

11/27/2015

Greetings, Fabulous Folks of the Fortieth!

It is my prayer that you are making every effort to ask for wisdom from Above so you can proceed forward with clarity as you follow His Truth. For He is ever the Way and the Life. How assuring it is to know we can trust God and do the next thing.

Since the last "Loop", I am now four schools away from completing my school tour. Making visits to 28 K-12 locations (not my first rodeo), the teachers, principals, and students of House District 40 are simply ROCK STARS! Never a proponent of Common Core, I believe it is nothing short of an extremely onerous, federally coerced, federally mandated, bureaucratic conundrum testing regime, tied to teachers' evaluations that, therefore, forces them to teach to these tests, which ultimately, by the way, dominates the curriculum. Quality of education is distorted, especially our American History. So you might ask, "Why do you even go?" Because I truly care about our kids, the teachers, and the kind of education they receive and teach in order to move students forward to becoming productive American citizens. District 40 is full of great teachers, but they are leaving the profession, discouraged, because government has screwed up our classrooms. The biggest joke is to say Common Core was replaced. The name was changed--not the content.

So since the federal government wants state legislators out of the picture altogether, "We the People" need to get our control back and remove the Federal Department of Education totally! There is a national campaign to do this and, by golly, I am joining the ranks to learn and do all I can to see that department SUNSET!! As your legislator, I am frustrated more and more regarding how states rights have become silenced and no longer operate under our Tenth Amendment. Please contact your US Reps and say NO NO NO to the Reauthorization of NCLB which Senator Alexander is heralding!!!! This will only put the nail in the coffin for MORE federal control. Does 400 pages to this reauthorization law give you any pause? Sneaking this legislation through will put policies into place for at least three more years under the new president. They are scheduled to vote on December 2. For the love of our kids and future generations, CALL* and express your voice!!! The US Constitution leaves education to the states, NOT the federal government.

"The American Republic will endure until the day Congress discovers that it can bribe the public with public's money."
Tocqueville

Transportation is one committee I have enjoyed serving on since you sent me to the house in 2009. Our state DOT is blessed to operate on a pay-as-you-go, no debt, way of doing business. Over the next five years, however, more than \$25.9 billion will be needed to make infrastructure improvements to our transportation system. Transportation and Utilities is the single largest category, and has increased the most in overall cost (\$4.2 billion). We are a growing state, therefore, I get the fact we must tend to our transportation needs. Having attended most of the conversations and tours by officials addressing our funding going forward, we must have a plan in place, now. But why is a tax always implemented first? That would be the easiest answer, but it is the least favored by taxpaying constituents--at least in District 40 it is. Why not cut the billions of wasted taxpayers' dollars in Departments such as Education and Human Services (welfare entitlements)? Use the record revenues of our state (\$600 million) and make transportation a PRIORITY! It is common knowledge the federal government is currently receiving record revenues from the tax base and STILL not having enough money. There is a definite spending problem as federal government grows our debt to nearly \$20 trillion! To be fiscally responsible, executing ways to shrink government by removing government bureaucracy in various departments is a place to start, to regain confidence and trust of the voters. That is where I intend to place my focus, finding funds for transportation where there is already plenty of money available without taxing.

With much concern on refugees being sent by the feds, the states are absent a voice on the who and the where these refugees originate from--again, our Tenth Amendmen is silenced. Tennessee needs a place at the table when it comes to vetting and tracking refugees. Let me be clear, being the daughter of a refuge from then-Yugoslavia, the dynamics are much different now than 63 years ago when immigration laws were enforced and our American way of life was embraced. We are a welcoming nation, but unless you come to embrace our Constitution and culture, then stay put! Invasion is NOT immigration. We have a security crisis and an occupant in the White House determined to ruin our Republic. HB1195 repeals the Administration of the Refugee Resettlement Program and gives our voice back to the state. Immigration is a high-priority issue, and to build a wall is, indeed, a place to start. Not only do we need a tracking system in place, but also policy to prevent travel back and forth to countries that want to kill us. Americans who join these radical regimes and travel back and forth should have their passports revoked, never to return to the states!! Start calling these radicals as they are--enemies of the state--then maybe we can prevent future tragedies in our homeland. The massive genocide of Christians continues to push millions from their homes. These are the refugees who seek asylum and need protection and passage to

our country. "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."
<http://www.breitbart.com/big-government/2015/11/22/when-harry-truman-singled-out-german-refugees/>

And so, as Thanksgiving is upon us, it is my prayer that as you and your loved ones gather around your table, you will be reminded, with a grateful heart, of the many blessings you have encountered since last years' holiday. There have been many triumphs, many heartaches--still, we serve a God who keeps His promises and Covenant with His people. This world is a fallen one, but our Hope is in Him alone and for that reason alone, I am thankful!

Happy Thanksgiving,
Stay the Course, pray to know Him better,
Your State Representative,
Terri Lynn