

# Dorothy's Desk

Dear Friends,

I hope you had an enjoyable holiday season! By the time you read this, the 2012 Legislative Session may already be underway. The state legislature usually begins meeting in March each year, but we have to meet early in 2012 to handle the once-a-decade redistricting process. Once again, there are many important issues on the agenda this year, so I wanted to pass along some information to help you stay informed.

First and foremost, we have an important duty to complete the redistricting process that takes place every decade in response to the U.S. Census. The Census last took place in 2010, and we now have to redraw the political district lines of our state to account for population changes and trends since 2000. This is an enormous responsibility that will affect elections in Florida for at least the next 10 years. My priority is to make sure this process produces fair maps that safeguard the integrity of our elections.

Once again, economic concerns will be on everyone's minds in Tallahassee this year. Economists say that we're technically no longer in a recession, but we all know that the economy is still weak. We have to balance the state budget, but there's another revenue shortfall – so budget cuts will likely be back on the agenda. I remain steadfast in my opposition to any new tax increases, and I'm ready to make the tough choices to keep the state's finances under control.

Many more important issues will arise before session ends, so I'll be writing another column next month to report back again.

Thanks for reading. Please feel free to email me at [dorothy@dorothyhukill.com](mailto:dorothy@dorothyhukill.com)

Sincerely,  
Dorothy L. Hukill  
State Representative, District 28