

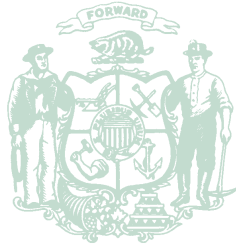


STATE REPRESENTATIVE
TOM NELSON
 2008 Legislative Questionnaire

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State Capitol, P.O. Box 8953
 Madison, WI 53708



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Dear Friend,

Greetings! Here's a brief update of my legislative projects. Since taking office, I've devoted much of my time to seeking out your concerns and questions. Last year, I knocked on 9,235 doors, processed 1,002 constituent cases and attended 221 community events, 66 town board meetings and 44 listening session tour stops.

In this newsletter you will find information about my legislative work and the 2008 Legislative Questionnaire. Your input is very important and I encourage you to stay in touch.

Thanks for your time and enjoy the update.

Sincerely,

THOMAS NELSON

2007-08 Accomplishments

Providing Affordable Health Care to More Wisconsin Families

- Voted for the creation of the BadgerCare Plus Program which provides affordable health insurance to every child. Through BadgerCare Plus, Wisconsin is now a national leader in health care reform.
- Saved SeniorCare, the prescription drug program of choice for more than 104,000 seniors. I fought hard against the Bush Administration's decision to cut the program in favor of Medicare Part D. With your help, SeniorCare was renewed through 2009. I will keep fighting for a permanent extension of SeniorCare.
- Continued to author and push for sweeping health care reforms, including the creation of a catastrophic insurance pool and requiring insurance companies to cover the costs of autism treatments and cochlear implants for children.

Reducing Taxes

- Voted for one of the strongest property tax freezes in state history in the 2007-09 state budget bill.
- Voted for more than \$188 million in permanent tax cuts and cut more than \$30 million in income taxes.
- Voted for new tax deductions for health insurance premiums, college tuition, retirement and child care.

Nelson Pushes for Budget Reform

It's no secret that the budget-writing process is broken. Wisconsin went 115 days without a budget. This delay put enormous stress on all state agencies, school districts and taxpayers. More than 6,000 college students didn't receive new financial aid and property taxes were projected to jump an additional \$350 million.

Many of you called, e-mailed or told me at your doorstep to do something about the impasse. So, I did what any member could have done – I showed up for work. I sat in the Assembly chambers at my desk ready to work until we passed a budget.

After the budget passed, it was clear we needed to reform the process. I authored a comprehensive budget reform package that would prevent budget stalemates in the future. This reform would limit fundraising, suspend lawmaker pay and require the budget-writing conference committee to meet on a regular basis. Unfortunately, my bill was never granted a public hearing. This bill,



Photo courtesy of The Badger Herald

like many other deserving bills, went nowhere in the Assembly. It's clear that Assembly leaders didn't learn anything from the impasse: If we don't meet, we can't get anything accomplished. Not surprising, the Assembly only met 18 days in 2007 – the second fewest days of any assembly or state house in the nation.

Your Opinion Matters to Me

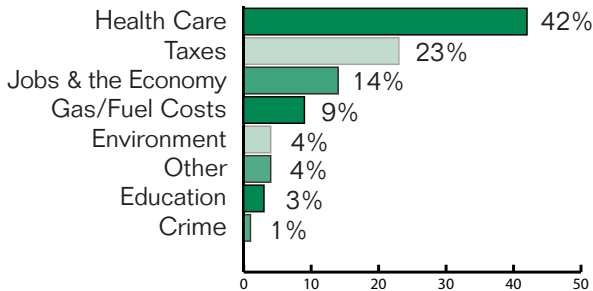
Thank you for your response to my **2007 Legislative Questionnaire**.

Below, I've included a response from one of the questions from my 2007 Legislative Questionnaire. For complete results, please visit my new website at **www.thomasnelsonwi.com**.

I'm also including a new questionnaire. I hope you will take a few minutes to complete it. If several members from your household want to answer the questions, please use different colored pens. When finished, please fold the questionnaire and mail it back to me.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me at anytime. Thank you again for your input.

"What is the most important issue facing our state right now?" (November 2007)



Total Results: 597 responses

2008 Legislative Questionnaire

- What is the most important issue facing our state right now?

<input type="checkbox"/> Health Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Gas/Fuel Costs
<input type="checkbox"/> Jobs & the Economy	<input type="checkbox"/> Environment
<input type="checkbox"/> Taxes	<input type="checkbox"/> Education
<input type="checkbox"/> Crime	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
- How satisfied are you with the current health care system?

<input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> Very Unsatisfied
<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat satisfied	<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat unsatisfied	
- Historically, the State of Wisconsin has paid two-thirds of the costs of public education to lessen the burden on property tax payers. Do you believe the state should continue this commitment?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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- Legislation has been introduced that would reform the budget-writing process. Several bills have been introduced that would impose penalties and create incentives to move the process along in a timely manner. Do you support such legislation?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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- Legislation has been proposed that would require insurance companies to provide coverage for treatment for autism spectrum disorders. Do you support this legislation?

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Undecided
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HOW TO CONTACT REP. NELSON:

Your Comments:

fold



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Fold this panel out and seal top with tape