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VALLEE OUTLINES LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR NEW YEAR

Local aid, infrastructure funding among goals as Legislature returns to formal session

Boston, Mass. – Representative James E. Vallee (*D – Franklin*) brings a renewed commitment to securing legislative successes for his district into the New Year, as he today announced his priorities for 2008.

Vallee’s top goals for the coming months include increasing state aid and Chapter 70 public education funds in the budget for the towns of Franklin and Medway, devoting state dollars to transportation infrastructure improvements and bringing property tax relief to residents.

“Bringing tax dollars back to municipalities in the form of local aid continues to be a top priority for me again this year,” said Vallee. “Our roads and bridges need vital repairs, and adequate funding for them is a goal for FY09.”

In his leadership role as Assistant Vice-Chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, Vallee outlines the annual budget and has successfully fought for consistent increases in his district’s local aid.

Franklin’s Chapter 70 funding for FY 08 exceeded the previous year’s funding for education by nearly \$1 million and totaled \$26.5 million. The town’s share of the Lottery distribution saw an increase of over \$54,000 to total \$3,075,295 for the Fiscal Year. Vallee has also delivered steady increases to Medway, bringing an unprecedented \$8.2 million to the town for public schools and a \$250,000 earmark to the Medway Public Library in FY08.

Vallee has several bills awaiting approval as well, including a proposal to name Franklin’s ice skating rink in memory of the late Staff Sergeant Robert “Rob” Pirelli and a bill prohibiting convicted sex offenders from working with minors.

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