

PAT STRACHOTA

Legislative Wrap-Up



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

As the new chair of the Assembly Jobs and the Economy committee this session, I know that of all the issues we deal with in the Legislature, none have more impact on the daily lives of our constituents than economic development.

This is why jump-starting the economy and spurring job creation were squarely at the top of the Assembly Republican agenda in 2008.

At a time when the nation's economy is teetering on the edge, Wisconsin should be doing all that we can to lure new businesses to our state and retain the ones we do have.

Forbes recently compared all 50 states to determine which states were best for businesses and Wisconsin was near the bottom of the list. Their report card said we need to address our tax climate, our regulatory and litigation climate, as well as providing a more well-trained and educated workforce for employers to be more competitive nationally.

This term Assembly Republicans and the Governor put aside partisan differences and worked together on an aggressive economic development agenda with incentives and tax credits aimed at improving the economy from the ground up. Tax credits require companies to come here and make money and create jobs before they reap the benefits of our economic incentive plans. This is a win-win for companies, workers and the state's economy.

Unfortunately, at the same time we were working hard to stimulate our stagnant economy, Senate Democrats unveiled their plan for higher taxes on businesses (\$90 million with the Combined Reporting tax, among other things) and new government programs with more government spending which does nothing more than make our business climate even more unattractive for businesses.

The key to a robust economic future for our state is to continue to cut taxes, get unnecessary government out of the way, protect the jobs of today and invest in the workforce of tomorrow.

This summer I will be co-chairing a national task force on workforce development comprised of legislators across the country as well as chairing a study committee here in Wisconsin comprised of legislators and public members on the future of our state's workforce. I am hopeful we will come up with some great ideas.

It is a great privilege to be able to serve the residents of the 58th Assembly District. I hope you take time to visit my website and share your thoughts on how we can work together to make this an even better place to live and raise our families.

Sincerely,

Pat Strachota
State Representative

KEEP IN TOUCH!

At the Capitol:

P.O. Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708

Toll free: 888-534-0058

Fax: 608-282-3605

E-mail: Rep.Strachota@legis.wi.gov

In the District:

639 Ridge Road

West Bend, WI 53090

Phone: 262-338-3790

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Jobs and the Economy
Chair

Workforce Development
Vice-Chair

Aging and Long Term Care

**Health and Health
Care Reform**

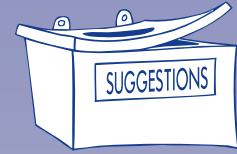
Ways and Means

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Strachota and Graeme Reid, Assistant Director of the Museum of Wisconsin Art, hang a picture from the museum's collection that they have graciously loaned to Rep. Strachota for her Capitol office. Visitors are encouraged to stop by and see the painting from local Washington County artist Dan Gerhartz.



Suggestions...

As your elected official, I realize the diversity of the needs of you, my constituents, and the rest of the citizens of Wisconsin. I know that actions taken by the legislature impact you and your families. Therefore, this summer as the legislature is in recess I will be researching legislation for introduction during the 2009-10 session. I want to give you an opportunity to directly make a contribution in the direction of our state by offering your own ideas for legislation.

As residents, you see firsthand the accomplishments as well as the shortcomings of government. On my legislative website, you will be able to share your ideas with me on how we can make this a better state.

I am looking for ideas that haven't been considered before, ideas to take our state to the next level. We have all seen proposals that have been introduced and reintroduced only to succumb to failure each year. Your vision for the state could become the next innovative idea to take us into the next decade.

I only ask that when you submit your ideas you keep three thoughts in mind:

1. That it be relevant to day-to-day life
2. That it focus on the future. Every single idea should make Wisconsin a better place to live and work.
3. That it does not expand the role of government. The ideas should not be anti-government, but they should be anti-waste and anti-interference. People can often accomplish more than the government – better than the government.

Go to:

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/assembly/asm58/news/>
or mail to my Capitol office at
PO Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708
to enter your suggestions.

✓ LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

A number of bills were considered by the Legislature during this past session. This scorecard highlights some of those initiatives.

	Outcome	Rep. Strachota Position
Virtual Schools – continued state funding	Signed into law	Supported
Eliminate Sick Leave for Elected Officials	Failed to pass Senate	Author
Healthy Wisconsin	Taken out of budget	Opposed
HSA tax deduction	Failed to pass Senate	Supported/ Co-Sponsor
Video Competition – cable choice	Signed into law	Supported
Ethanol use mandate	Failed to pass either house	Opposed
Voter Photo ID Constitutional Amendment	Failed to pass Senate	Supported
Earmark Transparency Act – let taxpayers see budget provisions.	Failed to pass Senate	Supported/ Co-Sponsor
Health Insurance Tax Deduction	Signed into law	Supported
Great Lakes Compact	Compromise Reached	Supported
Government Accountability Board	Signed into law	Supported

Representative Strachota visits with members of the Washington County Farm Bureau during their visit to the Capitol.



Office Hours:

Tuesday, June 10th
5:30 – 6:30pm
West Bend Public Library
Room B-1
630 Poplar Street
West Bend, WI 53095

Thursday, June 12th
3:30 – 4:30pm
Village of Jackson – Village Hall
N168 W20733 Main Street
Jackson, WI 53037

Thursday, June 12th
5:00 – 6:00pm
Slinger Community Library
220 Slinger Rd
Slinger, WI 53086