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Executive Director's Report from the State House

Vol. 30, No. 9

© 2010

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This is the final report for 2010. The General assembly adjourned sine die close to 1:00am on Saturday, March 13, 2010. Although ISNA monitored relatively few bills this session, the legislators did agree on some major issues that will affect Hoosiers.

Major issues include: Government Ethics, flexibility for schools to tap into funds to cover expenses, a state wide referendum this November to amend the Indiana Constitution to cap property taxes, and postponing an increase in the unemployment insurance tax for businesses.

Please review the House and Senate bill lists to see which bills made it through the process. Don't hesitate to contact me for any questions.

Don't forget that all the House seats and half of the Senate seats are up for election this. Get involved. Get to know the candidates. Support the candidate(s) of your choice with time and/or money.

We know that several will not be back next session.

Retiring are: Representatives Dennie Oxley, Sr., Cleo Duncan, Greensburg; Dennis Avery, Evansville; Vern Tincher, Terre Haute (Bionca Gambill, RN, is a candidate in the Democratic primary to run for his seat). Senators Gary Dillon, MD, Pierceton and Connie Sipes, New Albany have also announced their retirement.

Senator Evan Bayh's announcement that he will not run for Senate has caused a snowball effect in the Evansville area. Federal Representative Brad Ellsworth is going to run for the Senate. Indiana House Representative Trent VanHaften is running for Ellsworth's congressional seat. Indiana Senate Bob Deig is running for VanHaften's House seat, and Dennis Avery's wife is running for Bog Dieg's Indiana Senate seat,

Also not returning next session are Representative Michael Murphy, Indianapolis, who is a candidate in the crowded Republican Primary to replace Congressman Dan Burton and Jackie Walorski, Elkhart is a candidate to challenge Congressman Joe Donnelly.

See you next year!