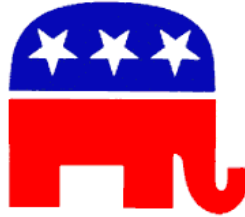


Republican Report



“If I know that it makes sense to know how much you’re spending before you decide how much money to raise, would I stay with the status quo and vote no on the pending motion?”

—Rep. Dan Eaton (d-Stoddard)
(On motion to Special Order HB 2)



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A message from the Republican Leader.....

I am extremely proud of the way our Republican Caucus stayed together on a number of crucial votes throughout a very hectic (46 roll calls) two-day session this past week. While I realize that there were a number of “conscience” votes that members felt that they had to make, when it came to the budget and taxes, Republicans did what we promised our constituents we would do when we were elected last November—we voted “no” on any attempt by the Democrats to increase spending and taxes. While we fell short on each count, we must make sure that the voters of the state will not forget.

I have said all along that our caucus had to remain solidified when it came to votes on impor-

tant fiscal matters and this week we far exceeded any expectations. In fact, on 14 crucial roll call votes dealing with **HB1** and **HB2** and their various amendments, House Republicans stayed together **98%** of the time! As a matter of fact, on six of those crucial votes I am proud of the fact that

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Bill	% of Reps Voting with Us	Rep.Votes Lost	Dem. Votes Gained	% of Dems Voting Together
“Bathroom” Bill	98%	4	24	88%
HB 1-Majority Amend.	99%	1	9	96%
School Building Aid Amend.	100%	0	14	93%
Revenue Sharing Amend.	100%	0	11	95%
HB1-Minority Amend.	97%	4	2	99%
HB1-OTP/A	100%	0	16	92%
HB2-Majority Amend.	100%	0	13	93%
Capital Gains Tax	100%	0	16	92%
Rooms & Meals Tax	100%	0	20	90%
Insurance Premium Tax	98%	3	7	96%
Tobacco Tax	97%	5	13	93%
“Death” Tax	99%	2	9	95%
Gambling Winnings Tax	97%	5	13	93%
HB2-OTP/AM	99%	1	14	93%



—Message

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we had **100% Republican support!** That is the type of unity that will pay off in the next election. The voters of this state are watching and listening and, in November 2010, they will hold House Democrats accountable for what they have done this week.

Despite being faced with the worst recession in recent memory, House Democrats continue to ignore the current economic crisis. Instead they voted to unfairly raise numerous taxes while creating several new ones. What they have done this week will hurt our families and negatively impact the New Hampshire Advantage with the region for many years to come.

Their answer to this recession, which has lasted for 17 months, was to impose a capital gains “income” tax that will remove \$75M out of the New Hampshire economy; impose an increase in the rooms and meals tax that will take \$39M out of the economy; increase the tax on tobacco and take \$57M out of the economy; impose a new estate (“death”) tax and remove \$10M from our economy; create a tax on gambling winnings and take \$16M out of the economy; nearly double the gasoline tax and, over the biennium, take \$76M out of our economy; fail to fund school building aid and impose an \$83M local property tax increase and take that amount out of the economy; and failed to fund municipal revenue sharing that will result in taking \$50M away from local property tax payers.

If you add up all of their moves to raise taxes and downshift the financial burden to the local municipalities you are talking about more than \$350M taken out of the New Hampshire economy. How will this effect NH families? A family of four, over the next biennium, will pay more than \$1,000 in additional taxes. This is just not good public policy. House Democrats have adopted a budget that spends more than we can afford with our existing tax structure—the majority’s position of raising and spending more money is not only bad public policy but is irresponsible in the middle of a recession. In fact, it is just the opposite of what’s being done in Washington. We should not be acting contrary to the national position in trying to work our way out of the recession.

The Democrats “spin” is that whatever we pass over to the Senate, it would get “fixed.” But what they failed to mention is that, when we square off against the senate in a committee of conference, we are bound to defend the house position—a position of excessive spending and higher taxes. The right thing would have been to suspend the necessary rules, recommit the bill to the finance committee and instruct them to produce a budget that could be balanced without additional taxes. That would have been the right thing to do for the people of this state.

Once again, I cannot tell you all enough how much I appreciate your hard work and the fact the we remained together in our attempt to defeat the majority’s budget. We certainly will have a lot of fodder for future campaigns when we will hold the Democrats accountable for what they have done this week. With no session next week, we will not be holding a Republican caucus. The Senate bills will start coming over following crossover and we will be taking a closer look at many of the issues that we will be voting on in the coming weeks. I am hoping that our caucus will continue to remain solidly together. Thanks again!

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with the media!**

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- Op-Ed pieces.
- Local media contacts.

