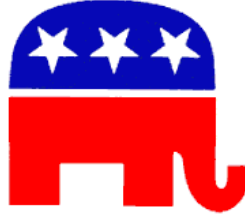


# Republican Report



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

I would like to welcome you all back for the 2009-2010 legislative session! A special welcome goes out to our freshmen legislators who will be joining us on the floor of the House for the first time. You will find the legislature to be an exciting and rewarding place to work and the friendships that you make on both sides of the aisle will stay with you for the rest of your life. I would also like to welcome back our successful incumbents as well as those of you who have served the House in the past but for various reasons took some time off from your legislative duties. Your experience as legislators will be of great value to our cause.

As a result of the November election, we have 176 members in the Republican Caucus this session, including 106 incumbents, 22 who have served the House in previous years and 48 freshmen. I would ask that our veteran legislators take time to work with and mentor the freshmen on their committee so that they may be brought up to speed on the legislative process as soon as possible.

I know that we all spent much of the summer working on getting reelected but now that election season is over it is time to focus on the coming biennium. There is no question that we face difficult times over the next two years in the legislature and in the State of New Hampshire.

Fortunately we are returning as a larger minority than we had in the previous session and, because of this fact, I believe strongly that if we stick together on our core Republican beliefs of lower taxes, reduced spending and smaller government, we will win some of the battles that we lost over the past two years. With 176 members all working together, we have an opportunity to accomplish some of our goals this session. There is no question that the Democrats have put our state in a precarious position financially and it will be up to us to work together on behalf of the New Hampshire taxpayer to prevent the deficit from growing even larger. I look forward to working with you all in the coming months. I also want you to know that the doors to the Republican Office are always open and our staff is always available to assist you with any issue.

Earlier this month I announced my leadership team for the coming two years and a press release was sent out to our caucus members as well as to the media outlets throughout the state. In selecting this team I attempted to be all-

### Republican Leadership Team



Republican Leader

Rep. Sherm Packard

Deputy Republican Leader

Rep. David Hess

Republican Whip

Rep. Shawn Jasper

Deputy Republican Whip

Rep. Andrew Renzullo

Senior Asst. Republican Leader

Rep. Gene Chandler

Assistant Republican Leader

Rep. Pamela Price

Rep. John Reagan

Rep. Jim Rausch

Assistant Republican Whip

Rep. D.J. Bettencourt

Rep. Eric Stohl

Rep. David Kidder

Rep. John Graham

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inclusive by making sure that every segment of the Republican Party was represented. I believe that our leadership team is well balanced both philosophically as well as geographically. Combined, the Republican leadership team brings over 125 years of legislative experience to the table. I know that they are all looking forward to working with you toward a successful legislative session.

I am also in the process of appointing Senior Policy Advisors and Whips to each of the standing committees. They will work closely with their committee members throughout the session. If you have any concerns with regard to legislation, please feel free to discuss it with your policy advisor and/or the committee whip. It is important that our office know well in advance—certainly before we get to the floor of the House— if you have a concern about leadership’s position on a bill. Please remember that I will also be available to meet with any member of the caucus to discuss issues of concern.

As you might imagine, the task of appointing members to the standing committees has been a rather daunting task. But I tried to be as fair as possible when setting up the committee assignments. In fact, more than 95% of the members received one of their three choices that they listed and 80% actually received their first choice. The full list of committee assignments as well as the seating arrangement for the coming session will be posted in next week’s House Calendar.

We will also continue the practice of holding a Republican Caucus prior to each House Session, but I also intend on holding occasional caucuses on Tuesdays prior to the House Session for a more in depth discussion of the important issues facing us. It will be very important that we have a good attendance at these caucuses and I hope that you will all make every effort to attend. In order to be successful on the floor of the House the session we must be well informed on the issues and stand together as a Republican Caucus.

As you may have recently heard or read in the media, the speaker has decided not to hold a House Session on December 17 for the purpose of taking up the state pay raises. However the House Republican Office will be holding its annual Holiday Party at 5 P.M. at the Upham-Walker House and I hope that you will be able to take the time to attend. This will be a good opportunity for us all to get together in an informal setting for the first time, and it will be a chance to renew old acquaintances with the former members who have returned to the House as well as a getting to know our freshman members.

Thank you again for your patience as I worked out both the committee and seating assignments this week. Now that this task has been accomplished we can turn our attention to working together on the important issues facing us this session. Our ultimate goal is to return the House of Representatives to Republican control and with your assistance and hard work I feel confident that we can accomplish this. Happy holidays to you and your families.

*Sherm Packard*



Check out the Republican Office website at:  
[www.nhousegop.com](http://www.nhousegop.com)

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