



New Hampshire State Senate ***NEWS RELEASE***

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Sen. Houde announces he will not seek a third term

CONCORD - Sen. Matthew Houde (pronounced Hood) announced today that he will not seek a third term in 2012. The Plainfield Democrat currently chairs the Judiciary Committee and was originally elected by the voters of District 5 in 2008.

Reflecting on his decision, Houde said, "Serving in the New Hampshire Legislature has been among the most rewarding - and challenging - experiences of my life. At the same time, 2011 was a year of wonderful transitions for me and I am eager to embrace these new roles as fully as possible. Consequently, after 6 years - 2 in the House and now 4 in the Senate - I have decided not to run again in 2012."

"I have endeavored to represent the interests of Senate District 5 to the best of my ability, and am so thankful to the voters for entrusting me with this honor and privilege. I am also thankful to my family, which has supported me throughout, as well as my colleagues in the Senate - former and present. While we may not always agree, we have always agreed to disagree respectfully - knowing that the interests of the residents of the State of New Hampshire first are foremost in our efforts," he added.

Houde concluded by saying, "I am confident that Senate District 5 will field a strong Democratic candidate to continue in that tradition. I'm hoping my replacement will enjoy the time he or she spends in Concord as much as I have, as well as embrace being a strong voice for the Upper Valley."

During his four years in the state Senate Houde, is remembered for actively helping to bring marriage equality to New Hampshire and likewise, stopping predatory "pay day" loans from becoming law.

Sen. Houde is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of Connecticut Law School. He is also the son of Charlotte Houde Quimby, who represented the people of Sullivan District 1 in the New Hampshire House. Raised in a tradition of full participation in community life, Houde made it clear that his decision today will in no way end his dedication to volunteerism in his community.

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