



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

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Sen. Forsythe announces his retirement, will not seek re-election to District 4

CONCORD -- Senator Jim Forsythe, R-Stafford, announced today that he will not seek re-election this coming fall. The first-term legislator was elected in 2010 and represents the District 4 towns of Alton, Barnstead, Belmont, Gilford, Gilmanton, Laconia, New Durham, Strafford and Tilton.

In explaining his decision, Forsythe said, "For personal reasons, I have decided not to run for re-election in 2012. It has been a great honor to represent the residents of District 4. I'm proud of the Senate's accomplishments over the past year, although there is more work that needs to be done. I will continue to focus on further educational choices for parents, a key plank of my campaign. I look forward to serving the district in my remaining time in Concord."

Sen. Forsythe serves as Vice Chair of the Education committee as well as a member of Transportation and Judiciary. During the 2011 legislative session, he was the driving force behind two education reform bills - one that changed the teacher non-renewal statutes, and another that enabled parents to opt their children out of objectionable material. Additionally, the senator helped pass legislation enabling property owners to unmerge lots that had been involuntarily merged. He also co-sponsored numerous pieces of legislation, including: Right to Work, Medical Marijuana, and RGGI repeal.

Prior to entering politics, Forsythe was an Aircraft Commander piloting KC-135s for the Air Force flying combat support missions for operations in Bosnia, Somalia and Iraq. He subsequently earned his Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering and became a Professor at the USAF Academy.

After leaving the Air Force in 2003, he moved to New Hampshire and became a part-owner of a small aerospace software company. He lives in Strafford and works at the University of New Hampshire teaching thermodynamics and physics as an affiliate professor.

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