



# Legislative Update

## Assemblywoman Marilyn Kirkpatrick

May 2009

Assembly District 1

### Marilyn Kirkpatrick

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### I'm on the Web!

[www.marilynkirkpatrick.com](http://www.marilynkirkpatrick.com)

Dear Friend,

This is the fifth in a series of email newsletters to keep you updated about the current legislative session in Carson City. If you DO NOT want to receive these newsletters, please reply to this message and I'll be happy to remove you from the list.

As we enter the last two weeks of the legislative session, we are working hard to balance our state budget without destroying essential state services. As you may have read, our state revenue is down 44%--the worst budget shortfall in the nation.

As we work to get our state through this unprecedented economic crisis, we are also looking to the future and taking steps to make sure we never find ourselves in this situation again.

I am strongly supporting legislation that reforms our budget process, that requires us to set priorities and plan for the long term and that demands greater accountability from our state agencies.

These measures, which have passed the Assembly and are now in the State Senate, include:

- **AB 165**, which would create a forced savings account for our state to help prevent such deep budget cuts in the future
- **AB 193**, which would help our state better track taxes that are owed but not being paid by requiring several state agencies to provide the Legislature's Interim Finance Committee quarterly reports on how much they were due in taxes versus how much they actually collected so that the state can better track taxes owed.
- **AB 446**, which would require long-term planning and would bring a new level of transparency and accountability to state government. It would require state government to set measurable goals and provide progress reports on meeting those goals.
- **AB 458**, which would establish a rainy day fund for education to be funded by stopping the practice of giving tax breaks from money that would otherwise go to fund our schools. It would also allow some funds that would normally go to the general fund to be earmarked toward the rainy day education fund.
- **AB 463**, which would make needed changes to state agency contracts by placing restrictions on the hiring of some consultants, requiring detailed reports on the use of consultants by state agencies, directing the State Auditor to work with the State Controller to conduct a complete audit of the contracts with consultants, and implementing a one-year cooling off period before a state employee can be hired as a consultant.

### Contact Me

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you need help accessing legislative information or would like to provide input on a specific issue. My office number in Carson City is 775-684-8509, and my legislative email is [mkirkpatrick@asm.state.nv.us](mailto:mkirkpatrick@asm.state.nv.us).

Sincerely,

Marilyn Kirkpatrick