

JIM HACKWORTH
37 Legislative Plaza
Nashville, TN 37243-0133
(615) 741-4400

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
State of Tennessee

DISTRICT ADDRESS
Three Rocky Top
Clinton, TN 37716
(865) 457-5266



Dear Friends,

The second session of the 103rd General Assembly has recently adjourned, and I want to take this opportunity to update you on some of the important issues that the General Assembly addressed.

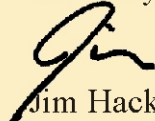
This year, just like last year, we balanced the budget with no new taxes and found new ways to send more dollars back home like the \$7,000,000 for a new facility at ORNL. Working closely with Governor Bredesen we were also able to fully fund K-12 schools, pass major TennCare reform, strengthen sex offender and meth laws and provide incentives to businesses that bring jobs into Tennessee. I also personally sponsored HB 1302 that will bring additional dollars into local governments and schools through a tax credit for businesses that invest in education.



We accomplished the things we set out to achieve in January. We made our government more efficient and accountable; we passed laws for the health and safety of our citizens; and we invested in our children's education. Many challenges still lay ahead, and our work is not yet finished. With your help, I intend to return to Nashville next January to continue addressing the issues important to the 33rd District.

As always, please contact me if I can be of assistance. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and your families.

Sincerely,


Jim Hackworth

Not paid for at Government Expense

Representative Jim Hackworth
37 Legislative Plaza
Nashville, TN 37243-0133

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Mailing Solutions
37066

Accomplishments of the 2004 General Assembly:



Balanced Budget ✓

For the last two years with Governor Bredesen's leadership, the General Assembly has passed a **balanced budget with no new taxes**. My colleagues and I stood firm with the governor to balance the books with no new taxes and avoid any deficit.



Reformed TennCare ✓

Over one-million people depend on TennCare and, through the **TennCare Reform** package, the General Assembly gave Governor Bredesen the tools he needed to continue to serve this community and control the sky-rocketing costs of healthcare. The second part of the Reform package strengthened the state's ability to prosecute people who lie, cheat or steal from the state for their health benefits. By **controlling Fraud and Abuse** in the program, there are more resources to go around to the truly needy.



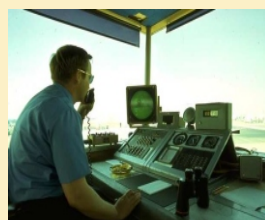
Invested in Education ✓

Education components of the 2004-05 Budget include: **fully funding the Basic Education Program for classroom improvements and authorizing \$35 million to reduce disparity in teacher pay between richer and poorer districts**, and provided much needed funds to renovate and construct new buildings on college campuses. The General Assembly also provided new funds for pre-K and early childhood development as well as for after school programs, both from lottery funds.



Protected the Elderly ✓

Three key pieces of legislation passed the General Assembly this session: the "**Elder Protection Act of 2004**" which will provide standards for detaining individuals who are charged with elder abuse, the **Sprinkler Law** which will increase fire-safety standards in nursing homes and long-term care facilities, and the increase in the **Personal Needs Allowance** for some of Tennessee's most vulnerable citizens living in nursing homes.



Created Jobs ✓

The General Assembly broadened the scope of the **Job Tax Credit** to include higher skilled, better paying jobs, as defined by the Job Skills Act. In economically distressed counties, the legislation would offer businesses not traditionally categorized as part of the manufacturing industry to receive increased incentives to create new jobs. The House also passed landmark legislation that prevents companies that **outsource** jobs overseas from receiving state contracts.



Safer Communities ✓

The House passed three critical pieces of legislation that strengthens law enforcement's ability to **prosecute, register, and monitor sexual offenders**. These bills provide tougher penalties for sexual offenders who fail to update their registry information and provide for the real-time tracking of convicted sex offenders using satellite technology. We also passed **tough new meth laws** to strengthen the penalty for producing or using methamphetamine. Finally, we added new Assistant District Attorneys General across the state to help enforce these new laws.