

**Senator Pete Campos
Forty-Eighth Legislature
First Session, 2007**

**30-day Letter
February 15, 2007**

The first 30 days of this session have been exhilarating and different in its tone. As you know, I have always advocated for "bringing people together" and "preparing for our future". This year, more than in recent times, the executive and legislative branches of government are working closer together to forge a stronger consensus toward operational, tax cut and credit, capital outlay and reserve issues. I attribute this bona fide approach to "our" continuous positive example, Governor Richardson's call to work together and a common-sense sentiment by most legislators that we truly need each other in order to accomplish the basic goals of government that best serve our state's population.

This improved, less pressurized and more reasonable pathway to arrive at a consensus regarding crucial statewide programs, facilities and infrastructure is important for our senatorial district. For example: we need to fund deficiencies for public education, construct a new district state police headquarters and replace aging infrastructure through a major deferred maintenance revenue infusion. By doing this, our public schools will continue to serve the growing needs and expectations of students and staff; public safety officials will have a safer, more efficient and more productive facility from which to operate; and our behavioral health care facility, college and university will have the resources to repair and replace basic heating, water and wastewater transmission lines.

Capital outlay dominated the discussions during the first 30 days. The concerns raised by the Legislative Finance Committee, Department of Finance and Administration, agency and department heads and several legislators have focused on the dire need to upgrade state agency buildings and infrastructure. As you are aware, I have been trying to change the way we fund capital outlay for many years. I believe this year, we are another step closer to reaching that goal.

This process change and outlook will truly benefit our district because of the inordinate number of public facilities that have widespread and positive statewide implications. It is time for us, the residents of Senate District 8, to contact Governor Richardson, who is a stalwart advocate for our district, and others who will listen, remain empathetic and support efforts to fully fund the improvements necessary to better our university, college and schools; health care buildings; regional public safety and correctional facilities; the only state-owned warm water fish hatchery, rearing station and educational center; and the badly needed state, county and local road projects that have become more necessary because of the recent and much-needed snow storms.

I am optimistic that by working together, we will make a positive difference for generations to come!