



**DENISE ANDREWS**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
2<sup>ND</sup> FRANKLIN DISTRICT  
ATHOL, ERVING, GILL, GREENFIELD,  
ORANGE, WARWICK

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 2, 2011

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## **Representative Andrews Seeks Input from Voters** *Casino Gambling and Fiscal Management are Keys Issues*

Representative Denise Andrews (D-Orange) is interested in hearing from constituents on some key issues being addressed in the Legislature. “It is my hope that constituents will regularly contact me with their concerns on pending legislation or budget matters. At the moment, I am particularly interested to hear perspectives on two key issues – casino gambling and ideas for improving fiscal management.”

While ideas for improving fiscal management are always welcome, the casino gambling issue is likely to be taken up soon, so a timely response is encouraged. “Your desire and choice to share your perspective, allows me to better represent you and our district on key decisions and improvement opportunities,” shared Andrews. “It is a goal of my office to acknowledge every constituent that weighs in on a legislative matter.” Constituents are asked to provide complete contact information including a telephone number, in case we have additional questions.

“During the House budget process my office received significant constituent engagement in support of preserving collective bargaining rights and from others against budget language seen as preferential to biomass energy projects. The message from constituents was clear on these two issues. As a co-sponsor of the Walsh amendment to restore collective bargaining rights for municipal employees, I know that both management and unions must partner together to craft solutions that work. In the end, I voted against the leadership’s proposal because it did not address health care costs while preserving collective bargaining. Also, I opposed the budget amendment that was seen to give preferential consideration to energy generation projects such as large-scale biomass plants, needing only to show short-term cost savings – an amendment that was ultimately withdrawn.”

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Although state revenues have begun to show modest gains, the budget will remain a challenge for years to come. Going into this year's budget process, legislators needed to fill a gap of nearly \$2 billion to balance the loss of short-term federal stimulus funds. "In order to generate sufficient resources to make key investments or to pay for essential services and programs that create vibrant communities, I am seeking input and ideas from constituents on generating revenue, improving services and making programs more efficient." Ideas are sought in writing and can be made by either mailing to State House Room 443, Boston, Mass 02133 or by email to [yourvoice@deniseandrews.org](mailto:yourvoice@deniseandrews.org), please put "Casino Gambling" or "Fiscal Management" in the subject line. Additional information is available at [www.deniseandrews.org](http://www.deniseandrews.org).

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