

October 2004



17th Legislative District Update

Senator Bob Smith

“Working for a better, safer, healthier New Jersey”



Dear Friends,

It has been a busy year so far in Trenton! In this newsletter, you will find information on my legislative accomplishments and new initiatives, as well as information on some of the very important issues upon which I have been working on your behalf.

I hope you find this newsletter interesting and helpful. Please feel free to contact my office if you have any questions, comments or concerns about state government.

Very truly yours,

Bob Smith

Landmark Highlands bill becomes

*How to contact Senator
Smith and his District
Office staff:*

*216 Stelton Road
Suite E-5
Piscataway, NJ 08854*

*Voice (732) 752-0770
Fax (732) 752-1590*

*E-mail:
senbsmith@njleg.org*

*Internet: www.
senatorbobsmith.org*

**THIS
NEWSLETTE
R WAS NOT
PRINTED OR**

New Jersey's last remaining large expanse of pristine mountain lakes and streams and unbroken forests, has long been recognized for its natural resource drinking water. The majority of the state's reservoirs are in the Highlands, and more than half of the state's residents receive their drinking water from the Highlands, including water for many 17th District towns.

After months of, debate, public comment and revisions, both houses of the Legislature approved the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act on June 10 by overwhelming margins. Governor James E. McGreevey signed the bill into law on August 10 during a ceremony at Wanaque Reservoir in Passaic County.

During the signing ceremony,

Senator Smith called the bill's enactment the result of an historic effort between Governor McGreevey and the Legislature.

“The push to protect New Jersey's Highlands region was unprecedented in its thoroughness, with input coming from a wide range of parties to produce a fair, balanced approach to conserve clean drinking water in the Garden State for generations of New Jerseyans to come,” Smith said.

A new master plan for the Highlands region will be developed by the 15-member Highlands Planning Council, which was nominated by Governor McGreevey on September 21.

For more information on the Highlands bill, please visit www.senatorbobsmith.org. ●

UEZ authorized for

The 17th Legislative District team of Senator Smith, Assemblyman Joe Egan and Assemblyman Upendra Chivukula proudly sponsored a new law that will allow the Department of Commerce's Urban Enterprise Authority to create the state's 32nd Urban Enterprise Zone in the City of New Brunswick.

Once created, the UEZ will allow businesses in the zone to claim exemption to certain state taxes. The UEZ program is one of the most powerful tools at the Department of Commerce's disposal to help urban areas.

The UEZ program helps to create private-sector jobs and public and private investment opportunities. Since 1985, 22,654 businesses have participated in the UEZ program and more than 100,000 full-time jobs have been created.

Businesses and investors seeking more information are encouraged to contact the City of New Brunswick's Department of Planning, Community and Economic Development at 732- 745-5050. More information on the UEZ program can be accessed at: <http://www.state.nj.us/commerce/UEZ.shtml> ●

Special thanks to

Senator Smith would like to express his deep thanks and appreciation to Assemblyman Joe Egan and Assemblyman Upendra Chivukula, his partners in the 17th Legislative District delegation. The delegation works together as a team to address the needs of its constituents in New Brunswick, North Brunswick, Milltown, Highland Park, Franklin Township and Piscataway.

"The dedication of Assemblymen Egan and Chivukula to serving the residents of the 17th Legislative District is imperative in efforts to secure state aid to municipalities and grants from state agencies to our towns and non-for-profit organizations in the community." Senator Smith said. "I am grateful for their efforts in our common initiatives, like sponsoring the establishment of an Urban Enterprise Zone in the City of New Brunswick and providing the best public service we can to our constituents." ●

Contact Assemblyman Egan:
100 Bayard Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901
(732) 249-4550
(732) 249-6426 fax
asmegan@njleg.org

Contact Assemblyman Chivukula:
888 Easton Avenue
Somerset, NJ 08873
(732) 247-3999
(732) 247-4383 fax
asmchivukula@njleg.org

New Jersey gets tough on

The federal Do Not Call List and New Jersey's new Do Not Call law have proven their effectiveness. Millions of New Jersey residents have been able to enjoy uninterrupted time with their families since New Jersey's Do Not Call law went into effect in May.

New Jersey's Do Not Call law prohibits telemarketers from calling between the hours of 9 p.m. and 8 a.m. Telemarketers can not block their phone numbers from a resident's Caller ID and they must register with the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs. Violators are subject of fines of up to \$10,000 for the first offense and \$20,000 for each additional offense.

To sign up for the Do Not Call list, go to www.donotcall.gov or call 1-888-382-1222. To file a complaint, contact the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs at 1-888-NJ-NO-CALL (1-888-856-6225). ●

Senator Bob Smith
216 Stelton Road, Suite E-5
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Pre-Sorted STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
New Brunswick, NJ
Permit No. 1