

## **IFA /IAA Legislative Report**

Feb. 9, 2010

The Primary election is over and we are still not sure who the gubernatorial candidates are for the November election. The Primary election was hard fought in both parties in several races. Many members from the state legislature ran in this primary for other seats (state-wide office and congress), and many of them left their current positions in order to run. While this does not have an effect on this upcoming session, it does add another layer of interest on the November election to see who will be coming into some of those empty seats (ones without an incumbent running). It should be an interesting election season next fall and will be very important in determining what issues will be decided in the legislature. The fall election will dominate all political and legislative activities for the session this year. The party that wins the House, Senate and Governor can draw the map for their party. If a map can't pass the House, Senate and be signed by the Governor – a commission is drawn up and a party's name is drawn out of the hat to draw the legislative district lines.

We start session in earnest with anywhere from a 12 – 13 billion dollar deficit. Several committees have stated that there will be no new mandate bills heard this session because of the fiscal crisis. We will see if that is a reality.

Because of the looming election in November, we are doubtful that we will have a balanced budget this year but we hope that we are wrong.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the March 17, 2010 (Wed.) IFA/IAA Lobby Day.

Submitted by Paula & Jenni Purdue