



STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOE PARISI

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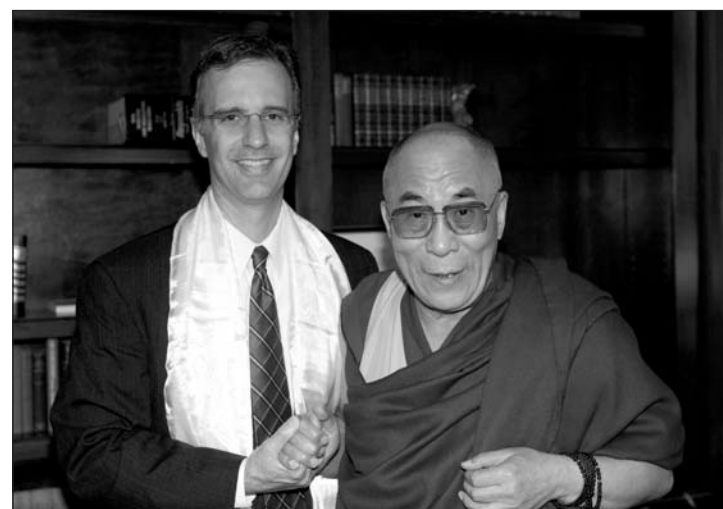
Firefighter Pay



Rep. Parisi, Town of Blooming Grove Administrator Mike Wolf and Blooming Grove Volunteer Firefighter Jay Salvo look on as Governor Jim Doyle signs Assembly Bill 531, authored by Rep. Parisi. This law will make it easier for small communities to pay their firefighters and EMT's in the manner that is best for the town or village.

Climate Change

There finally seems to be consensus on the need to address the important problem of global warming, and I am pleased to support two of the efforts that are being conducted on this important issue. I was co-author of legislation which would require the state to sharply reduce carbon dioxide pollution, the main cause of global warming. Governor Doyle has also appointed a Global Warming Taskforce, which has brought together a prominent and diverse group of key Wisconsin business, government, energy and environmental leaders to create a state plan of action to reduce our state's greenhouse gas emissions.



Rep. Parisi and the Dalai Lama met to discuss the situation in Tibet during the Dalai Lama's recent visit to Madison.

Ethics Reform

Democrats and Republicans worked together with the Governor to create a non-partisan Government Accountability Board. The board is responsible for advising state government on ethics and election matters, reviewing, streamlining and enforcing current ethics and election laws, and investigating possible ethics violations.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOE PARISI

48TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Legislative Report 2008



WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JOSEPH PARISI
48th DISTRICT

Dear Neighbor,

As this year's legislative session winds down, I want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative in the Assembly. In this legislative update I want to share the results of my legislative survey and bring you up to date on some key issues.

In the recent legislative session we saw meaningful ethics reform, an extension of BadgerCare and SeniorCare and progress toward strengthening our University system, but there were still many important issues left unresolved.

Perhaps most disappointing was the failure of a proposal that would have guaranteed insurance coverage of early intensive treatment for children with autism, as well as a proposal to guarantee insurance coverage for children with hearing loss.

These changes would have addressed what I believe is our core responsibility – to protect children and the most vulnerable among us. Both proposals were supported by the Governor and passed the Senate with bi-partisan support, only to be defeated by a narrow margin in the Assembly. While these losses were disappointing, I have faith we will be able to pass these proposals into law next year.

Equally as important as policy work is my responsibility to assist you when you need help navigating government bureaucracy. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you need assistance in any area related to state government. I can be reached at (608) 266-5342 or Rep.Parisi@legis.wi.gov.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve you.

Sincerely,

Joe Parisi
State Representative
48th Assembly District

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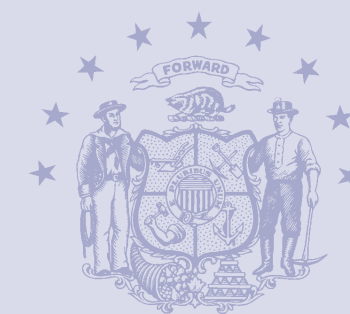
Committees 2007-2008

Corrections and
the Courts
(Ranking member)

Urban & Local affairs

Joint Legislative Audit

Insurance



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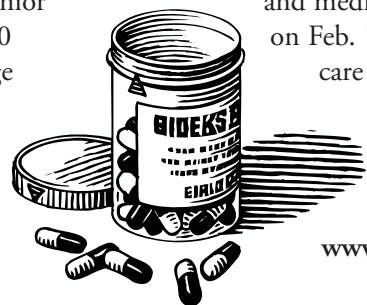
State Capitol: Room 126 North, PO Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708

Website: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/assembly/asm48/news/index.htm>

Making Health Care Accessible

SeniorCare:

SeniorCare is an important health care success story. I and my colleagues lobbied Congress to save this prescription drug program which is available to moderate income senior citizens. SeniorCare has helped more than 100,000 seniors to afford their prescriptions with an average savings of \$1200 each year on their medications. For more information about SeniorCare or to apply for the program call the Dane County Senior Helpline at (608) 266-9007 or via email at aaa@co.dane.wi.us.



BadgerCare Plus:

Under BadgerCare Plus, which was passed into law this session, 98% of Wisconsin children will have access to health and medical coverage. Enrollment in this program began on Feb. 1, and any family wanting to purchase health care for their kids can do so regardless of their income. The program also provides benefits for pregnant women, working families and the self-employed. You can apply by phone at 1-800-362-3002 or online at www.badgercareplus.org.

Tuition Assistance

Over the last 10 years, tuition at the University of Wisconsin Madison has risen by more than 126%, and during that time, financial aid has not kept pace. Rising costs are making it harder for lower and middle income families to afford a higher education. That is why I introduced legislation to require the state to match any increase in tuition with a dollar-for-dollar increase in student aid.



Rep. Parisi at a press conference on the UW-Madison Campus announcing his proposed legislation to increase student financial aid.

Compassionate Care for Rape Victims

This new law requires hospitals to provide victims of rape with all the information they need to make the best choices about their health. Under the new law, hospitals are required to inform rape victims about their options for emergency contraception and to provide information about their options to report the assault and receive a medical examination to gather evidence of the crime.

Rep. Parisi speaks on the Assembly floor on behalf of the Compassionate Care for Rape Victims legislation.

Legislative Survey Results

This year, I received nearly 2,000 responses to my Legislative Questionnaire. Thank you so much for the amazing response. I read every questionnaire because I consider listening to the opinions and concerns of my constituents to be the most important part of my job as your state representative.

1. Legislation has been proposed to ban smoking in all public buildings in Wisconsin. Do you support this proposal?
73% Yes 21% No 5% Undecided
2. Should Wisconsin encourage the search for medical cures through research with embryonic stem cells?
80% Yes 12% No 7% Undecided
3. Do you think all Wisconsin residents should be covered by a health care plan similar to that offered to elected officials and government employees?
69% Yes 16% No 13% Undecided
4. Should pharmacists be allowed to refuse to fill a doctor's prescription for items like contraceptives, if the pharmacist has moral objections?
14% Yes 81% No 4% Undecided
5. Should hospitals be required to make emergency contraception available to rape victims?
86% Yes 8% No 5% Undecided
6. According to the Department of Revenue, 62% of the largest corporations pay no income tax. Would you support an alternative minimum tax on these corporations and use the money to reduce residential property taxes?
82% Yes 8% No 9% Undecided
7. Would you support using public dollars to finance campaigns in order to limit the influence of special interests?
55% Yes 26% No 18% Undecided



8. Should people be allowed to use marijuana for legitimate medical purposes with a prescription from their physician?
79% Yes 10% No 10% Undecided
9. Do you support the Earned Release Program which allows judges to provide certain non-violent offenders an incentive (reduced prison time) to actively participate in a six month intensive alcohol and drug treatment program designed to reduce future criminal behavior?
81% Yes 7% No 11% Undecided
10. Many inmates in Wisconsin prisons have been diagnosed with mental illness. Should the state require that these individuals be housed in separate, specialized facilities apart from the general prison population?
58% Yes 13% No 28% Undecided
11. Should the state provide a \$1,000 income tax credit for the purchase of a fuel efficient hybrid vehicle?
44% Yes 36% No 18% Undecided

How would you rate the job performance of the following elected officials?

	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Undecided
President George Bush.....	3%	9%	9%	77%	1%
Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin....	32%	32%	18%	13%	3%
Governor Jim Doyle.....	9%	36%	34%	18%	1%
Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen....	5%	25%	24%	10%	31%
State Senator Mark Miller.....	19%	30%	15%	7%	24%
State Representative Joe Parisi.....	25%	36%	12%	4%	19%
County Executive Kathleen Falk.....	14%	35%	26%	16%	6%
U.S. Senator Russ Feingold.....	53%	20%	10%	14%	1%
U.S. Senator Herb Kohl.....	23%	36%	26%	9%	4%

Rep. Parisi speaking during a meeting of the Assembly Corrections Committee, on which he serves as the ranking member.

