

Dear Friends, Neighbors & Constituents,

Happy New Year! With the attacks on the World Trade Centers and the Pentagon, I think we're all reflecting on what is really important in our lives here in New Mexico and the U.S. Family, friends and the community we create together have all become more meaningful. It is in this spirit that I ask for your input on important issues facing our state.

This questionnaire focuses on what I think will be the major debates of the 2002 session. This year's session will be a short one—mainly dealing with the budget and money matters. The financial picture this year is not rosy, with less state revenue due to falling oil and gas prices (the state gets taxes from these resources) and a nationwide recession. We must do more with less and make some tough choices. Please help.

Just clip, fold, affix stamp and send back to me before I leave for the session January 14. Or, drop by my office in Santa Fe during the session. Once again, I am honored to serve as your Senator in Santa Fe.

Sincerely,

Dede



Clip, fold with return address outside, tape, affix 34-cent stamp and mail. Thank you!

DISTRICT 13 QUESTIONNAIRE

Please check the boxes next to your preferred choices. If more than one person is responding to this survey, please use different color ink for each respondent.

When the budget is tight, which is the item you'd MOST like to see funded? Choose one or rank items, with 1 highest.

- public education (K-12)
- higher education
- prisons
- health care for low-income people
- drug treatment and prevention
- road construction
- other: _____

When money for state government is short, what is the best way to balance the budget? Choose one or rank items, with 1 highest.

- make across the board cuts
- freeze salaries for teachers, public employees
- divert money from "permanent" funds derived from rents from state lands, taxes on oil & gas, or the tobacco settlement
- increase income taxes decrease income taxes
- increase taxes on alcohol or tobacco
- other: _____

This session, Gov. Gary Johnson is again pushing several drug reform measures. Do you favor:

- Authorizing the use of marijuana for medical purposes. Yes No
- Elimination of jail time for first and second time drug possessors, with judges deciding whether treatment would be a condition of probation. Yes No
- Decriminalization of possession of small amounts of marijuana. Yes No
- Elimination of enhanced prison sentences for repeat drug possession offenders. Yes No
- Mandatory treatment instead of prison time. Yes No
- Reduced penalties for cocaine possession. Yes No
- Reduced penalties for heroin possession. Yes No
- More treatment programs. Yes No

Do you favor a constitutional amendment allowing private citizens to carry concealed weapons? Yes No

In the wake of Terry Clark's execution, the Governor may place the death penalty on the agenda for this year's session. Do you favor repeal of the death penalty? Yes No Yes, if replaced with life without the possibility of parole.

Other comments:

Last session, the legislature directed an 8% increase in teacher salaries and passed a sweeping education reform package that would have established a teacher licensing system, professional salaries and a career path for teachers. It would require better accountability measures, writing requirements and reading mandates. However, the Governor vetoed that measure. Education remains the number one priority of the legislature.

Please indicate which of these measures you favor. Rank, with 1 the highest.

- more testing and accountability measures
- vouchers parents can use to send their kids to private schools
- more controls on charter schools
- more charter schools and alternative programs for at risk students
- school-based clinics and mental health services

- a state school board appointed by the Governor (now members are elected)
- increased public school funding
- increased teacher salaries
- school construction and repair
- merit pay
- art and sports back in the schools
- after-school activities
- other: _____

What is your biggest concern with health care? Please rank, with 1 highest.

- high cost of prescription drugs
- large number of uninsured children
- large number of people who work who don't have insurance
- health care providers leaving the state
- privacy of doctor-patient information
- nursing shortage
- rising cost of health insurance premiums
- HMO hassles
- high co-pays
- other: _____

Campaign finance and electoral reform continue to be big issues. Which of the following do you support?

- Posting of campaign contributions and spending on the Internet. Yes No
- Run off elections for the Albuquerque mayor's race. Yes No
- Require telephone solicitors to identify the group or candidate sponsoring the call. Yes No
- Voluntary system of public financing for state campaigns where participating candidates would no longer raise private money but draw on a public fund, with spending limited to what they receive from the fund. Yes No
- Hold elections for bond & charter issues and school board on same day as regular election. Yes No
- Limits on campaign contributions. Yes No

Several different tax measures may be introduced this session. Which of the following do you support? Please rank, with 1 highest; place NO beside those you do not support.

- eliminate the gross receipts tax on food
- increase tobacco and alcohol taxes
- increase gas tax
- cut income taxes across the board
- place further caps on property tax assessment increases
- remove gross receipts tax on medical services
- expand low income tax credits and rebates
- temporarily increase taxes to fund education and health programs
- other: _____

Use this space for any other comments for Dede.

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Questionnaire Inside

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New!! Surf Dede's Website...

www.dedefeldman.com for legislative updates, useful links, and more.

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Please return to:

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Legislative Forum...

Thursday Jan. 10, 7 p.m., North Valley Senior Center

Sponsored by the North Valley Neighborhood Coalition

District 13 Residents...

***Join Dede & other North Valley legislators for answers
to your questions about the 2002 session.***