

The Governor and I seem to be on the same page lately, especially when it comes to EDUCATION. In his recent State of the State speech he emphasized the importance of funding SCHOOLS as the key to JOBS and the revival of the Massachusetts economy. My main position in this campaign for State Representative is just that; QUALITY EDUCATION equals GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT.

The Governor is promoting his Casino Plan, saying it can provide monies for education funding. Like Speaker Dimasi and many other State Representative from across the Commonwealth, I am also skeptical of this prediction. If education is so important...why leave it's funding to chance? Why rely on "maybe" revenue to pay for our children's education? My position is that EDUCATION should be one of the top funding priorities of the Governor's budget now, not pie in the sky gambling. What happens to education funding if casino's aren't approved or because of creative bookkeeping when expected revenues aren't generated?

If the Governor truly believes EDUCATION and SCHOOLS are the key to jobs and our economic future...then they should be fully and realistically funded.

I applaud the Governor's proposals and actions to reactivate rail service to Fall River and the South Coast and his commitment to build a highway ramp to our Industrial park. These are not gambles. They are concrete, positive plans to help attract new business and jobs for our citizens. These are great ideas! Ideas that originally came from the people in this community...from Neighborhood Groups that spoke up and made our State Government listen.

As YOUR STATE REPRESENTATIVE from the 7th Bristol District, I will continue listening to the advice and opinions of our citizens and our Neighborhood Groups. I will work closely with them to make sure that our voices are heard by the Governor and the State Legislature in Boston. I believe that this is the best way to influence public policy and government leaders. We, who reside in the cities and towns, know better than Boston what the needs of our communities are. In order to gain support for a cause to help my district or city, I will not hesitate to ask citizens and neighborhood groups to actively join me, not just in spirit, but in person and voice, to emphasize the passion and strength of our positions.