

Karen TESTERMAN

Restoring NH's Prosperity, Principles & Values

Date: May 17, 2010

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Statement on legislation to allow a local sales tax in New Hampshire in the Legislative Office Building on Monday, May 17, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. by Karen Testerman, candidate for Governor of New Hampshire

In my press advisory Saturday, I said that I'm mad as H E double toothpick. When my children were small I taught them not to swear, but you know there comes a time when we need a little righteous indignation.

This is such a time. The people have had enough. And those in Concord who are supposed to be representing us refuse to listen. They are determined to move their agenda forward and "too bad" for you the taxpayer.

By opening the flood gates to allow towns to assess their own Rooms and Meals taxes they are breaking New Hampshire into hundreds of small taxing governments. This scheme isn't going to work. This is nothing short of a foot in the door of a local sales tax. Our politicians must do better. They need to stop the discussion about raising taxes and get serious about cutting the size of government. They need to stop the insanity.

Our founding fathers took action to make a change. The people of New Hampshire feel the same way today. We realize that Concord is broken. We want it fixed. It is time for responsible leadership and smaller government, not additional layers of bureaucracy and taxation.

Frankly, I think the politicians already know that this is a crazy idea. They're using this to get the attention of the people, and they have! They know this isn't going anywhere. As this is being killed I can see the press release, "*Our failure to increase revenue by other means has led us to the point where we simply must authorize casino gambling.*" Or for that matter a state income tax or sales tax.

Legislation without public hearings and ample notice to the citizens must stop. The inability to cut spending is nothing short of dereliction of duty and totally unacceptable. My pledge to the people of New Hampshire is clear. When I'm elected Governor I'm going to clean things up.

We do not need higher taxes or casinos. More importantly, we're going to have transparency in our government. No back room deals and no manipulation! No midnight additions to the budget without public hearings. There is a right way to govern. The current process is wrong and I won't allow it!!

We can, and we will, do better.

Thank you.

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