what we have. For more information about my senate campaign, please visit www.matthewhoude.com. Enjoy the rest of the summer – and start of fall! Regards,

Matthew Houde