

REPRESENTATIVE TANNER 2013

The main focus of the House session was to deal with the budget. I'm pleased to say that we achieved many positive results. We passed the first, truly bipartisan budget in decades with a vote of 337-18 and restored funding cuts from the last legislative session. Some of the highlights of this year's budget are:

Education

- ✓ Fully funds the existing adequacy formula and increases the cap
- ✓ Fully funds school building aid for current projects
- ✓ Restores funds and scholarship programs to our community college system and UNH system in exchange for a tuition freeze
- ✓ Restores the Children in Need of Services Program (CHINS)

Health Care

- ✓ Increases funding in long term care including the county portion
- ✓ Restores funding for domestic violence programs
- ✓ Increases funding for family planning
- ✓ Begins to reverse the tax on hospitals by restoring funds for uncompensated care
- ✓ Provides funding for our mental health system by expanding acute care, Community Crisis Treatment Teams, and community residential resources
- ✓ Provides funding to meet health care needs at the State's Veteran's Home

Communities

- ✓ Fully funds local communities for delayed and deferred water projects, catastrophic aid, and tuition and transportation assistance to local schools
- ✓ Increases the distribution of rooms and meals tax money to local communities
- ✓ Fully funds LCHIP for the preservation of historic sites and buildings

State

- ✓ Increases funding for tourism promotion
- ✓ Adds 15 additional State Troopers on our roads
- ✓ Funds the drug task force teams
- ✓ Increases funds for search and rescue operations of Fish and Game Commission
- ✓ Provides funding for two positions to address the invasive and destructive Ash Borer.

Our work is not done. We need to address the issue of health care through the expansion of Medicaid for fifty-eight thousand New Hampshire residents between the ages of 19 and 64 earning less than \$16,000 a year. The Business and Industry Association has given their support to this issue in recognition of its importance to New Hampshire's economy and the well being of its citizens. Another critical issue to be addressed is the deteriorating condition of our roads and bridges. Areas where bridges are deemed unsafe for school buses or commercial vehicles are proving costly to both towns and businesses. We need to find a revenue source to meet this need.

Please contact me anytime if I can be of assistance to you. I appreciate your input about legislation. It is an honor and a privilege to represent you in Concord.

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