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Representative Andrews to Seek Re-Election and Shares Perspective on First Term

Today, Second Franklin State Representative Denise Andrews (D) announced in New Salem, MA, she will seek re-election for the newly re-districted Second Franklin.

“This decision was taken after thorough deliberation, prayer and reflection by myself and my family,” Andrews shared. “With Congressman John Olver’s retirement announcement and the 2012 re-districting, significant change and opportunities were created. I needed to process the new state and federal districts and understand who, of the “sitting” state and federal elected leaders, may be interested in seeking re-election as well as weigh these options against opportunities outside of public service. I needed to, also, evaluate whether I believe that I am making enough difference for the citizen’s of the Second Franklin and our Commonwealth. Additionally, I must be sure that this can continue to be a good choice for my family. Today, I am proud and excited to announce that I will seek re-election as your State Representative of the Second Franklin District.”

When Andrews is asked, “After serving for a little over a year now, what has your experience been?”, she replied, “It has been intensely challenging. The vast amount of knowledge needed on constituent services, state fiscal management, specific town and community vision and needs, policy, legislative process, fiscal formulas and impact; along with the resources and agencies available with which to partner in order to insure that fair share investment and progress is brought home to our district and area, is daunting. I have learned more in one year than in the previous 10 years of my career. “

She continues, “Then holding myself to the standard that citizens deserve and that I expect of myself of insuring that daily achievements occur to progress and achieve results for our communities is, again, not easy in a new role and system. I have made some modest progress and am very interested in going after much more for our district and area. The opportunities are endless and I am interested in being able to continue in this important role for our community’s progress.

We are in exciting, yet , very challenging fiscal and social times and it will continue to require new levels of caring, responsibility, actions and teamwork, from all of us, if we are to achieve our future desires for our communities. “

When Representative Andrews is asked to reflect on, “What accomplishments are you most proud of in your first term to date?”, Andrews shared the following:

“First and foremost is the excellent constituent services that are provided by our office. This work has been spear headed by Mr. Brian Eno, Second Franklin Legislative Aide, and supported by a few staffed interns over the past year. Engaging with any individual that calls our office to seek advice or assistance is our top priority.

Next, we take very seriously that we are ambassadors of our citizens and communities and that in all we do, we must carry ourselves and engage in ways that, hopefully, inspire and incent individuals and businesses to visit and invest in our district.

Third, is to evolve the quality and accomplishments of the House. Representative Provost , Representative Turner and I have worked with house leadership to re-institute “calendar sessions”, which is an important forum to inform and educate oneself on upcoming legislative action. Additionally, I have recently gained support from Speaker DeLeo that the House will re-institute the protocol of an opening prayer at the start of sessions.”

Andrews was, also, asked, “What bills to date for which you vote are you the most proud?” She responded, “Oversight of our \$20 Billion dollar tax expenditure in the budget bill, the Transgender Rights bill, the Collective Bargaining Rights bill and the Stopping of Human Trafficking bill.” When asked, “What will your focus be for 2012 and if re-elected?” she replied, “Continued constituent services, economic development (jobs, jobs, jobs), education, environment, building vibrant communities and continued strong fiscal stewardship.”

Finally, when asked, “As you look to the future, if you could only have three things next year in this role, what would they be?” Andrews thoughtfully commented, “First is a 90% voter registration and voter turnout for our 2012 elections, second is an east-west passenger rail system that stops in Athol and Greenfield and third is to evolve our manners and efficiency in working together for urgent and immediate solutions to advance needed progress. “

“In closing I am proud to be your Second Franklin State Representative. I am realistically optimistic on the progress we will continue to achieve together and I invite all to be engaged to create the communities and governments that support a good and affordable quality of life for all.”

“ I look forward to seeking re-election and will, at a future date, share details of the upcoming campaign.”

For more information please visit www.deniseandrews.org.

Picture: Representative Denise Andrews and Sebastian, together today announcing from the heart of the future Second Franklin District, Lover’s Lane, New Salem MA, 11:00 am that she will seek re-election in 2012.