

ARGUS LEADER EDITORIAL

# District 9 incumbents deserve another term

Voters should return Tom Dempster to the Senate, and Elaine Roberts and Deb Peters to the House, in District 9.

Dempster has a long history of service to the community – Minnehaha County Commission, various boards, chair of the Rural Ambulance Task Force and chair of the 911 Metro Council. He understands our community.

And he's proven to be a leader in the Legislature, too. More than anything else, Dempster will be known for his two-year effort to pass legislation that forces hospitals to post the prices of their most common procedures.

Dempster is an effective legislator, and he should be sent back to Pierre.

Roberts and Peters also have done well in the House. Both are finishing their first terms, and they provide contrasts – Roberts as a retired educator and Peters as a CPA and business owner. And they don't always vote the same on issues.

But in some ways, they're similar. Peters, for instance, believes the most pressing issue facing the state is keeping people here. Roberts believes the most pressing issue is economic development and job creation. They're two sides of the same coin.

Roberts and Peters have been thoughtful legislators, and they need to be returned to the state House.

## District 10

Gene Abdallah should be sent back to the Senate, and Roger Hunt and Mary Giebink should be elected to the House, in District 10.

Abdallah is well-known from his years in law enforcement, and he remains a passionate fighter of

## ENDORSEMENT SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY:** Legislature:  
District 12

**MONDAY:** Legislature:  
District 13

**TODAY:** Legislature:  
Districts 9, 10

**WEDNESDAY:** Legislature:  
Districts 11, 14

**THURSDAY:** Legislature:  
Districts 15, 16, 25

crime in the Legislature. But he's not a one-dimensional candidate. He also is thoughtful on school funding, open government and other issues.

He's not afraid to tell you where he stands, but he also listens – even if he doesn't always change his mind.

Abdallah needs another term in the Senate.

Roger Hunt also needs to be returned to the Legislature, along with a newcomer, Mary Giebink.

Hunt, of course, is best-known for sponsoring the abortion ban in the last session. But he's more than that. He pays attention to his constituents. You might not always agree with his positions, but you can be assured he's a hard-working legislator.

Giebink would be a fresh face in the House, and a good one. She's a lawyer and small-business owner, and she's got a solid grasp of issues facing South Dakota – the need for more school funding, the need for economic development, the need to address health care.

Giebink and Hunt would make a good, contrasting pair to serve District 10 in the House.