



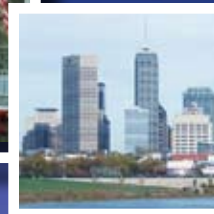
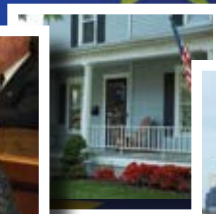
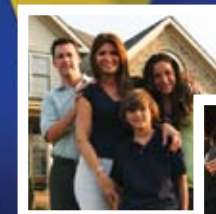
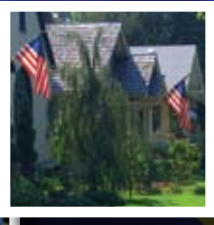
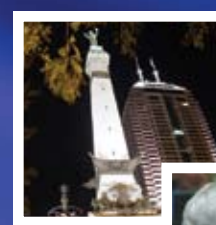
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Kathy Kreag Richardson

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 **KATHY KREAG RICHARDSON**
200 W. WASHINGTON ST.
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

What important issues are facing our state today, in your opinion?

Please, feel free to e-mail me your thoughts to h29@iga.in.gov, post your comments on my Web site at www.in.gov/h29, 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, with all 48 House Republicans voting for it, House Republican principles remained an important influence. It is a success, I believe, because:

- It contains no general tax increases.
- It maintains at least \$1 billion in state reserves.
- 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.

Gov. Mitch Daniels, along with House and Senate Republicans, outlined those standards early in the process and did not waver. While many states are cutting overall education spending, raising taxes or both, this budget does neither. It even promises more support for education through additional funding. The "education trigger" would also allot 50 percent of state revenue to education when income exceeds revenue projections.

Statewide public education receives:

- K-12 education gained an average increase of 1.1 percent in calendar year 2010 and 0.3 percent in calendar year 2011.
- In my opinion, the budget continues its move towards fully funding growing schools and changes the current deghoster (payment of the student to the former school) from five to three years.
- The Ivy Tech Community College network was given enhanced support, and bonding is authorized to fund 38 university capital projects throughout the state, including Indiana University Southeast, Purdue University and Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.
 - 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, during these tough economic times, this is the right budget for Indiana.



Rep. Richardson meeting with Rep. Espich on House floor.



Rep. Richardson discussing legislation with Rep. Dennis Avery.

Honoring Our Veterans

This legislation honors Hoosier heroes who have sacrificed so much for us by providing all Hoosier Purple Heart recipients free tuition to state colleges and universities. Previously, the law provided tuition to only those who received the Purple Heart after Sept. 10, 2001 and the children of all Purple Heart recipients.

Keeping Families in Their Homes

This law addresses the abuses of the mortgage system that helped fuel the foreclosure crisis. It toughens the penalties for mortgage companies who improperly influence an appraiser to inflate the appraisal of a home. Hoosier homeowners will now be better protected from unscrupulous mortgage lending practices.

Protecting Your Identity

Hoosiers now have more identity theft protection through the state's Identity Theft Unit, which will investigate complaints and assist victims. Identity theft was the top consumer complaint to the Federal Trade Commission in 2008.

Jury Duty Exemption

This law will relieve stress on Hoosiers who may worry about procedural obstacles when attempting to be excused from jury duty. Hoosiers at least 75 years old now may be exempted from jury duty at their request.



Kathy Kreag Richardson

State Representative • House District 29

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