



SENATOR
LONNIE M. RANDOLPH
116TH INDIANA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ★ SENATE DISTRICT 2

NEWS RELEASE

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Randolph announces 2010 legislative survey results

INDIANAPOLIS- State Senator Lonnie M. Randolph (D-East Chicago) recently announced the results of his 2010 Legislative Survey. Questionnaires were mailed to households throughout Senate District 2 in December 2009 and made available on his website. Randolph sought input from his constituents on a variety of issues that were anticipated to come before the 2010 General Assembly.

A major issue before the General Assembly this year is texting while driving, and a majority of constituents in District 2 supported prohibiting texting while driving, voting 73 to 27 percent. House Bill 1279 was approved by the Indiana House of Representatives and would make it a Class C infraction to transmit a text message while operating a motor vehicle, with exceptions for hands-free or voice-operated technology. The bill now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

Seventy-six percent of respondents are in favor of moving all municipal elections to even-year cycles. Other Indiana elections are held in even years, but municipal elections are conducted in odd years, so there are additional costs. Moving municipal elections to even years would save money and increase voter participation. This provision is not actively moving through the General Assembly, but several election-related bills are, including one that would move all school board elections to the general election cycle beginning in 2010.

When asked whether or not convenience and grocery stores should be able to sell cold beer, 60 percent of Hoosiers in Randolph's district said no. However, public opinion was split 50-50 as to whether alcohol should be sold on Sundays, with half opposing and half supporting the measure. These initiatives do not appear to have enough support to pass through the legislature this year, but a few alcohol-related issues are still alive in the General Assembly, including Sunday carry-out for microbreweries, Election-day alcohol sales and extended Sunday alcohol sales to businesses already permitted to sell on Sundays, including some restaurants.

Respondents supported establishing an independent commission to advise the General Assembly on legislative redistricting in 2011 and in the future, voting 57 to 43 percent. Randolph and other members of the General Assembly have proposed the immediate creation of a non partisan commission for legislative redistricting.

For the complete survey results and more information on Senator Randolph please visit www.senatedemocrats.IN.gov.

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