

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JIM OTT

PROUDLY SERVING BAYSIDE, BROWN DEER, MEQUON, MILWAUKEE, & THIENSVILLE

P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

Want to stop JUNK MAIL?

Do you want to stop all those pre-approved credit card & loan offers that come in the mail? YOU CAN and YOU SHOULD. Identity theft (ID Theft) is on the rise; criminals can and do steal these applications from your trash and mail boxes, fill them out & activate the accounts, *leaving you responsible!*

You can remove your name from most of these mailing lists by calling 1-888-567-8688. You can opt out permanently or for two years.

Do you have questions or need more information about ID theft? Contact Wisconsin Office of Privacy Protection at 1-800-422-7128 or www.WisconsinPrivacy@datcp.wi.gov

Having Trouble with a Vendor, Telemarketer or the Cable Company?

Contact the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) or go to www.datcp.state.wi.us. Click on **Consumer Protection**. There you will find information about everything from consumer alerts and recalls, food complaints, tenant's rights and auto repair to help dealing with pesky telemarketers. You can even sign up for the State's **No Call List**. (Just remember even if you are on the No Call List, non-profits, political campaigns, surveys, etc. can still call you.)

Signed up for the No Call List and still getting telemarketing calls? Here are some suggestions:

- File a complaint with DATCP.
- Tell the telemarketer you want to be put on the company's "do not call" list.
- Sign up for the free Direct Marketing Association's "do not call" list. To sign up for this free service send your name, address and phone number including area code to:
**Telephone Preference Services
Direct Marketing Association
PO Box 643
Camel, NY 10512**
- Screen Your Calls
- Remove your name from the local phone book
- Take your name off credit bureau marketing lists by calling 1-888-567-8688. *(This is a good step to take to stop ID theft.)*
- Check out www.datcp.state.wi.gov for more ideas.



As Vice-Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, Jim meets frequently with the Department of Natural Resources.

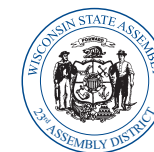
Helpful Numbers

Aging & Long Term Care (800) 242-1060	Governor's Office (608) 266-1212	Road Conditions (800) 762-3947
Attorney General (608) 266-1221	Insurance Complaints (800) 236-8517	Social Security (800) 772-1213
Business and Industry Hotline (800) HELPBUS	DNR Information (608) 266-2621	Tourism (800) 372-2737
Consumer Protection (800) 422-7128	Public Service Commission Complaints (800) 225-7729	Unemployment Compensation (800) 494-4944
Crime Victims Services (800) 446-6564	Dept. of Revenue (414) 227-4000	Veterans Affairs (608) 266-1311
Farm Crisis Hotline (800) 942-2474		Worker's Compensation (608) 266-1340



JIM OTT

State Representative • 23rd Assembly District

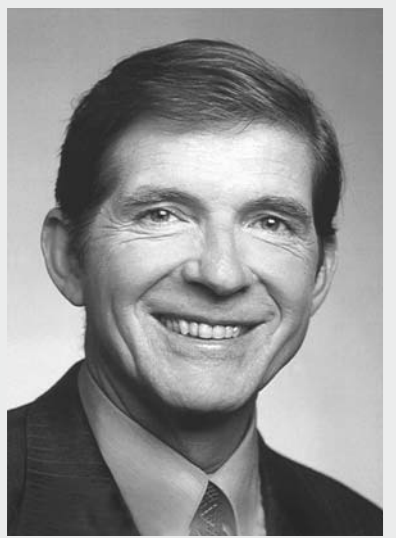


JIM OTT

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 23rd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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KEEP IN TOUCH WITH JIM!

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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- Committee on Natural Resources
(Vice Chair)
- Committee on Workforce Development
- Committee on Education Reform
- Committee on Elections & Constitutional Law
- Joint Committee on Information Technology

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It is an honor and privilege to serve as your representative in the Wisconsin State Assembly. I have had the opportunity to meet with many of you in person and have communicated with many others by phone or e-mail. Now that my first official session in the State Legislature is almost complete, I can look back on it as a time of learning, accomplishment and challenge.

Even though this legislative session is for all practical purposes over, there is still plenty to do. Since we still have to reach an agreement on a budget repair bill and give final approval of the Great Lakes compact, the Legislature will gather for a number of special session days.

Wisconsin is a wonderful state with incredible resources. My favorite committee assignment is serving as Vice-Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee. As our state's population continues to grow, the tension between maintaining our state's natural beauty and encouraging a vibrant economy will increase. I believe we can find a balance that will protect the jobs we need to support our families, while ensuring future generations will have clean lakes and abundant forest land to enjoy our great outdoors.

My top priority will continue to be helping our state run more efficiently so we can ultimately achieve lower taxes. I will also strive to be the best representative possible for the residents of the 23rd Assembly District. Thank you for allowing me to represent you in the Wisconsin State Assembly.

Sincerely,

Jim Ott
State Representative
23rd Assembly District

JIM OTT • Proudly Serving Bayside, Brown Deer, Mequon, Milwaukee, & Thiensville



Jim Ott receives the pen the Governor used to sign his bill into law while, intern, Becky Luft of Mequon looks on.

Some of the Bills Authored by Jim Ott

■ Senate Bill 136

I co-authored SB 136 because of a box that had been sitting in my office for some time. Inside there was a set of hardbound state statutes from 2004 that had never been opened. After some investigation, I learned it cost \$159.00 to print and mail one set of hardbound statutes. This bill eliminates the automatic distribution of the hardbound state statutes.

Senate Bill 136 is now Wisconsin Act 71.

■ Assembly Bill 304

As an avid outdoorsman, I have had the pleasure of traversing many of our state's public lands. I was surprised to learn that while Wisconsin spends millions of dollars on Stewardship land every year there are no comprehensive maps showing where that land is. AB 304 requires DNR to produce a map of all land purchased with Stewardship dollars and states what activities are permitted there.

Assembly Bill 304 is now Wisconsin Act 20

■ Assembly Bill 420

AB 420 was authored at the request of the City of Mequon, Ozaukee County and the Weyenberg Library. This bill would have given communities that fund their own libraries a means to qualify for the county library tax exemption. The Wisconsin Alliance of Cities and the League of Municipalities supported the legislation.

AB 420 passed the Assembly with a bipartisan vote but failed in the State Senate.

■ Assembly Bill 585

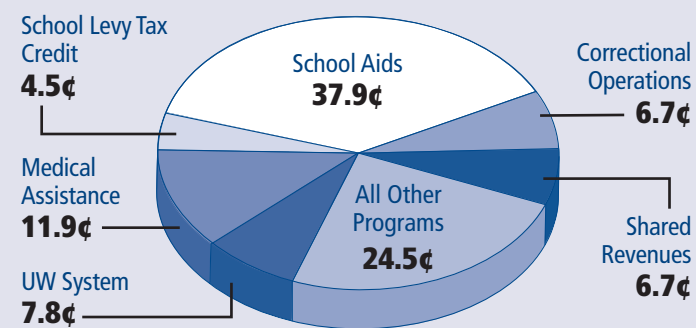
I authored AB 585 at the request of several area school superintendents. The bill would allow school districts the option of starting classes before September 1st. AB 585 would not change the number of days students are in class. The superintendents contend that students taking Advanced Placement Tests are at a disadvantage because they start later than other schools nationally. The AP testing date is set by a national committee for a date in May.

AB 585 had a public hearing in an Assembly Committee. I plan to re-introduce AB 585 next year.

If these bills or any others are of interest to you...

You can keep track of them with the Legislature's Notification Service. Go to the Legislature's home page at www.legis.state.wi.us. Then "click" on Notification Service. You will be electronically notified when the bill is scheduled for a hearing, receives a fiscal note, is scheduled for a vote, etc. You can track legislation I am authoring and supporting by entering my name instead of a bill number, or you can enter a topic and track legislation that way. Please call my office at **1-888-534-0023** if you need assistance signing up for the service.

Expenditures of Each \$1 of General Fund Taxes



The general fund is made up of individual income tax, general sales and use tax, corporate tax and the franchise tax. General fund dollars are appropriated by the Legislature.

Great Lakes Compact

On April 9, 2008 the State Assembly and Governor reached an agreement that should lead to ratification of the Great Lakes Compact. As of this writing, the State Legislature is awaiting the call for a special session by the Governor. It is expected that both houses will ratify the Compact and pass its enabling legislation. This will represent the culmination of more than a year of intense negotiations as legislators worked for an agreement that would protect the waters of the Great Lakes from diversion to distant states while assuring that Wisconsin would be treated fairly.

The changes made to the enabling legislation do not impact the Compact. In other words, the changes negotiated in Wisconsin will not have to be approved by the states that have already ratified the Compact; each state has its own enabling legislation. If the Legislature approves the Compact,

Wisconsin will be the fifth state that has approved it. Ohio, Michigan and Pennsylvania must also still approve it. After all the states ratify the Compact, it must then be given final approval by the United States Congress. There are no guarantees Congress will ratify the Great Lakes Compact.

I believe the Great Lakes Compact represents an important step in protecting the waters of our greatest natural resource. Recent low water levels on Lake Michigan clearly exhibit the fact that diverting water away from the lakes would have disastrous effect on navigation, commerce and fishery resources. If the Compact becomes law, it will ensure future generations will be able to count on a safe and dependable supply of water, enjoy the lakes for recreational purposes and protect the habitat of wildlife that depend on the lakes for survival.

Information Technology Task Force

Last summer I was appointed to the Speaker's Task Force on Information Technology by Assembly Speaker Mike Huebsch. Our goal was to investigate massive cost overruns and delays in numerous state I.T. projects and to find ways to improve efficiency and oversight of future projects. For example, the U.W. System spent about \$28 million on a new payroll system, only to scrap the whole project before it was completed.

One of the recommendations of the Task Force was to reactivate the Joint Committee on Information Policy and Technology as a means of insuring an ongoing oversight of state I.T. projects. Joint Committees are made up of both Representatives and Senators. I have also been appointed to serve as a member of this committee.

The state has wasted millions of dollars on failed I.T. projects in recent years. Our newly reactivated committee will be closely watching future I.T. projects, with a goal of keeping tabs on projects as they are being developed and implemented to ensure that failures of the past are not repeated. I look forward to serving on the committee.

Survey Results

My special thanks to those of you who took the time to respond. Part of my job in representing you is to take your views and opinions into account when voting on legislation. Your input is very important to me in making those decisions.

I am very sorry for the error in the Program Funding section that left off one line of reply boxes. It is for this reason we were only able to show results for five of the questions.

Program Funding

1.) What programs should have their funding cut, increased or receive the same level of funding as last year?

(I = Increase D = Decrease R = Remain Same)

	I	D	R
Aid to K-12 schools	34%	13%	49%
BadgerCare	23%	18%	52%
College financial aid	15%	24%	5%
Courts	19%	13%	5%
Law enforcement	45%	6%	45%

Taxes

2.) What, if any, modifications would you like to see to Wisconsin's tax policy?

(I = Increase D = Decrease R = Remain Same)

	I	D	R
Income Tax	3%	66%	28%
Sales Tax	12%	38%	47%
Corporate/Business Tax	27%	34%	35%
Property Tax	3%	63%	31%
Gas Tax	12%	59%	27%
Cigarette Tax	58%	15%	25%
Liquor Tax	49%	14%	35%
Hospital Tax	8%	44%	43%
Real Estate Tax	5%	53%	38%

Benefits

3.) Do you support the Governor's proposal to extend health care benefits to domestic partners of state employees?

YES NO

26% 74%

Smoking Ban

4.) Do you support a plan to ban cigarette smoking in all restaurants in Wisconsin?

66% 34%

5.) Do you support banning smoking in all bars/taverns in Wisconsin?

42% 58%

Photo ID

6.) Do you support requiring a photo ID to vote?

83% 17%