



# MAJORITY REPORT

Volume 1 Issue 12

May 6, 2005

## *From the desk of the Majority Leader*



Now that the dust has settled following the marathon session of April 20th, we in the Majority Office have had the opportunity to sit back and digest exactly what happened on the House floor and where we now stand with regard to legislation that received such lengthy, and oftentimes heated, but healthy debate.

As Republicans, we should all be proud of the fact that, despite our many philosophical differences, we came together to deliver legislation to the Senate that is good public policy.

One only needs to look at the results of the roll calls on five key votes to see exactly how Republicans responded when challenged by the opposition party on the floor of the House.

When called upon to vote on the Wallner/Hager amendment to HB 1, reconsideration of HB 1, the vote of OTP/A on HB 1, the vote on HB 2, and the Medicaid modernization bill, an average of 190 Republican members put aside any philosophical differences and voted together, as a group.

Because we rallied when it counted and stood together as Republicans, we were able to take an important first step toward modernizing the Medicaid program. Even as last minute concerns arose, we worked together to amend the bill so that those Republicans that expressed concerns would feel comfortable in supporting it.

We also passed along to the Senate a budget that spends \$100M less than the budget submitted by the Governor, while calling for a mere 4 percent increase in General Fund spending. If our budget were to become law today,

### Key Republican Votes



<b>Wallner/Hager Amend (no)</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Reconsideration of HB 1</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>HB 1 (OTP/A)</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>HB 2 (OTP/A)</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>HB 691 (OTP/A)</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>1</b>

it would clearly deliver the services necessary to run state government over the next biennium.

However, there is still much work to be done through the committees of conference before we break for the summer. Before the session is complete, we will be called upon once again to come together as Republicans for the common good of the people of our State.

We still have 100 bills remaining to deal with in the House. When we meet next Wednesday at 10 a.m. we will vote on 36 of those bills (24 on consent/12 regular calendar).

As always, a Republican caucus will be held at 9:15 and I encourage all members to attend.

Finally, you should have received a copy of a press release sent out by the Majority Office calling upon Governor Lynch to drop his opposition to the Mount Sunapee expansion plan. This press release is also available on our website ([www.nhhousegop.com](http://www.nhhousegop.com)). This is not a partisan issue, but rather an issue of doing what's right for the people of this State. What message would it send to our current and future business partners if we were to continue along this path? I encour-

—continued on page 2



The Majority Office **SUPPORTS** the committee report on these bills:

**SB 18**

Relative to sales of tickets for pure lotteries by those not employed by the lottery commission. This bill came out of **Ways and Means**

**ITL, 12-8.** We support the committee report because:

- Extending the right to sell lottery tickets by non-lottery employees at unlicensed locations is not justified by the additional net profit it would generate.
- The Lottery commission estimates that the annual net profit from this move would be only \$75,000 before any overhead expense allocation or supervision costs.
- Anyone who wishes to sell lottery tickets may apply for a license to do so.

**SB 113-FN**

Relative to the use of federal funds for technology improvements with the Department of Employment Security. It came out of **Labor OTP, 9-6.** We support the committee because:

- The current computer system used by DES is in dire need of upgrade and replacement.
- This allows DES to use funds provided by the federal government through the REED Act funds.



**Come Join Us  
for Wings.....  
and Suds!**



**Wednesday, May 25th,  
Upham-Walker House  
Following the House session.**

**SB 164-FN**

Relative to the disposal of real property purchased with highway and turnpike funds. This bill came out of **Public Works and Highways OTP, 11-5.** We support the committee because:

- This will make it easier for the State to recover money not being utilized for highway funds.
- All requests for disposal of such property by DOT must be reviewed and approved by the Long Range Capital Planning and Utilization Committee.
- This streamlined process requires DOT to contract with licensed real estate professionals.
- This is a recommendation of a study committee from last session.

—**Desk** (continued from page one)

age all of our members to urge the Governor to change his position and bring this matter forward to the Executive Council.

Thank you, once again, to those of you who have worked hard to help carry the Republican principles forward on the floor of the House. Majority Whip Pam Price and I are always available on the third floor of the State House, if you have any questions about the Majority Office on any positions. We look forward to working with all of you over what should be a very productive final few weeks of this session.