

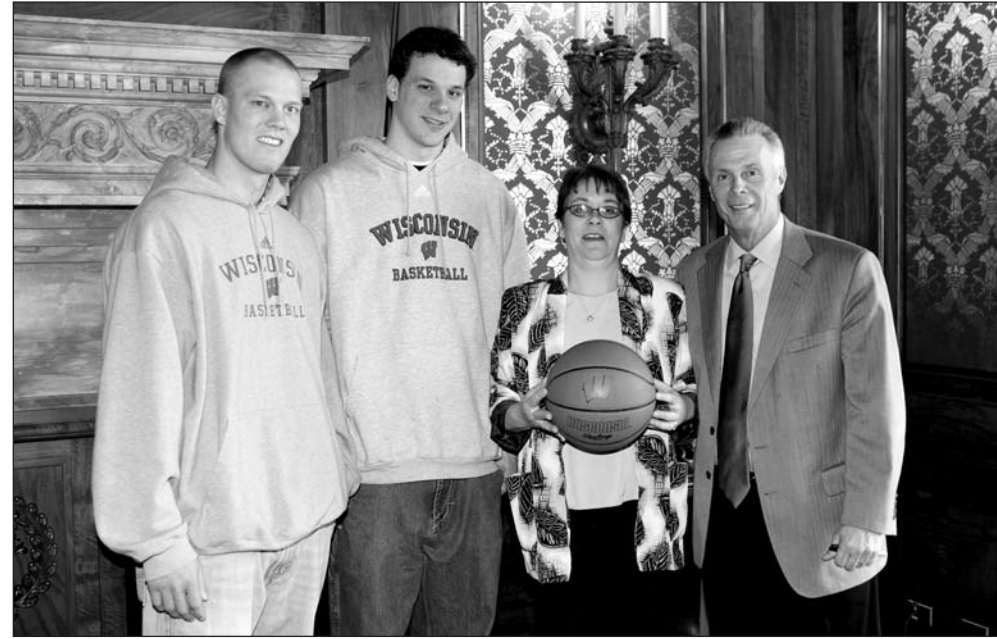
13. Do you support widening I-94 without additional money for mass transit, such as commuter rail?
 Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

14. How should the state legislature prioritize the following issues? Please rank in order, with 1 being your top priority.

___ Economy / Taxation
 ___ Health Care
 ___ Education
 ___ Environment
 ___ Campaign Finance
 ___ Other: _____

15. Please rank your preferred methods of staying informed about state government in order, with 1 being your favorite and 6 being your least favorite.

___ Local radio
 ___ Statewide talk radio
 ___ Newspaper
 ___ Internet
 ___ Television
 ___ Other: _____



On April 17th, 2007, Representative Christine Sinicki and the State Assembly welcomed University of Wisconsin Head Coach Bo Ryan and student-athletes Jason Chappell and Joe Krabbenhoft of the UW Men's Basketball Team.
 (fold)



Christine
Sinicki
 State Representative

P. O. Box 8953
 Madison, WI 53708



Spring 2008
 Update & Survey

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Christine
Sinicki
 State Representative

20th Assembly District – St. Francis, Cudahy and Milwaukee's southeast side



Representative Sinicki has served this legislative session as:

- Ranking Assembly Democrat on the Assembly Homeland Security Committee
- Member of the Assembly Committees on State Affairs; Consumer Protection and Personal Privacy; and Workforce Development
- Member, Joint Legislative Council Study Committee on Charter Schools

About State Representative Sinicki:

Elected to represent the 20th Assembly District in 1998, Representative Sinicki succeeded former Rep. Rosemary Potter. Prior to being elected to the State Assembly, Rep. Sinicki served for eight years on the Milwaukee Public School Board. Before election to the Board, Rep. Sinicki managed a small business in Bay View.

Christine Sinicki
 STATE REPRESENTATIVE
 P.O. BOX 8953
 MADISON, WI 53708



Fold this panel out and tape at top

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HOW TO REACH ME

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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

BadgerCare Plus	800/362-3002	Low Interest Housing	
Business Help Line	800/435-7287	Loans (WHEDA)	800/334-6873
City of Cudahy	414/769-2200	Medicaid/BadgerCare	800/362-3002
City of St. Francis	414/481-2300	Milwaukee County Exec.	
Congresswoman		Scott Walker	414/278-4211
Gwen Moore	414/297-1140	Milwaukee Mayor	
Consumer Protection	800/422-7128	Tom Barrett	414/286-2200
Crime Victim Services	800/446-6564	Nursing Home Complaints	800/815-0015
Elderly Benefits Specialist	414/278-1222	Road Conditions	800/762-3947
Governor's Office	608/266-1212	SeniorCare	
Insurance Complaints	800/236-8517	(Prescription Assistance)	800/657-2038

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

State Benefit Eligibility Clearinghouse	www.access.wisconsin.gov
State of Wisconsin	www.wisconsin.gov
State Legislature	www.legis.state.wi.us
SeniorCare	www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/seniorcare
BadgerCare Plus	www.dhfs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus
Affordable Prescription Drugs	www.badgerrxgold.com
Wisconsin No-Call List	www.nocall.wisconsin.gov

Regulating Puppy Mills

The issue of animal cruelty and especially the treatment of puppies and dogs at unregulated breeding facilities (known as puppy mills) came to the fore again in the State Legislature this session. In our Assembly District, interest in this matter ran extremely high. Citizens in the 20th AD contacted my office in large numbers to support the end of unregulated dog breeding in puppy mills. In response, I co-authored Assembly Bill 567 / Senate Bill 308 to protect puppies' and dogs' health and safety without sticking the tax-payer with the bill.

Working in a bi-partisan fashion with my co-authors in both houses, we forged a compromise agreement that protected dogs, dog lovers and tax dollars. Our bill could have passed the Legislature but was derailed by vehement interest groups. Essentially, members of the Wisconsin Puppy Mill Project (opponents of puppy mills) thought the bill should have included all species of pets. And, legitimate dog breeders protested that the bill would interfere with their businesses.

Nevertheless, work on this issue area has created a framework for future legislation as well as helping raise awareness about unregulated breeding.



District Updates:

SEMINARY WOODS

You may already know that Seminary Woods on South Lake Drive in St. Francis is classified by the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as a natural area of regional significance. A coalition of groups is working with the DNR and citizens to help them acquire and preserve the site. This coalition includes the Conservation Fund, Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, River Revitalization Foundation, Milwaukee Area Land Conservancy, Milwaukee County Parks Department, Friends of St. Francis Greenspace, City of St. Francis and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

I am assisting the coalition in applying for different federal grants to help purchase Seminary Woods. The project is eligible for a grant from the state Nelson-Knowles Stewardship Fund, which requires match funding. If federal grants or other match funding are secured, DNR staff have assured me they will assist the coalition with the Stewardship grant application.

Finding funding to protect this place so dear to all our hearts is one of my highest priorities as State Representative for the South Shore. I will continue working as long as necessary with the coalition, the DNR and federal officials to pursue both matching and Stewardship Funds for the purchase of Seminary Woods.

KRM

The fate of state funds for extending Metra commuter rail to Milwaukee via Cudahy is still up in the air in the Legislature. The original budget provision, killed by Assembly Republicans, would have created a \$15 car rental tax to match federal money. At that time, I was able to convince leadership to rescue another provision allowing DOT to use money already allocated for a preliminary engineering study for the rail extension. That money did survive.

Now, Senate Democrats have included the funding mechanism for state/federal match money again in their version of the current budget repair bill. While it will likely meet similar opposition again from Republicans, the fight to create state funds for this important project will continue into the Legislative session starting next January.

FREEWAY RECONSTRUCTION

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is near final approval of I-94 reconstruction from the Mitchell Interchange south to the state line. They have decided to begin construction in Milwaukee County in 2009 to ensure that two nearby segments aren't under repair at the same time as the Zoo Interchange. It also allows WisDOT to work first on the two crash-prone interchanges in our area – the Mitchell Interchange and the Plainfield Curve. Preparatory work that will not affect the freeway will take place during 2009 and 2010. Reconstruction of the two interchanges is slated to be done in 2012.

I'm glad DOT has taken a request of mine and other area officials' for citizen input more seriously. In coming months Sensitive Design Committees, whose members include area residents, will start to consider both visual and economic development impacts of the freeway reconstruction in our area. Also, I'm urging DOT to act on the need for a more balanced transit plan for southern Wisconsin, including increased attention and funding for rail transit in the region (see above).

Finally, I was glad to see DOT did act on my request to take greater safety precautions on the Plainfield Curve. The new digital alert signs over the lanes in the Curve are now helping reduce risks to drivers.

(Left) State Representative Sinicki, State Senator Alberta Darling and State Senator Jeff Plale, co-authors of the bill to close down puppy mills in Wisconsin, testify in support before a joint meeting of the Senate and Assembly Consumer Protection Committees.

Legislative Opinion Survey:

Your opinion is important to me. Please take a moment to let me know where you stand on these important issues. If more than one member of your household answers, please use different colored inks. If you would like results sent to you via e-mail, please include your e-mail address here:

1. Do you support raising the minimum wage every year at the rate of inflation? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
2. Currently, Milwaukee requires its employees to be city residents. Do you support this residency requirement? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
3. Do you support collective bargaining rights for employees? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
4. Which model of health care delivery do you support?
___ universal single-payer
___ public-private plan
___ current system
5. Do you support allowing tavern owners to phase in no smoking rules over one to two years if the state ban becomes law? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
6. Should a pharmacist be allowed to refuse to fill a valid prescription if it contradicts their own personal beliefs? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
7. Do you support protecting Lake Michigan water from being diverted outside of the Great Lakes Basin? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
8. Currently, the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources is appointed by the Governor. Do you support changing the law to require the Secretary be appointed by the Natural Resources Board? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
9. Do you support expansion of renewable, sustainable energy policies to reduce dependence on fossil fuels? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
10. Would you support a bill to make daylight savings time year round? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
11. Should the state get involved in the dispute over the NFL network? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___
12. Do you support extending Metra commuter rail from Kenosha to Milwaukee via Cudahy? Yes ___ No ___ Undecided ___

(continued on back)



In October of 2005, Milwaukee Police Officer Dennis Trzcinski's heroism gained national attention when he pulled two young men from the flaming wreckage of an automobile accident, saving both of their lives. His spirit of courage and service inspires and honors us all. On April 17th, 2007, I led the State Assembly in honoring Officer Trzcinski with the Hometown Hero Award. Only twelve Hometown Hero Awards are bestowed annually by the Legislature.