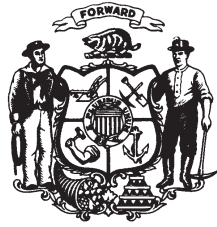


**Tamara
GRIGSBY**

State Representative
State Capitol, P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708



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TAMARA GRIGSBY REPORTS

SPRING 2008

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provides emergency financial assistance to veterans to pay for medical treatment and hospitalization for dental, vision, and hearing care. The limits on how much health care and subsistence aid eligible veterans can receive was increased.

Compassionate Care for Rape Victims

Rep. Grigsby was pleased the Legislature finally came together to support the Compassionate Care for Rape Victims bill. The law requires hospitals to provide victims of rape with all the information they need to make the right choices about their health immediately following their attack. Hospital employees

are required to deliver unbiased, factual information on care available to rape victims, inform them of their option to take emergency contraception, and inform them of their option to report their assault and receive a medical examination to gather evidence of the crime.

Police Pay

Since 1990, the City of Milwaukee has paid over \$4.4 million to fired police officers. Rep. Grigsby believes there are better ways to spend taxpayer's money in Milwaukee. She voted to end pay for officers who are fired and charged with criminal felonies, and Class A or Class B misdemeanors.

Join the 50 Million Pound Challenge



State Farm Insurance has joined with Dr. Ian Smith of New York in a partnership to promote healthier living through proper diet and exercise. Dr. Smith is challenging the African American community to take control of our lives and fight the very real risk that being over weight poses to our families, friends and communities. The statistics are alarming: 41.8% of African American men over the age of 20 and 45.4% of African American women over the age of 20 have high blood pressure; and 13.3% of all African Americans over the age of 20 have diabetes. All of these diseases are easily preventable through proper diet and exercise.

Dr. Ian provides his expertise as a medical contributor to ABC's *The View*, *Men's Health Magazine*, and VH1's popular show, *Celebrity Fit Club*. His no-nonsense approach to better living through proper nutrition is easy to follow and can bring immediate benefits to you and your family.



Rep. Grigsby addresses a group of Girl Scouts about the importance of proper nutrition at the Junior League of Milwaukee's "Kids in the Kitchen" event.

To find out more about the challenge visit Dr. Smith's website at <http://www.50millionpoundchallenge.com/>



Tamara GRIGSBY REPORTS

State Representative
18th Assembly District

Spring 2008



**Tamara
GRIGSBY**

Wisconsin State Representative
18th Assembly District

Friends and Neighbors,

The 2007-2008 regular session of the legislature has come to a close. The contentious budget debate between the Senate and Assembly caused a four month delay in the passage of our state budget, which in turn, put the rest of our legislative agenda on hold.

Despite this delay, many of the legislative proposals I cosponsored were signed into law this session and these measures will have a profound positive effect on our community. This newsletter outlines some of those major initiatives which we were able to agree on this session.

Although we were able to make great strides toward positive reforms, we still have a lot of work to do. The legislature needs to focus more of its attention on creating family supporting jobs, providing affordable and effective health-care for all, and working on economic development issues that will make our communities more economically viable in today's global economy.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your representative. A new year brings new challenges and hopefully different leadership in the Assembly that will allow us to tackle the tough issues you, the voters, want addressed. Thank you for your continued support, and please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Tamara Grigsby
State Representative
18th Assembly District

State Capitol: P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708 • 608-266-0645 • Fax: 608-282-3618
Toll-Free: 1-888-534-0018 • E-Mail: Rep.Grigsby@legis.wi.gov

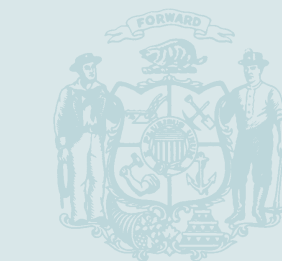
2007-2008 Committee Assignments:

Committee on
Children and
Family Law

Committee on
Criminal Justice

Committee on
Workforce
Development

Committee on
Rules



How to Contact Me:

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Website: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/assembly/asm18/news/>

2007-2008 Legislative Accomplishments

There were many issues the legislature should have tackled, but did not, because the state budget was four months late in passing and the Republican leadership in the State Assembly chose to cancel half of our scheduled session days. During those 54 session days that were cancelled we could have passed a statewide smoking ban, a Great Lakes Compact or legislation to require insurance coverage for autism treatment. However, we were able to pass some major legislative initiatives that will benefit many of our state residents.

Health Care

Rep. Grigsby has heard from many individuals who are concerned about health care for their families. Wisconsin has developed two programs to provide access to health care to our most vulnerable citizens, our children and seniors.

All children in Wisconsin are now able to get the health care they need at a price their families can afford through **BadgerCare Plus**. This new program allows every Wisconsin family, regardless of income, to buy affordable, comprehensive health care coverage for their kids. Low-income families are able to enroll their children into BadgerCare Plus at no charge. Just like the original BadgerCare program, families with higher incomes will be able to access certain services by paying reasonable premiums and co-payments. BadgerCare Plus also extends coverage to those previously not eligible for BadgerCare. Now low income pregnant women, youth aging out of foster care, Kinship Care caregivers, and certain childless adults will be able to apply. If you have applied for BadgerCare in the past and have been denied, you may now be able to enroll in BadgerCare Plus. It is easy to apply for BadgerCare Plus. Simply go to www.badgercareplus.org and fill out the online application for this program and other health and nutrition programs. You can also contact the City of Milwaukee Public Health Department at 414-286-3521 or 414-286-8585.

Thanks to the efforts of Wisconsin's citizens and Federal and State elected officials the **SeniorCare** program has been re-approved by Congress and will remain in effect until January 2010. SeniorCare has proven to be a superior option when compared to the federal government's Medicare Part D plan. 94% of seniors enrolled in SeniorCare saved more money than they would have under Part D, and SeniorCare costs half as much to administer than the federal plan.



Rep. Grigsby joins her colleagues to raise awareness about the availability of a vaccine that is very effective in preventing cervical cancer in young women.

Under the program seniors pay an enrollment fee of \$30, and \$5 co-pay for generic drugs and \$15 for brand name drugs. Low-income seniors pay no deductible. Middle-income seniors are required to pay a \$500 or \$850 deductible based on income. To enroll in SeniorCare you can contact the Milwaukee County Department on Aging at 414-289-6874 or 1-866-229-9695.

Education

Education is always a top priority when working on the state budget bill. Rep. Grigsby worked with her colleagues from Milwaukee to secure new funding for Milwaukee Public Schools including \$10 million to help increase achievement in math and science and an additional \$17 million from funding targeted to high-poverty districts.

The budget also increased funding for school aid and the School Levy Tax Credit by \$525 million to protect our schools while taking the burden off of property taxpayers and providing 2/3 of the funding for public education. In addition the SAGE program to continue smaller class sizes in elementary school and the 4-year old kindergarten program received funding increases.

Child Welfare

Rep. Grigsby was pleased the legislature finally agreed to raise foster parent reimbursement rates by 5% each year. This is a very modest investment for those who help care for our most

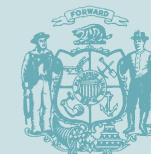
FREE FOR THE ASKING:

The following items are available at no charge from my office. Some publications are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis.

- State Highway Map
- Wisconsin Blue Book
- Spring/Summer Calendar of Events
- Wisconsin State Parks Guide

Feel free to order any publication by checking the appropriate boxes and returning this order form to:

Representative Tamara Grigsby
P.O. 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952



Name _____

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vulnerable children. Additionally, the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare received increased funding to assist with case manager retention, training, and education.

Human Rights

Human trafficking has become a growing problem in this country and Rep. Grigsby worked in a bipartisan manner with her legislative colleagues to pass a bill making this practice a felony in Wisconsin. The bill defines human trafficking as "recruiting, enticing, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining an individual without the consent of the individual." The penalty for someone convicted under this new law is a fine up to \$100,000, imprisonment for up to 25 years, or both. Child trafficking carries a maximum fine of \$100,000, imprisonment of up to 40 years, or both.

Workforce and Economic Development

Rep. Grigsby voted for \$1 million for the summer jobs program in Milwaukee so that young people stay busy during their time off from school and gain valuable work experience. Also in the budget bill, funding was doubled for the Youth Apprenticeship program which partners local schools with businesses, and \$3 million was added to the Workforce Advancement Training Grants awarded to Wisconsin businesses to upgrade the skills and productivity of employees. To assist early stage businesses in attracting investors, funding was increased for the Angel Investment program which provides a tax credit to investors who organize for the purpose of investing in early stage businesses.

Ethics Reform

After more than four years of debate, the Legislature finally reached a bipartisan agreement to create a new Government Accountability Board that has the authority and funding to fight government corruption. Rep. Grigsby voted for creating



Rep. Grigsby joins the students from 38th Street School as they visit the Capitol to learn about state Government.

a new, independent and non-partisan board made up of retired judges, as opposed to the old system governed by political appointees. The Board will have the financial independence and resources necessary to conduct any investigations it authorizes. The budget for the Board will be "sum sufficient" meaning they will have the money they need to conduct investigations and will not need the approval of the legislature to do so. The Board is empowered to review and revise all existing Ethics Board rulings and guidance to ensure greater compliance and consistency.

Veterans

Rep. Grigsby believes we owe a great debt to our Wisconsin veterans. That is why she supported funding for the Milwaukee Center for Veterans Issues which provides for outreach services to homeless veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder. To safeguard the health of our veterans additional funding was added to the Assistance to Needy Veterans program which

(continued on next page)



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I will periodically send out e-mail updates of what I am doing to represent you at the Capitol. Send your e-mail address to rep.grigsby@legis.wi.gov and I will add you to the list.