



New Hampshire State Senate **NEWS RELEASE**

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Sen. Groen will not seek re-election in November

District 6 freshman is seventh state Senator to announce his retirement

CONCORD - Republican Senator Fenton Groen announced today he will not seek re-election in November. The freshman legislator, known as one of the senate's hardest workers, won his first term in 2010 representing District 6 that includes Barrington, Madbury, Nottingham, Somersworth and his hometown of Rochester.

Groen explained his decision had everything to do with business and in no way reflected any dissatisfaction with politics. "Deciding not to run again was incredibly difficult," he said. "I truly love being a state Senator. Solving problems for my constituents and making a real difference in the legislative process has been incredibly rewarding. However, I'm also a small-business owner and with the current state of the construction business, it has become clear our family construction business needs my complete attention."

Despite being in office only two years, Groen listed several legislative accomplishments saying, "When I filed two years ago, our state was facing a projected deficit of nearly a billion dollars. I am proud to say that my colleagues and I kept our commitment to balance the budget with no new taxes by responsibly reducing spending. I was also deeply involved in pension reform that has begun to seriously address both the security and cost of the New Hampshire Retirement System. As promised, I stood up for traditional family values and parental rights with some notable successes and some keen disappointments."

Groen stressed to his colleagues and supporters that he fully anticipates having opportunities to re-engage in public service at some point down the road. "I care deeply about the current and future well-being of New Hampshire and I have every intention of continuing to be a part of positive change and growth," he added.

For the 2011-2012 legislative session, Groen serves on two Senate committees: Judiciary and Executive Departments and Administration. Away from the state house he is CEO of Groen Builders, Inc., a commercial and residential construction company specializing in super energy efficient, Energy Star-rated buildings. He founded the company in 2000 with two of his sons after working 28 years in finance and management.

Today's announcement makes Groen the seventh state Senator to announce his retirement. Senators John Gallus, Jim Forsythe, Matthew Houde, Ray White, Gary Lambert and Tom DeBlois have likewise said they will not seek re-election in November of 2012.

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