



This is a picture of me at  
the State House.



(Just Kidding!)

Dear Friends,

I know, "drinking water from a fire hose" is a worn-out metaphor, but it gets the point across. There has been a lot of information to absorb during orientation, there are lots of people at the State House who are very helpful, so it is not quite as bad as the picture portrays. The real "fire-hose-in-the-face" is being felt as my list of issues that need to be addressed gets longer and longer - and the session hasn't even started yet! Thankfully there are others to help bear the burden.

A major point during my campaign was the states' responsibility to do something about federal overreach by holding federal government accountable to follow the Constitution. Now, right out of the gate, we have the U.S. Congress passing a bill which was inappropriately called the "Respect for Marriage Act" which is being dubbed by many as the "*Disrespect for Marriage Act*" because it requires all states to recognize marriages solemnized in other states, including same-sex marriage. Regardless of what one believes about same-sex marriage, this is another example of federal government sticking its nose where it has no constitutional right to do so. This bill is unconstitutional because it is not within the limits of federal jurisdiction for the following reasons:

- it falls outside the enumerated powers of Article I, Sec. 8 of the U.S. Constitution;
- it violates the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment and undermines state sovereignty;
- it violates the 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment by making law regarding religion because marriage is an established religious sacrament;
- it conflicts with laws of nature and nature's God and does harm to religion, the nuclear family, and society in general.

I am exploring ways to stand up for state sovereignty on this issue and will be working on other important issues as well.

In closing this letter, Carole and I want to wish you a Merry Christmas and we pray that your New Year will be filled with God's blessings in every way!

Sincerely,

