

Rep. Boyle Legislative Update

Ongoing Issues

The following issues were debated during the past session, however they did not pass. There is no doubt in my mind that they will be revisited during the next legislative session that begins in January.

Leah's Law



Leah Gustafson was murdered in her apartment by her neighbor, a man with a long, violent history. Rather than lament on Leah's death, her family and friends have created Leah's Law, a proposal to create a Violent Offender Registry Website in the State of Wisconsin. I'm proud to say that I introduced the legislation along with Rep. Scott Suder.

Similar to the Sex Offenders Website, violent offenders would be required to register with the Department of Corrections following their release from prison. Among these individuals would be murderers, violent abusers, arsonists, kidnapers and carjackers.

Leah's family & friends joined the "Superior Days" efforts, traveling to Madison to plead their case. While the bill did not completely proceed through the legislative process this year, great success was achieved when the bill was passed out of committee by unanimous vote. There is no doubt in my mind that the bill will become law during the next legislative session.

This is an excellent example of the difference people can make. Congratulations to Leah's family and friends!

Smoking Ban

Wisconsin's proposed statewide smoking ban in public places stalled in the state legislature due to opposition by a handful of legislators. Polls indicate overwhelming support for the ban. While Illinois and Minnesota proceed with statewide bans, Wisconsin has become known as the "Ashtray of the Midwest." A ban is sure to be considered during the next session as states take the lead to cut down on the negative health effects of second hand smoke.



Insurance Coverage for Hearing Aids

Legislation was introduced, but failed to pass, that would require insurance companies to cover the cost of hearing



Tom Glau of Spooner is a "Star of Life," an award to honor efforts of EMS personnel.

aids and cochlear implants for children under the age of 11. This is a no-brainer for me. Deafness is a disability and should be covered by insurance. It is beyond me why leadership in the Assembly refused to allow this bill to become law. Imagine the excitement of a child being able to hear for the first time. This issue is not over!

Insurance Coverage for Autism

I was greatly disappointed that the legislature failed to pass legislation to require insurance companies to cover the cost of treatment for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Insurance companies don't cover Autism because it is considered an emotional disorder rather than a neurological medical condition. According to "Autism Bulletin," insurance premiums went up a mere one percent in Kentucky and Indiana, two states that require insurance for Autism treatment.

HOW TO CONTACT FRANK BOYLE

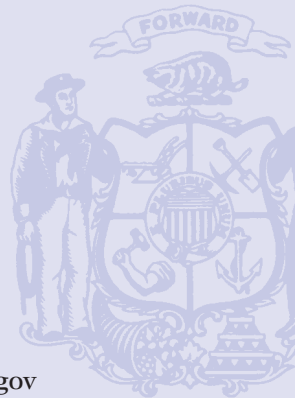
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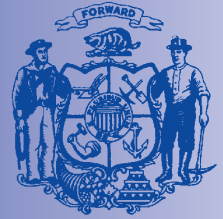


Legislative Update



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Frank Boyle



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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

SALUTE TO FALLEN SOLDIERS

The following soldiers with ties to the 73rd Assembly District gave their lives in honor of their country while serving in Iraq over the last two years. More than 100 soldiers from Wisconsin have died in Iraq and Afghanistan since fighting in those two countries began over five years ago.

CPL Kenneth Cross, US Army, of Superior died August 27, 2006, in Baghdad, Iraq, during combat operations when his M1126 Stryker Vehicle came in contact with enemy forces using an improvised explosive device and small arms fire. CPL Cross was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Comat Team), Fort Lewis, WA.

SGT Chad M. Allen, US Marine Corps, formerly of Maple Lake, MN, died Feb. 28, 2007 while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Allen was assigned to 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, NC. He was laid to rest at the Northern Wisconsin Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Spooner near his parents' home in Danbury.

Lance Cpl. Harry H. Timberman, US Marine Corps, of Minong died March 17, 2007 from wounds received while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq. Timberman was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Twentynine Palms, CA.

Sgt. 1st Class Matthew I. Pionk, US Army, of Superior, WI, died Jan. 9, 2008 in Sinsil, Iraq, of wounds suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated during combat operations. He was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Vilseck, Germany.

Assistance for Veterans

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, there are an estimated 448,324 veterans in Wisconsin. Of that number, 4,544 reside in Douglas County, 2,044 in Burnett County and 1,914 in Washburn County. It continues to be of critical importance that benefits and services are available to these individuals who so bravely gave to their country to ensure our freedoms.

When selecting which committees I would like to be a member of during each term of office, Veterans Affairs has been my number one choice. I am honored to have been a member of this committee and proud to say I have authored and/or co-sponsored many veterans' bills that have become law. Some bills passed this session include:

- ★ Assistance for veterans affected by depleted uranium
- ★ Electric document imaging of veterans' basefiles
- ★ Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Assistance
- ★ Increased funding for Assistance to Needy Veterans program
- ★ Establishment of a voluntary statewide veterans registry
- ★ Increased funding for the "Mission Welcome Home" program

- ★ Additional funding for retraining grants
- ★ Funding for tuition reimbursements for veterans and their families

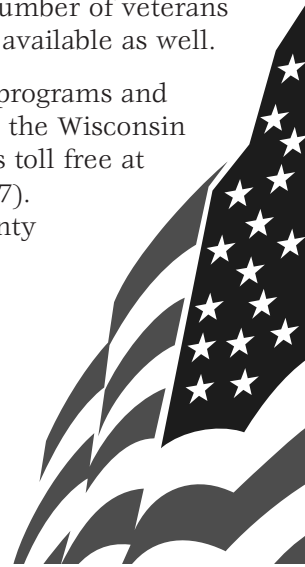
There are also numerous programs and services already in place for veterans including mortgage, home improvement and personal loans. Veterans are also given special hunting privileges. A number of veterans and military license plates are available as well.

For additional information on programs and services available, you can call the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs toll free at 1-800-WIS-VETS (1-800-947-8387). You can also contact your County Veterans Service Officer.

Burnett County
349-2179

Douglas County
395-1331

Washburn County
635-4470



SUPERIOR DAYS A SUCCESS!



Superior Days - the most successful lobbying effort in the state!

BadgerCare Plus

Beginning on February 1, BadgerCare Plus became available to families at all income levels to have access to affordable, comprehensive health care coverage for their children. In addition, new changes to the program will allow BadgerCare Plus to offer coverage for more pregnant women, self-employed parents and farmers. Premium co-payments increase as income increases. A family of four with an income of \$42,000 would pay a \$10 monthly premium, at \$52,000 the premium is \$27 per month. At \$62,000 the premium is \$68 a month. For more information go online to www.badgercareplus.org or call toll-free at 1-800-362-3002.

SeniorCare

This program is for Wisconsin residents 65 years of age or older who need prescription drug assistance. Your annual income determines the level of coverage. Assets such as bank accounts, insurance policies, home property, etc. are not counted as income. The annual fee is \$30 per person. Additional information is available at <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/seniorCare/index.htm> or you can call the SeniorCare Customer Service Hotline at 1-800-657-2038.

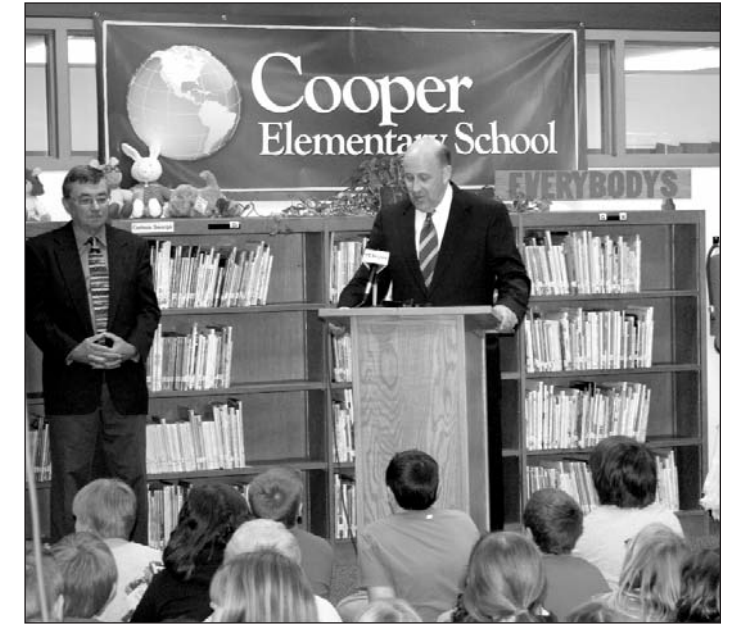


Living Will & Power of Attorney

Each and every person who is 18 years of age or older would be wise to have a Declaration to Physicians (Living Will) and Power of Attorney forms on file should an unfortunate incident occur. The forms can be found at: www.dhfs.state.wi.us/forms/AdvDirectives/#Print If you prefer, you can contact my office toll-free at 1-888-534-0073 to request copies of the forms.

Quit Smoking

Fortunately for those trying to quit the tobacco habit, the University of Wisconsin operates the Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention. This center has a toll-free hotline number, 1-800-QUIT-NOW. Since May of 2001, 876 callers from the 73rd Assembly District have received help with quitting tobacco. Statewide a record of over 20,000 callers have already called in 2008, more than twice the number that called in all of 2007. If you want to quit and need help, give them a call.



Boyle joins Governor Jim Doyle as he addresses the students at Cooper Elementary School.

BadgerRx Gold

This program provides uninsured or underinsured people the same type of prescription drug coverage as state employees. You should enroll if you: do not have health insurance; have health insurance, but do not have a prescription drug benefit; are in a plan with high co-insurance; or are in a plan that does not cover the medicines you need. The annual enrollment fee is \$25 per person or \$75 for a family of four or more. Residents can register for the program online at www.badgerxgold.com or by calling the program's toll-free number: 1-866-809-9382.



Boyle conveys the concerns of northern Wisconsin citizens to his colleagues on the Assembly floor.