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29TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

DEC 08 2010

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TO: All Senators
FROM: Senator Dave Argall 
DATE: December 8, 2010
SUBJECT: Reduction in Size of Legislature

In the near future I will re-introduce Senate Bill 1160, a comprehensive amendment to the State Constitution that would reduce the size of the General Assembly by 55 members and change the term for members of the House of Representative from two to four years.

Reductions in the House will begin with the reapportionment following the 2010 Census when the House of Representatives will be reduced to 193 members. Following the 2020, 2030, 2040, and 2050 censuses, the House will again be reduced by ten members, ending with 153 members in 2053.

Reductions in the Senate will also begin with the reapportionment following the 2010 Census when the Senate will be reduced to 49 members. Following the 2020 and 2030 censuses the Senate will be reduced by two members, ending with 45 members in 2033.

Based on the current statistics the annual cost savings to the taxpayer should be \$10 million.

The second part of this amendment would lengthen the term from two to four years for members of the House of Representatives. This will allow members of the House to spend more time on policy and less time on political campaigns.

If you would like to cosponsor this legislation, please contact BJ Sieg at bsieg@pasen.gov or 787-2637.