



State Representative

# SCOTT SUDER

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## Spring 2008 SENIOR CITIZEN UPDATE



## KEEP IN TOUCH WITH SCOTT!

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WORKING FOR CHIPPEWA, CLARK, EAU CLAIRE, MARATHON, TAYLOR & WOOD COUNTIES

### Suder's rural health initiative gets support

Editor:

The Joint Committee on Finance, which offers difficult decisions about funding priorities due to limited resources, must weigh the "price tag" with the potential benefit for any given proposal. One such decision by State Representative Scott Suder, R-Abbotsford, will impact all Wisconsinites.

Wisconsin  
Robert N. Golden, M.D.

### Program helps Wisconsin seniors

Members of the Joint Committee on Finance approved \$600,000 in additional funding for the Elderly Benefit Specialists Program

sive and often complicated paperwork that many benefit programs require.

"Benefits specialists help our growing elderly population

options available under Medicare Part D. With over 54 separate prescription drug plans and 15 Medicare Advantage plans for Wisconsin seniors

Chippewa County  
Department on Aging at 1-715-726-7778  
Eau Claire

### Rep. Suder Votes to Increase Funding for Local Senior Assistance Programs

Joint Finance Committee Approves \$600,000 in Additional State Funding to Continue Elderly Benefit Specialists Program

Family Services, the largest demand in the program relates to questions about options available under Medicare Part D. Suder said the need for expert help and assistance has been greater. Suder encourages any local resident who is over age of 60 who may have questions or need additional information on what benefits they may be eligible for to contact their local Elderly Benefits Specialist.

### Lawmaker leads fight against bill targeting senior citizen drivers

State Representative Scott Suder (R-Abbotsford) is leading the fight against a bill which would impose new

Suder questioned how the state could possibly afford such a program. He proposed new

### Lawmakers supporting SeniorCare

By Christena T. O'Brien  
Leader-Telegram staff

Three west-central Wisconsin lawmakers are urging federal officials to allow Wisconsin to continue offering SeniorCare to more than

#### Politics

The bill also includes a provision to restore benefits to those legal immigrants who have recently lost

5 to 6 p.m., judge's office, Abbotsford City Hall, 203 E. Birch St.; 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Owen City Hall, 219 N. Pine St.

Monday, March 26: 5 to 6 p.m., Bloomer Public Library,

will be available to meet with constituents.); 6 to 7 p.m., Fall Creek Public Library, 122 E. Lincoln Ave.

Monday, April 9: 4 to 5 p.m., Thorp City Hall, 300 W. Prospect; 6 to 7 p.m., Seeley

# CREATING SECURITY FOR SENIORS

# STATE REPRESENTATIVE SCOTT SUDER'S SENIOR CITIZEN LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

One of my top goals as your State Representative is to protect our state's seniors citizens and to make sure that they continue to have access to affordable prescription drugs, quality medical care, and medical assistance programs that help to make Wisconsin a great place to retire. Here are a few successes that I've achieved this session to help seniors live healthy and productive lives in northern Wisconsin:

## • **Full Funding for SeniorCare**

Ensuring that seniors in northern Wisconsin continue to have access to low-cost medications is one of my top priorities. As a member of the budget writing committee, I successfully fought to provide **full-funding for SeniorCare**, so low-income seniors can continue to receive their medications at prices they can afford. **SENIORCARE IS NOW SAFE UNTIL AT LEAST 2009. (2007 Act 20)**

## • **Keeping our Medical Assistance Promise**

I worked to make certain that the health care and long-term care programs our most vulnerable, low-income seniors need to live healthy lives were fully funded. Through the FamilyCare expansion project, senior citizens in northern Wisconsin will also have more options to help them **stay in their homes and receive the care they need later in life. (2007 Act 20)**

## • **Protecting Seniors from Scams**

To keep up with the latest high-tech phone scams, I voted to expand the popular No-Call list for cell phone users and small businesses. I also fought to include additional funding for the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit to prosecute criminals who commit crimes against seniors living in nursing homes and other assisted living facilities. **(SB 99 & 2007 Act 20)**

## • **Keeping Quality Doctors in our Rural Clinics & Hospitals**

Health care centers in our area continue to struggle with physician shortages, putting your access to quality health care at risk. **To help rural clinics and hospitals attract and retain doctors, surgeons, and nurses I fought for and won \$400,000 in state funding** to get the Wisconsin Academy of Rural Medicine up and running. This innovative program will encourage UW medical students to practice medicine in rural Wisconsin. **(2007 Act 20)**

## • **Eliminated the Tax on Pension and Retirement Accounts**

I voted for a provision in the budget that will allow Wisconsin seniors to keep more of the money they've earned and saved for retirement. When fully implemented over 35,000 senior citizens in Wisconsin will no longer be required to pay taxes on their retirement incomes. **(2007 Act 20)**

## • **Holding Down Property Taxes**

I voted to freeze property taxes by controlling government spending because seniors should not be taxed out of their homes. **(2007 Act 20)**

## • **Increased Funding for Local Senior Assistance Programs**

To make certain the seniors in our area continue to receive professional assistance, advice, and information on public benefit programs and government services for the elderly, I voted for **\$600,000** in additional state funding to keep the Elderly Benefit Specialists programs operating in **our** local communities. **(JFC Emergency Funding Request)**

## • **Fully Funded the Nation's Toughest Sex Predator Monitoring Program**

I led the effort to enact the "Project KidSafe" GPS monitoring program for child sex predators to protect our communities and **keep the worst-of-the-worst away from our children and grandchildren. (2007 Act 20)**

## Important health care and consumer protection contact numbers:



### **SeniorCare**

*Toll Free:*

**1-800-657-2038**

*Online at:*

**[www.dhfs.state.wi.us/seniorcare](http://www.dhfs.state.wi.us/seniorcare)**

### **Badger Rx Gold**

*Toll Free:*

**1-866-809-9382**

*Online at*

**[www.badgerrxgold.com](http://www.badgerrxgold.com)**

### **Wisconsin Consumer Protection**

**800-422-7128**

### **Board on Aging & Long Term Care**

**800-242-1060**

### **Medigap Hotline**

**800-242-1060**

### **Social Security Administration**

**800-772-1213**

### **No Call List**

**866-966-2255**

### **National Fraud Information Center**

**800-876-7060**

### **Crime Victims Services**

**800-446-6564**