

# Citizen Survey: Tell Nick What You Think

Please fill out this survey and return to:  
 Senator Nick Gautreaux; 209 E. St. Victor Street; Abbeville, LA 70510  
 Phone: (337) 740-6425 or Toll Free: 1-866-740-6425  
 E-mail: [gautreauxn@legis.state.la.us](mailto:gautreauxn@legis.state.la.us)  
 This survey may also be completed online at: <http://senate.legis.state.la.us/GautreauxN/>

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Do you support exempting public utilities such as Entergy and SWEPCO from private lawsuits that claim ratepayers have been overcharged on their utility bills?
- Do you think smoking should be banned in all public buildings including restaurants and bars?
- Do you support allowing local governments the right to expropriate land for economic development projects?
- Would you support raising taxes to give school support personnel such as janitors and cafeteria workers a pay raise?
- Would you support raising taxes to give classroom teachers a pay raise?
- Would you support funding a teacher pay raise through existing revenue even if it required cuts to healthcare and higher education?
- Which of the following taxes would you support if they were needed to increase funding for healthcare programs?

Tobacco Tax    Liquor and Beer Tax    Cent State Sales Tax Increase    Increase Taxes on Gambling

8. Which of the following would you support to pay for teacher pay raises and education?

Tobacco Tax    Liquor and Beer Tax    Cent State Sales Tax Increase    Increase Taxes on Gambling

9. Senator Gautreaux would like to know how you feel about issues facing your neighborhood, city and state. Please rate below, in order of priority from 1 to 8 (1 being the most important), the issues that most concern you. If there are other issues in which you have an interest, please write them in the allocated space.

- \_\_\_\_\_ crime
- \_\_\_\_\_ drugs
- \_\_\_\_\_ economic development
- \_\_\_\_\_ education
- \_\_\_\_\_ healthcare
- \_\_\_\_\_ taxes
- \_\_\_\_\_ protecting the environment
- \_\_\_\_\_ other issues: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ 18-30   \_\_\_\_\_ 31-50   \_\_\_\_\_ 51 and over   Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Female   \_\_\_\_\_ Male

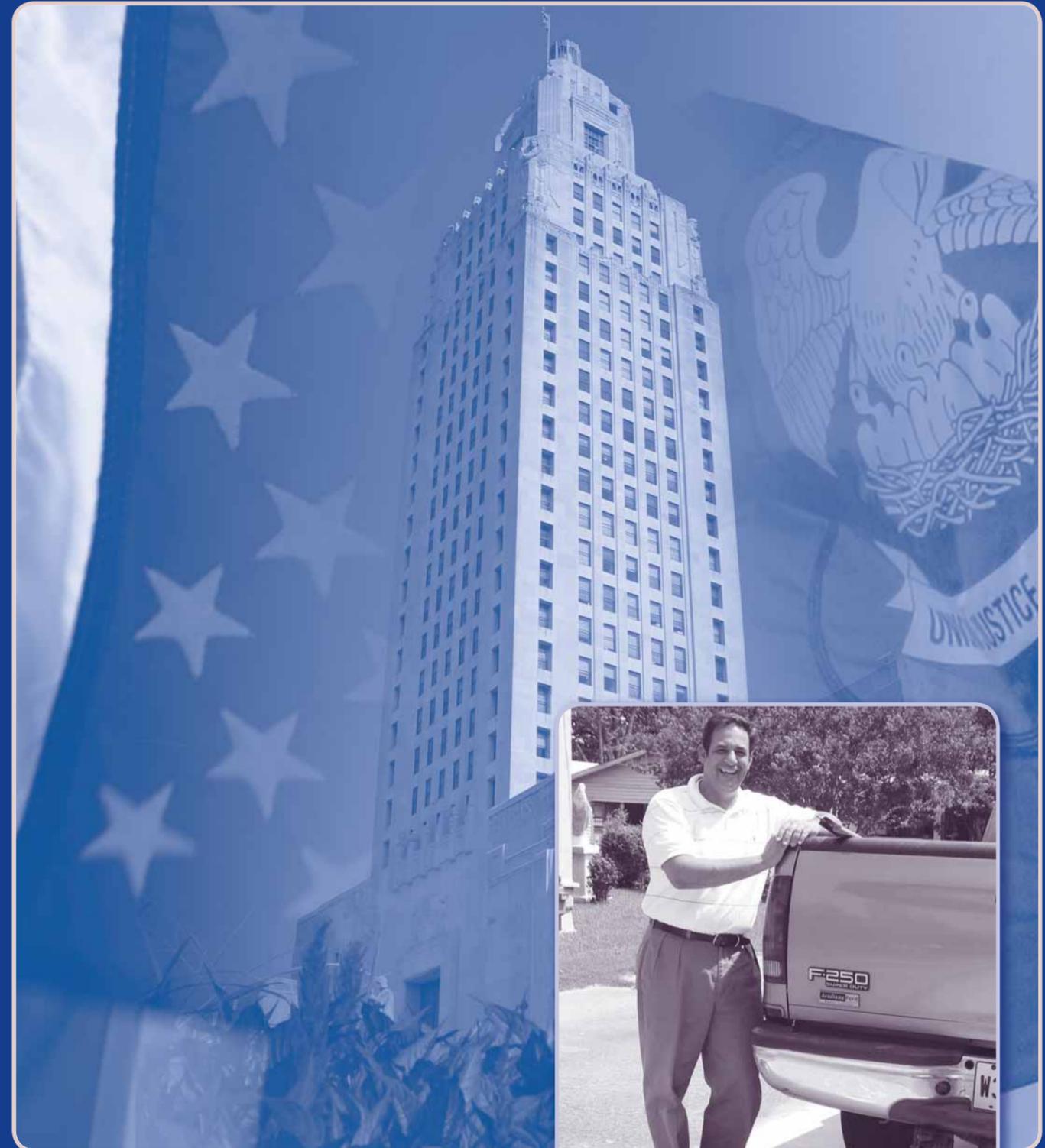
Your neighborhood/city: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Senator Nick Gautreaux's 2005 Legislative Report & Voter Survey





## Senator Gautreaux's Report to Voters

During my 2 years as Senator for District 26, I've stayed in touch with the people whom I represent by holding an annual meeting with local officials, attending charitable and local events, and being accessible through my website, e-mail, and telephone. But, I can't talk to every person every year, so this newsletter is my attempt to report the legislative activities of the past year and to receive your valuable input about upcoming issues facing our state.

We've made progress on several important fronts over the past year. The Senate supported stronger ethics laws for legislators and lobbyists, worked to make healthcare more accessible and affordable, directed more funding towards education and continued to fight crime by passing tough laws in the legislature.

This past session was an important one for every family in Louisiana and I have attached a survey to this newsletter to get your opinion on some of the biggest issues we continue to face in our state. You may also complete the survey on the LA Senate website, <http://senate.legis.state.la.us/GautreauxN/>. Please take the time to fill out and return the survey so that I can best represent the people of Senate District 26 in the legislature.

Sincerely, 



### Senate Voted in Support of Tougher Ethics and Campaign Finance Laws

The Senate voted for House Bill 1015 and House Bill 1246 which toughened ethics laws for lobbyists and legislators. HB 1015 stopped campaign contributions during legislation sessions while HB 1246 requires lobbyists who lobby the governor's office to file reports and registration with the State Board of Ethics.

For bill info visit <http://senate.legis.state.la.us/GautreauxN/>

### Senate Supported Our Military

A bill was passed by the full legislature that prohibits creditors from charging excessive interest or finance charges to a person on active military duty. This bill protects the service men and women in Louisiana who had to leave their jobs when called up to active duty to serve in the military. Senate Bill 151 limits the interest and finance charges to 6% per year on contracts involving goods, services, bonds or notes, and also allows active duty personnel or their spouse to terminate a vehicle lease or cell phone contract if necessary. Additionally, natural gas, electricity, water and sewer can not be terminated for non-payment due to deployment.

For bill info visit <http://senate.legis.state.la.us/GautreauxN/>

## Senate Votes to Ban Human Cloning

### Senate Votes for Cheaper Gas

In a move that should help lower gasoline prices, the legislature passed a bill to repeal the minimum markup on gasoline sales. The forced 6% markup on gas could mean a lower price at the pump for consumers. The legislature felt it important to do whatever is required to help ease the burden of gasoline costs to our local families. This bill is a step towards eliminating unfair pricing of gasoline in Louisiana.

For bill info visit <http://senate.legis.state.la.us/GautreauxN/>



### Senate Backed Tax Relief for Farmers Using Diesel Fuel

Senate Bill 394 granted tax relief to people using diesel fuel in the operation of their businesses by prohibiting local political bodies from taxing the fuel. SB 394, which was passed by the legislature in 2004, means that a local political body cannot place a sales tax on diesel. This new law helps farmers who use diesel to operate farm machinery and equipment on their farms.

For bill info visit <http://senate.legis.state.la.us/GautreauxN/>

### Senate Toughens Laws on Sexual Predators

In both the 2004 and the 2005 legislative sessions, the full legislature passed bills that toughen the restrictions on convicted sexual predators. The bills added day care facilities, public or private playgrounds, public swimming pools and video arcade facilities to the list of places sexual predators must stay at least 1000 feet away from.

In the 2005 legislative session, the legislature tightened the requirements for sexual offenders to register with the appropriate law enforcement authorities before their release back into the general public and it also ensured that people on active probation and parole prior to 2004 are also subject to the 1000 foot requirement. This law mirrors Drug Free Zones as Sexual Predator Free Zones.

For bill info visit <http://senate.legis.state.la.us/GautreauxN/>

### Senate Passes Pro-Consumer Gift Certificate Bill

With the new Pro-Consumer Gift Certificate Bill companies like Wal-Mart would have to honor their gift certificates for as long as the consumer holds them provided there is no expiration date on the certificate. The bill fixed a problem that existed where companies were charging consumers a fee for honoring old gift certificates. The minimum amount of time that a gift certificate remains valid is five years, if no expiration date is present the certificate is valid forever.

For bill info visit <http://senate.legis.state.la.us/GautreauxN/>