



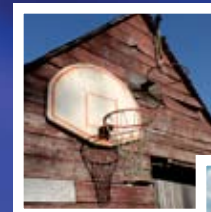
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Bruce Borders

200 W. WASHINGTON STREET • INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

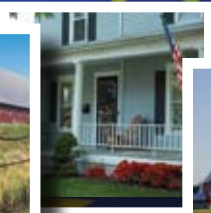
2009 Legislative Wrap-Up

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2009

Legislative Wrap-Up



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE BRUCE BORDERS
200 W. WASHINGTON ST.
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

What are the things the state can be doing to make your life better? What are we doing right? What are we doing that really ticks you off? What are we doing an OK job on that can be improved?

Please feel free to e-mail your thoughts to me h45@iga.in.gov, post your comments on my Web site at www.in.gov/h45, or return this card with your comments below.

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Taxpayers are Winners in New State Budget

I believe the new state budget, based on solid common-sense principles, is a success for Hoosier taxpayers and public education.

Although the budget is a bipartisan compromise, it holds to fiscally conservative principles like not spending more than you have.

- It doesn't contain general tax increases.
- It maintains at least \$1 billion in the state savings account.
- It uses one-time federal stimulus money responsibly, including statewide infrastructure and university construction projects.
- It does not deplete trust funds or other dedicated money for operating expenses.
- While many states are cutting overall education spending, raising taxes or both, the budget doesn't do either. It even promises more support for education through additional funding: If state revenues exceed projections, 50 percent of that money is sent to education.
- K-12 education gained an average increase of 1.1 percent in calendar year 2010 and 0.3 percent in calendar year 2011.
- The budget fully funds K-12 anticipated enrollment increases at growing public schools.
- The Ivy Tech Community College network was given enhanced support, and bonding was authorized to fund 38 university capital projects throughout the state, including two projects for Indiana State University.
- The state's higher education scholarship grants program receives increases of 6 percent in fiscal year 2010 and 3 percent in fiscal year 2011.

I believe this is the right budget for Indiana right now, and that's why I voted for it.



Rep. Borders addresses the House during a resolution honoring all the tremendous higher education facilities in Vigo County: Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Rose-Hulman, Ivy Tech and Indiana State.

“One major disappointment of this session was we weren't allowed to vote on SJR 1, which would have included property tax caps in the Indiana Constitution. I believe this is a critical additional taxpayer protection measure, and, unfortunately, no vote occurred this year.”

-Rep. Bruce Borders

Silver Alerts

Sometimes Alzheimer's and dementia patients wander off on foot or in their cars. In some cases, they've even been found in other states, scared and confused. I supported a law that creates the Silver Alert system. The system alerts law-enforcement agencies and local media – similar to the Amber Alert system for children. This way, endangered adults can be found as quickly as possible and safely returned home.

Increased Protection for Hoosier Children

Tragically, a number of children have died in recent years from abuse and neglect. I gladly supported a budget provision that provides additional protection for these innocent children. It provides funding for an ombudsman for the Department of Child Services. This new line of defense was a huge help for child caseworkers, and they consider this program a big win for children.

Military Family Leave

For those serving on active duty in the military, time spent with family members is more precious than gold. For that reason, I was honored to help

expand military leave time to sons, daughters, foster children, stepchildren and grandparents of active-duty personnel. Most employers, including me, realize this expansion of eligibility means more family members can have precious time with loved ones before they ship out.

Easing Mortgage Foreclosures

With a difficult economy, it can be easy for families to fall behind with their mortgage payments. A bill I supported give families the opportunity to meet with their lender before a foreclosure proceeding is initiated.

Expanded Breast and Cervical Cancer Screenings

Breast cancer kills almost 1,000 Hoosier women every year, and it's one of the most frequently diagnosed cancers. I gladly supported a life-saving measure that increases the number of Medicaid-covered screenings for both breast and cervical cancer treatments.



Bruce Borders

State Representative • House District 45

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