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The Senate

State of Iowa

Eighty-fifth General Assembly

STATEHOUSE

Des Moines, IA 50319

COMMITTEES

Commerce, Ranking Member

Labor and Business Relations

State Government

Transportation, Infrastructure, and Capitals

Appropriations Subcommittee

The Anderson Report

This week Senate Republicans began the conversation on reforming Iowa's income tax structure. The proposed plan would first and foremost provide income tax relief for all Iowa families allowing them to retain more of their money. Another important step is simplifying Iowa's complex income tax which is one of the most complicated in the nation. This change will reduce tax preparation headaches. As a senator representing border communities the legislation will promote economic prosperity and make Iowa more competitive.

The first phase of the plan reduces Iowa income taxes by 5% across-the-board. Phase two will begin the two year transition to the new tax system consisting of two options. Option 1: Iowans will be able to complete their individual income tax under the current system. Option 2: The new tax structure will make a variety of changes including compressing the tax brackets and rates. Once implemented, the plan will reduce income tax collections 15% over a three year period. Iowa's nine income tax brackets will be consolidated to three; \$0 - \$8,000 (1.9%), \$8,000 - \$100,000 (4.5%), and \$100,000 and over (4.8%). I look forward to further discussion with my colleagues and constituents. With Nebraska considering eliminating personal and corporate income taxes it's important to begin the dialogue on this important issue.

Again this year, Senate Republicans filed legislation that would require a person to provide proof of identity on Election Day before being allowed to vote. The legislation provides voters more than a photo ID option. It allows voters to bring someone with a photo ID on Election Day to attest to their identity. The bill also allows students to use their school ID as long as it has an expiration date. The bill maintains current law allowing a person to register to vote on Election Day or in person when voting absentee to establish proof of identity and proof of residency.

The new voter ID measures are meant to provide Iowans with greater confidence in casting their vote. Voter fraud in Iowa is a growing concern as non-citizens in Council Bluffs were recently arrested for voter fraud after casting votes when they were not eligible to do so. Senate Republicans are committed to strengthening our election process and providing Iowans a secure voting system. This bill is a common sense solution. No amount of voter fraud is acceptable.

Thank you for the honor of representing you in the Iowa Senate. Please feel free to contact me with your questions, comments and ideas. You can reach me at 712-898-2505 or email to bill.anderson@legis.iowa.gov. Have a great week!