

## Senator Lavalle Comments on Democrats' Spending Budget

KENNETH P. LAVALLE June 18, 2010

**ISSUE: BUDGET** 



Senator Kenneth P. LaValle is concerned that, as the Democrats continue to pass budget extenders, they are attempting to fill a huge budget gap with taxes, borrowing, and fiscal gimmicks that will cost taxpayers dearly.

"The 11 budget extenders passed by the Democrats have had a minuscule impact on the \$9.2 billion budget deficit," said Senator LaValle. "However, they continue to debate spending bills that were designed behind closed doors and only have approved approximately \$1.6 million of the proposed \$5.2 billion in deficit closing measures.

"The budget is two and a half months late and, instead of debating an entire state budget, the Democrats are passing extenders without knowing how the provisions of each measure will impact the entire spending plan.

"Last year, the Democrats voted to increase spending by \$13 billion and raise taxes by \$10 billion, including a \$1.5 billion payroll tax. Now, they plan to close a budget deficit with more taxes, fees, and borrowing instead of through spending cuts.

"The Senate Republicans have proposed spending reductions that would help close the budget deficit and get a budget done. We will not vote for any new taxes, fees, or borrowing. Taxpayers have had enough and deserve better," concluded Senator LaValle.