



from the desk of
REPRESENTATIVE PHIL HINKLE

Dear Neighbor:

This session, we were left with tough decisions because of the state's declining revenues and lack of funds. We had an uphill battle, however we were surprisingly successful this session.

I was determined to meet four goals: create and protect Hoosiers' jobs, avoid new tax increases, live within our means and allow Hoosiers to vote for permanent property tax caps on the November ballot.

I voted on bills with those four goals in mind and was able to achieve those goals in spite of the economic recession. Plenty of hard work, discussions and debates took place to better protect Indiana's best interests.

While we meet with summer study committees to develop legislation for next year I promise to work hard for Hoosiers' personal liberties and growing government.

It's an honor to represent you in our state Capitol and I will continue to do my best to improve Hoosier quality of life. Please contact me at anytime with your questions, concerns or comments.

Sincerely,


Rep. Phil Hinkle



200 W. WASHINGTON STREET • INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204

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STATEHOUSE OFFICE

1-800-382-9841

1-317-234-3827

E-MAIL ADDRESS

h92@in.gov

E-NEWSLETTER SIGNUP

www.in.gov/h92

MAILING ADDRESS

200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204



2010

LEGISLATIVE REPORT



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

PHIL HINKLE

PHIL HINKLE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE · HOUSE DISTRICT 92



CREATING HOOSIER JOBS



I voted for legislation that authorizes the use of public-private partnerships for the construction of the Illiana Expressway in Northwest Indiana and the Ohio River Bridges project in Southern Indiana. These two projects have the potential to create more than 10,000 jobs. Other job friendly legislation I voted for was the New Employer Tax Credit which allows new businesses that locate in Indiana starting January 1, 2010 to receive a tax credit for two years equal to 10% of the wages paid for each newly created job. I will continue to support initiatives that make Indiana an attractive environment for job growth.



SUPPORTING SCHOOL FUNDING FLEXIBILITY

I voted to help schools redirect up to \$60 million to help fill gaps that came as a result of the state funding reductions. I believe this additional money will help with teacher job retention during these difficult economic times.

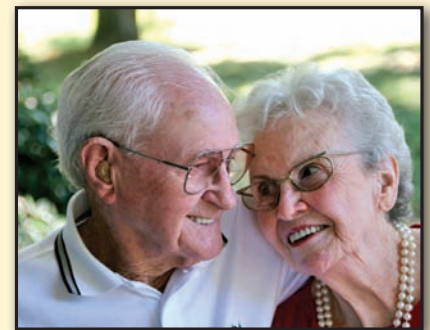
CAPPING GOVERNMENT'S GRASP ON YOUR TAXES



One of my top priorities this session was protecting Hoosier taxpayers. I first voted to pass property tax caps in 2008 and am thrilled that taxpayers will have the opportunity to vote in November on approving this change to the Indiana Constitution. Constitutional property tax caps will ensure the permanency of the property tax reforms that began in 2008.

I also voted to delay the Unemployment Insurance tax increase which would have increased taxes on more than 72,000 employers that own a small business that employs anywhere from 1-49 employees.

"In my opinion... we first must live within our means."



HELPING SENIOR CITIZENS

I supported giving senior citizens, and all Hoosiers, the ability to vote to constitutionally cap their property tax bills to no more than 1% of their home's assessed value. Additionally, it is now clear that senior citizens are able to receive both the senior citizen's property tax deduction and the supplemental standard deduction. I also voted to have courts work through established programs when appointing advocates for incapacitated persons over the age of 55.



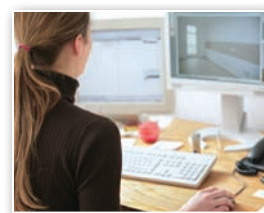
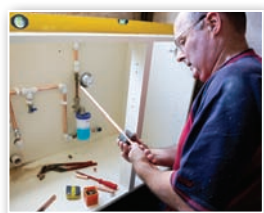
SUPPORTING HOOSIER VETERANS

I voted to protect veterans from debt collectors who try to collect from service members' disability benefits. I also supported legislation to ensure that all Indiana National Guard members returning from active duty service receive face-to-face care from a professional mental health provider if they need it to help with the stress of combat.



INCREASING GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY

I voted to strengthen the ethics laws of state government. One of the major provisions is the mandatory "cooling off period," where legislators must wait at least one year after leaving office until they can become a registered lobbyist. Another provision lowers the threshold for reporting gifts to legislators from \$100 to \$50. This measure will help boost public trust in state government and improve transparency in the lobbying process.



My Web site is www.in.gov/h92