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**ROSENBERG WINS \$250,000
FOR HAMP. COUNTY REGIONAL LOCKUP**

State Senator Stan Rosenberg (D-Amherst) today announced that he has won Senate support for \$250,000 for the Hampshire County Regional Lockup in the Senate's fiscal '09 budget.

The money, which is also included in the House of Representatives' budget, represents the state's share of the funding plan negotiated by local legislators, police chiefs and community officials last year. The state money, which represents more than half the operating budget of facility, combined with contributions from the cities and towns in Hampshire County and the police departments at the Five Colleges, will keep the lockup operational through fiscal year '09.

"I am pleased that my Senate colleagues have signed onto this plan," Rosenberg said. "This is a stable funding mechanism that couldn't have been achieved without the cooperation of state and local governments. The original plan for the lockup was that the state would build it and the communities would run it. That proved untenable, but this partnership stabilizes the situation and sets the Hampshire county facility up as model for the state."