



## Response to events of 2013 Session

### LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Chuck Kleckley, Speaker

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Thursday, June 6, 2013 • Contact: Glen Duncan (225) 342-9795

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## **“I’m proud of the leadership and independence the House brought to the table on tough budget issues...”**

### **Prior to Session**

“Before the session even began, the House started its work holding committee meetings on the elimination of personal income tax and increasing the state’s sales tax.”

### **Budget**

“We heard from every agency in government on their projected needs and abilities to cut costs and improve services.

We reviewed those needs and possible cost savings and ideas for improvement.

Most importantly, our independence as a body brought forth a truly bipartisan effort to create a sound and responsible budget.

I’m proud of the leadership and independence the House brought to the table on tough budget issues that were before us this session and our work with the Senate in compromising through the conference committee.”

### **Budget Process Reform**

“I said early on our budget process is wearing out. Like the old family car that has too many miles, it was able to get us through this session, but we need to replace it.

In this session, we discussed several ideas to reform the process of creating a responsible budget.

That reform is already underway with the passage of HCR 6, HB 437, and HB 620 which reduce the expenditure limit, budget separately for discretionary and non-discretionary expenditures, and create tighter requirements on the Revenue Estimating Conference.”

## **Session Issues**

“Members of the House of Representatives worked hard and spent long hours discussing and debating issues that were important and personal to them and the citizens of the state. We addressed everything from tax credits, education, health care, and Medicaid to synthetic drugs, debt collection, firearms, and sinkholes. Several constitutional amendments will be going before the voters of the state in the November 2014 election.”

## **Closing of 2013 Regular Session**

“Communication was the key to the 2013 Regular Session, not only within the House but between the two chambers and the Governor. The House of Representatives worked with the Senate through our differences and gave the citizens of this state a budget which will move us forward into the next fiscal year.

This has been a historic moment for the House of Representatives in many ways and I thank all of the members for their dedication to the process and to the people of the State of Louisiana.”

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