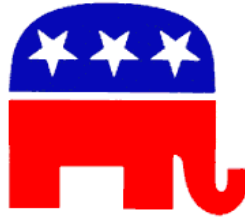


# Republican Report

“Over the years, this place has become my second family.....because friendship goes beyond party lines.”  
—Mike Whalley



Volume 2, Issue 15

April 18, 2008

## *A message from the Deputy Republican Leader.....*

Democrats in the House are slowly discovering that artificially increasing revenue projections to accommodate their **17.5% spending increase** in the budget has been a recipe for the largest financial crisis in state history. Their “spend like crazy and then inflate the revenue projections” method has put us on the doorstep of a **\$260M shortfall** and brought us closer to what Democrats have been angling for all along, a broad based tax.

In fact, less than a week after the governor’s agency heads told the House Ways & Means committee that they were finally in agreement with Rep. Norm Major’s revenue projections, House Democrats ignored the warnings, and passed two education bills that will undoubtedly increase spending even further.

**SB530**, the kindergarten aid bill, is going to increase education spending by an additional **\$20M**, with no projected increase in kindergarten attendance in the state. It also mandates that the 12 communities which do not

currently offer kindergarten submit detailed plans by September, 2009, regardless of whether the taxpayers in those communities have agreed to implement the programs. Then they passed **SB 539**, relative to costing an adequate education that will cost the state nearly \$1 Billion a year over the next biennium, and will bind the hands of future legislatures. The bill adds unreasonable levels to the costing formula, including increased teacher and staff salaries,

In Memory  
**MICHAEL D. WHALLEY**  
1953-2008



Our leader,  
our colleague, and  
our friend.

**The Republican Office  
Can help you stay in touch  
with the media!  
We are ready to assist you with:**

- Press Releases specific to issues in your district.
- Op-Ed pieces.
- Local media contacts.



materials, technology, transportation, and arbitrarily inflated additional aid based upon free and reduced lunch students—all factors that increase the average costs by more than **\$100 Million!**

And, despite the fact that this Democrat-controlled House passed the largest spending increase in twenty years, they continue to refer to this crisis as a “*revenue*” problem when in fact it is clearly a “*spending*” problem. In fact, revenues have actually increased by more than \$40M over last year, through March 31. Unfortunately, however, they were quickly gobbled up by an overexuberant spending spree in the very first year of the biennium.

But instead of cutting spending, Democrats have chosen an alternative: balance the budget by passing additional taxes and fees onto the citizens of New Hampshire—and the voters are finally starting to take notice. For your use in writing letters and op-eds, we have listed just a few of the increased taxes and fees that they have passed during this session alone. (*see pg. 2*)

What will be their solution? The hole is certainly far too deep to make up the deficit with spending cuts alone

—continued on page 2



## Republican Report-page 2

### —Message

*continued from page one*

during the second year of the biennium. The damage has already been done. House Democrats who insisted a year ago that Rep. Major was “crying wolf” when he talked of the *Perfect Storm* and warned of “overexuberant” revenues, are finally waking up to the grim reality that they should have paid attention.

And now, while Democrats are scrambling, in search of a revenue source that will handle such a large deficit, the hole gets deeper and the road to a broad based tax gets closer.

Over the final few weeks of the session, we as Republicans must stick together in waging the fight against further taxing and spending. I urge you to attend our



Wed., Apr. 30th  
at the  
Upham-Walker House  
join us for a  
Republican Office  
Spring Social  
(4PM or following the session)



Republican caucuses held prior to each Session and as, always, we in leadership welcome your thoughts and comments about any issue that is important to you and your constituents.

### *Increased Taxes and Fees this Session*

**HB 1309**—A new tax on cigars that will adversely affect sales along the NH border.

**HB 1426**—Motor fuel imported into NH will be taxed higher and dedicated to a cleanup fund that DES testified, “does not need money right now.”

**HB 1594**—Establishes new fees that will be levied on the backs of small business owners in NH.

**HB 1286**—Requires mortgage originators to pay a \$100 licensing fee and a \$100 renewal fee.

**HB 1414**—Increases the bail commissioners fee by \$15 per day.

**HB 1360**—House Democrats defeated a bill that would have repealed the civil court filing fee that they adopted last year. Adding a fee of \$25 for filing any civil case is just another step in preventing our citizens from seeking redress and is yet another example of the mismanagement of the budget.

**HB 1547**—House Democrats refused another attempt to repeal the fee charged to the Register of Deeds in an attempt to fund LCHIP by using a method that is harmful to citizens experiencing an already fledging real estate market.

**SB 528**—Created a \$5 incentive for recycling mercury thermostats that would be paid by manufacturers and passed along to the consumer.

**SB 519**—Imposes a per diem fine on dam owners and operators for failure to repair damage.

**SB 317**—Raises the tobacco license fee—once again hurting small business and chipping away at the *New Hampshire Advantage*.

### *Legislative Update*

During the past week, leadership has signed-in, testified and taken a position on a number of bills being heard in committee. Here is a complete list of those bills:

#### **Municipal & County**

**SB 342**—establishing a mechanism for expediting relief from municipal actions which deny, impede, or delay qualified proposals for workforce housing. **(oppose)**

**SB 421**—relative to workforce housing. **(oppose)**

#### **Senate Committee on Public & Municipal Affairs**

**HB 1472**—relative to workforce housing. **(oppose)**