Indiana State Representative

Robert Kuzman

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Robert
Kuzman

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Take this opportunity to share your views

2003 Session will bring legislative, fiscal challenges

STATE OF INDIANA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

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PUBLIC POLICY, ETHICS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

January 2003

Dear Friend:

The 2003 legislative session has begun, which means the legislature will be working over the next few months to fulfill our constitutional duty of preparing a biennial budget. This will be no small task, as 33 states have reported revenue collections below forecasted levels through last October, and Indiana is no exception.

Nevertheless, I hope we can provide reasonable solutions to our budget problems, and my goal is that those solutions will allow Indiana residents an opportunity to improve our collective quality of life in this increasingly challenging time.

This year I was appointed by the Speaker as Assistant Caucus Chairman. This position enables me to help mold ideas for economic development opportunities, education and senior programs for Lake, Newton and Porter Counties.

As always, thank you for the opportunity to represent the 19th district, and please let me know if there is anything that I can do for you or your family. Best wishes for the new year.

Robert Kuzman

Rep. Kuzman addresses the House of Representatives.

This position enables me to help mold ideas for economic development opportunities, education and senior programs for Lake, Newton and Porter Counties.

2003 Legislative Survey

Please fill out the survey and mail it to me, or complete the survey online at www.in.gov/H19. Another member of your household may respond in the second set of answers.

1. With Indiana still recovering from the national recession, it is likely that lawmakers will have to make tough decisions in formulating a new biennial state budget. Which of these options would you choose in making those decisions?
- ❍ ❍A. Cutting existing state programs.
- ❍ ❍B. Raising additional taxes.
- ❍ ❍C. Suspending some tax cuts until the economy has rebounded.
- ❍ ❍D. Using alternative sources for revenue, such as lottery and gaming funds, to shore up existing programming.
- ❍ ❍E. Delaying the effective date of the next property reassessment.

2. If you support cutting funding for existing programs, which areas would you cut?
- ❍ ❍A. Health care.
- ❍ ❍B. Infrastructure, such as roads and bridges.
- ❍ ❍C. Corrections, including state prisons.
- ❍ ❍D. Human services.
- ❍ ❍E. K-12 education.
- ❍ ❍F. Higher education.
- ❍ ❍G. Incentives for economic development.

3. Recently, Gov. Frank O'Bannon and Lt. Gov. Joe Kernan announced the Energize Indiana plan, which will focus on expansion and growth in the state's educational and economic efforts. Their intention is to finance these proposals without relying on state tax dollars by using funds from Indiana's share of the national tobacco settlement. Do you agree with this approach?
❍ ❍ Yes ❍ ❍No

4. What should be the state's priority in education funding?
- ❍ ❍A. Expanded testing.
- ❍ ❍B. Full-day kindergarten.
- ❍ ❍C. Teacher training and professional development.
- ❍ ❍D. School construction and renovation.
- ❍ ❍E. Reduction in class size.

5. Do you think the state gasoline tax should be increased to provide more funding for local road improvements?
❍ ❍ Yes ❍ ❍No

6. Would you favor a food and beverage tax which would support increased regional transportation services, including buses and rail?
❍ ❍ Yes ❍ ❍No

7. Would you support transportation services from South Shore to South Lake County?
❍ ❍ Yes ❍ ❍No

Comments

Stay in touch

with Representative Kuzman and the Indiana General Assembly

The 113th Session of the Indiana Legislature has just convened. Below are some of the ways to stay involved.

Online

The official Web site for the State of Indiana is at www.in.gov. This is a good place to start if you're interested in information about Indiana and various government services.

Additionally, each representative has a Web site with information on his or her background, education and contact information. My site is at **www.in.gov/H19**. There you may also learn about bills that I have filed, read past newsletters, and apply to become a page or an intern.

E-mail updates

Would you like to receive e-mail updates with news from the Statehouse? You are always encouraged to contact me directly via e-mail, but I would also be happy to send you news from time to time about what is going on at the Statehouse.

To receive updates, e-mail me at **H19@in.gov** and ask to have your name added to the list, or **just include your e-mail address on the front of the survey response card**. It's a simple way to stay informed about the issues that impact our state and our district.

Becoming a page

Serving as a page during the 2003 session allows any child age 13 or older the opportunity to gain a firsthand glimpse of how the legislative system works. Students will be excused from school on the day they are serving as a page and will spend the entire day at the Statehouse.

Interested students should send me their name, parent or guardian's name, address, phone number, school and two different dates when the student could come to the Statehouse between now and late April, 2003.

Please note that places fill up quickly, so apply as soon as possible!

In person

Sessions of the Indiana General Assembly are open to the public. You may observe the House yourself, seeing our democratic system at work. No need to schedule an appointment—you're always welcome. The House chamber has a visitors' gallery on the fourth floor from which you can view proceedings.

Whichever method you prefer, I hope that you'll keep informed and stay involved.

Representative Robert Kuzman
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Prsrt Std
U.S. Postage
PAID
Indiana
House of
Representatives

Yes!
Add my e-mail address to your update list!
My e-mail address is:

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Indianapolis, IN 46204-2786

Please place your stamp here.