

State Representative

Dan Meyer

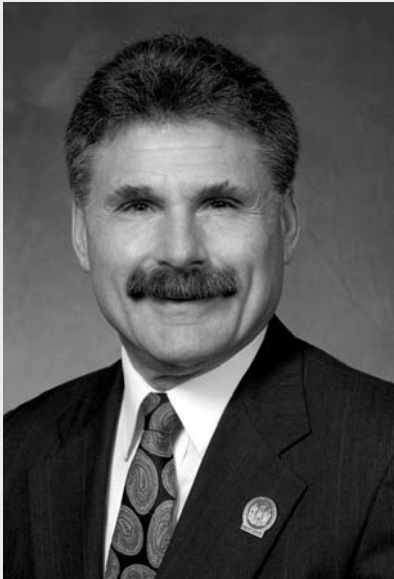
Spring 2008

Legislative Update

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State Representative
Dan Meyer

34th Assembly District



Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for the opportunity to represent you for another term at the State Capitol. I am continuing to fight to protect the interests of those living in Northern Wisconsin.

It has been an exciting time to serve. During the past legislative session I have fought hard to:

- Create an invasive species initiative that would provide \$7.6 million over the next two years to fight aquatic invasive species in our lakes and streams.
- Create a better tax climate for those who choose to live and work in Wisconsin by stopping over \$850 million in new tax increases proposed by the Governor.
- Increase funding for workforce advancement training grants to assist workers in learning new job skills.
- Fully fund SeniorCare so that our most vulnerable senior citizens could afford prescription drugs.
- Create an income tax deduction for health insurance premiums.
- Protect our property rights and to empower counties and towns when it comes to stopping the DNR from taking even more property off of the tax rolls.
- Make the distribution of state funding more fair for schools in Northern Wisconsin.
- Provide affordable health care options for children and families through the expansion of BadgerCare.
- Secure funding for increased dental access in Vilas and Oneida Counties.

Enclosed in the newsletter is a brief update on the legislative issues we are currently working on in Madison to improve the quality of life for Northern Wisconsin residents.

I hope you find it helpful and look forward to any comments you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Dan Meyer in black ink.

Representative Dan Meyer

Representative Dan Meyer's Legislative Update

Legislation From the Desk of Dan Meyer



I believe that less government is better government. However, there is legislation that can and should be passed for the benefit of Wisconsin families, and I've been working on several initiatives to improve the quality of life for those living in Northern Wisconsin, including:

- **AB 543** – Introduced legislation that would give counties the final say in determining the Ordinary High Water Mark if there is ever a disagreement between their determination and that of the DNR's.
- **AB 621** – Assisted the City of Rhinelander in the establishment of a tax incremental district to help with economic development and job creation.
- **AB 49** – Exempts lake associations from permit fees to treat aquatic invasive species.
- **AB 90** – Establishes a loan program for medical students who agree to practice in rural and underserved areas of Wisconsin.
- **AB 32** – Prohibits employment discrimination for military service.
- **EXPANDED GI BILL** – Supported a bi-partisan Veterans initiative that included the continuation of the Mission Welcome Home program, and expanded funding for veterans programs to provide veterans help in meeting the challenges they face after they leave the military.

Other Issues Impacting Northern Wisconsin

The Legislature has passed a number of other important bills this session to address key issues impacting those living in Northern Wisconsin.

Taxes

I believe that Wisconsin families are taxed enough, which is why I think it is important to highlight some of the proposed tax increases that I was able to help stop this session, including:

- Eliminated Governor Doyle's nursing home bed tax hike – **saving you over \$35 million**
- Eliminated Governor Doyle's Hospital Tax – **saving you over \$418 million**
- Eliminated Governor Doyle's Real Estate Transfer Tax – **saving you over \$142 million**
- Eliminated the new gas tax (Oil Franchise Fee) – **saving you \$277.3 million**
- Eliminated the new iPod tax – **saving you \$3.4 million**

Jobs

Increased funding for worker retraining by \$3 million through the Wisconsin Advantage Program. Supported tax credits for dairy manufacturing and meat processing modernization or expansion.

Health Care

Made health insurance premiums tax deductible. Provided a 5% rate increase for nursing homes.

Education

Increased funding for special education by \$53.5 million. Provided an additional \$3.6 million in aid to small rural school districts. Increased funding to schools that have to transport pupils over 12 miles. Increased funding for SAGE by \$26.7 million to help reduce class sizes.

Immigration Reform

Prohibit local governments from adopting "Sanctuary City" ordinances that prevent local law enforcement from asking about citizenship status.



Coming to Madison?



Free tours are offered daily year round. The sixth floor museum and observation deck is also open during the summer months. Groups of ten or more should call (608) 266-0382 to make a reservation.

