

Key to 2004 Scorecard — House of Delegates

Votes Friendly or Unfriendly to Taxpayers

- 1 Increasing state school superintendent's salary** from \$146,000 to \$200,000 taking WV from 16th in the nation to 3rd behind only Illinois (\$225,000) and Ohio (\$201,400) at time teachers and state employees were getting no pay raise. *(HB 4044) 2/23/04 RC#169 (77-23)*
- 2 Increasing the salaries of judges** including the Supreme Court: \$95,000 > \$115,000; Circuit Judges: \$90,000 > \$110,000; Family Court Judges \$62,500 > \$75,000 at a time other state employees were getting no increases. *(HB 4021) 2/27/04 RC#238 (63-33)*
- 3 Providing an incremental pay raise for teachers when budget is being cut,** extending school bus replacement timetable. *(HB 4601) 2/27/04 RC#242 (75-20)*
- 4 Making funds recovered by the Attorney General from litigation on behalf of the public subject to legislative appropriation.** This could stop the type of abuse reported in the newspaper March 2004 that the AG's office spent \$688,000 promoting his office vs. \$17,427 in the previous non-election year. The funds and how they are spent belong to the taxpayers, not government officials. *(HB 4660) 3/3/04 RC#361 (68-25)*
- 5 Capping the lottery tourism spending at \$10 million** (much of it goes to gambling promotion) with the excess going to work on the capitol dome (1%), a parking garage (\$500,000), rainy day fund (\$14 million). *(SB 197) 3/13/04 RC#635 (72-21)*
- 6 Allow transfer of money between bingo and raffle accounts** to offset losses *(HB 4107) 3/13/04 RC#649 (72-21)*
- 7 Racial profiling data collection — unfunded mandate on city and county police estimated at \$128,000.** The county and municipal groups opposed this mandate that all law-enforcement officers collect information on all vehicle stops. There was also concern over lawsuits in high crime minority neighborhoods that police try to clean up. Should the focus be on fighting crime or diverting time and resources to paperwork to appease the NAACP, ACLU and other groups pushing political correctness? The state police have been doing this with no major abuses found. *(SB 271) 3/13/04 RC#673 (88-9)*
- 8 Increasing health care provider tax from 5.5% to 5.95% on nursing homes** and some hospital services as a way to draw more federal dollars. *(SB 719) 3/13/04 RC#668 (86-12).*
- 9 Budget Bill** increasing spending to \$3,070,786,599. *(SB 133) 3/21/04 RC#776 (80-15)*
- 10 Reducing money available to promote gambling and the huge growth in tourism budget.** Vote to take funds from tourism promotion where it has grown from \$800,000 in 1995 to \$47 million in 2004 and where much of it goes to promote gambling and the race tracks. A "Yes" vote reduces it to \$11 million in 2005 with the balance going to research and development (generally at MU and WVU), development and capital improvement. *(SB 197) 3/21/04 RC#778 (85-10)*