

JULY 12, 2010

DEAR MR. ELTON FAY,

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR SPONSORING ME FOR MISSOURI BOYS STATES 2010! I HAD A TREMENDOUS LEARNING EXPERIENCE ABOUT HOW THE GOVERNMENT OF MISSOURI WORKS. TO START OFF WITH, IT WAS VERY NICE TO MEET YOU DURING REGISTRATION THE VERY FIRST DAY. I REALLY WAS HAPPY TO MEET YOU IN PERSON BEFORE THE PROGRAM STARTED. WHEN I ENTERED THE EXPERIENCE, I WAS IN THE CITY CARVER, SCOTT COUNTY. I HAD FOUR WONDERFUL COUNCILORS: DAN COOK, JON RATLIFF, CLAYTON BUBACK, AND CURTIS STRUBINGER. WITHOUT THEM, THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE. THEY GUIDED US AT THE BEGINNING AND THE REST DEPENDED ON US TO SEE HOW WE WOULD DEVELOP IN OUR CITY. IN MBS, I RAN FOR THE CITY TREASURER BUT I DID NOT SUCCEED WHICH REALLY AT FIRST MADE ME THINK THAT I WILL GET NO IMPORTANT JOB AT FIRST IN OUR GOVERNMENT, AND I WAS UPSET. I STILL DIDN'T GIVE UP AND KEPT RUNNING AGAINST MY FELLOW MATES. THEN THE MAYOR HAD DECIDED TO PUT ME AS A HEALTH COMMISSIONER AND I HELPED MAKE SURE EVERYONE MADE THEIR BEDS NICELY AND CREATIVELY FOR THE POINTS. THE SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTIONS I WENT TO WAS THE LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL AND I LEARNED HOW A BILL REALLY WORKS AND HOW HARD IT IS TO PASS THEM. I LEARNED THE 12 STEPS OF A BILL: A BILL MUST BE WRITTEN AND INTRODUCED, THE BILL IS SUBMITTED, REFERRAL TO THE COMMITTEE, THE BILL IS REPORTED OUT OF COMMITTEE, PERFECTION, THIRD READING OF THE BILL, FIRST AND SECOND READING IN THE OTHER CHAMBER, THE FORK IN THE ROAD, AND SIGNED OR VETOED, WHICH THEN WOULD GO TO THE HOUSE, AND SENATE AND DO ITS PROCESS. THEN I THOUGHT WHY DON'T I RUN FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES! SO I DECIDED TO RUN, AND I DID MY SPEECH HOPING I CAN MAKE IT IN THE HOUSE, AND BECAUSE I WAS IN THE LEGISLATIVE SCHOOL AND HAD AN IDEA OF HOW THE BILL WORKED, I WAS SELECTED AS THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER. SO I WROTE BILLS, AND I WAS THEN CHOSEN TO BE THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE, WHICH WAS THE BIGGEST FACTOR BECAUSE WE HAD TO HAVE A BUDGET DONE AND READY FROM BOTH HOUSE AND THE SENATE OTHERWISE, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE FAILED. THANKFULLY, WE GOT IT DONE EXACTLY 12:00 NOON, WHICH IS APPARENTLY THE EARLIEST THE BUDGET HAS BEEN PAST FOR A DECADE. I WAS VERY PROUD. THEN WE DID THE MOCK HOUSE, SENATE BILLS, PASSED OR VETOED, AND DO THE EXACT SIMULATION AS THE REAL MISSOURI GOVERNMENT. THIS WAS VERY FUN. ALSO I ENJOYED PLAYING THE SPORTS. OVERALL, IT WAS WORTH GOING TO MBS BECAUSE I MET SO MANY FRIENDS AND WE BECAME A HAPPY FAMILY, AND I LOVED LEARNING! THANK YOU VERY MUCH. IF I WAS NOT PART OF THIS PROGRAM, I HONESTLY WOULD NOT LEARN ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT AS MUCH AS I KNOW RIGHT NOW! ONCE AGAIN THANK YOU A LOT

SINCERELY,

*Ronak Patel*

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P.S. IF YOU WOULD LIKE, I WOULD BE GLAD TO COME SHARE MY EXPERIENCE AT THE ROTARY CLUB! AND THANK YOU ONCE AGAIN! ALSO, CARVER WAS SECOND BEST MODEL CITY AND SCOTT COUNTY WAS ALSO IN SECOND SO I WAS EXTREMELY IN HIGH SPIRITS!