



SENATOR JEAN BREAU

116TH INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ★ SENATE DISTRICT 34

NEWS RELEASE

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Breaux announces 2010 legislative survey results

INDIANAPOLIS— State Senator Jean D. Breaux (D-Indianapolis) recently announced the results of her 2010 Legislative Survey. Questionnaires were mailed to households throughout Senate District 34 in December 2009 and made available on her website. Breaux sought input from her constituents on a variety of issues that were anticipated to come before the 2010 General Assembly.

A major issue before the General Assembly this year is texting while driving, and a majority of respondents supported prohibiting texting while driving, voting 80 to 20 percent. House Bill 1279 was approved by the Indiana House of Representatives and would make it a Class C infraction to transmit a text message while operating a motor vehicle, with exceptions for hands-free or voice-operated technology. The bill now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

Allowing the retail sale of alcohol on Sunday, as well as expanding the retail sale of cold beer to convenience and grocery stores does not appear to have enough support to pass through the legislature this year. However, a few alcohol-related issues are still alive in the General Assembly, including Sunday carry-out for microbreweries, Election-day alcohol sales and extended Sunday alcohol sales to businesses already permitted to sell on Sundays, including some restaurants. More than 50 percent of District 34 constituents supported both measures.

Respondents also supported establishing a non partisan commission to advise the General Assembly on legislative redistricting in 2011 and in the future, voting 68 to 32 percent. Breaux and other members of the General Assembly have proposed the immediate creation of an independent commission for legislative redistricting.

When asked whether all municipal elections should be moved to an even-year cycle, 73 percent of respondents said yes. Other Indiana elections are held in even years, but municipal elections are conducted in odd years, so there are additional costs. Moving municipal elections to even years would save money and increase voter participation. This provision is not actively moving through the General Assembly, but several election-related bills are, including one that would move all school board elections to the general election cycle beginning in 2010.

For the complete survey results and more information on Senator Breaux please visit www.senatedemocrats.IN.gov.

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