

Representative **MARY WILLIAMS**

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit #1749  
Madison, WI

P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708-8953 CURRENT RESIDENT OR



Mary stands with fellow legislators and Jon "Bowzer" Bauman, former lead singer of the oldies group Sha Na Na, to explain "Truth in Music Advertising" legislation to protect consumers.

2007 SPRING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

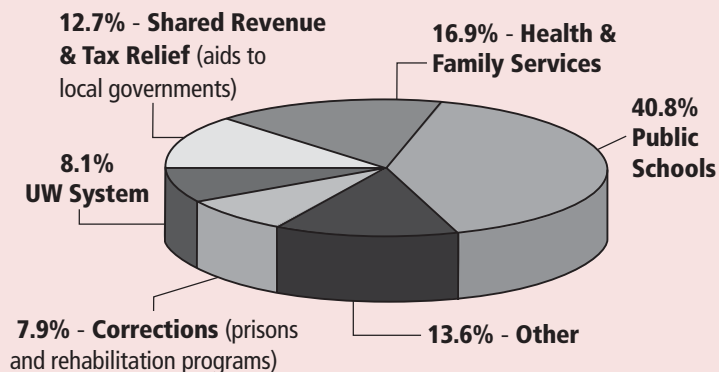
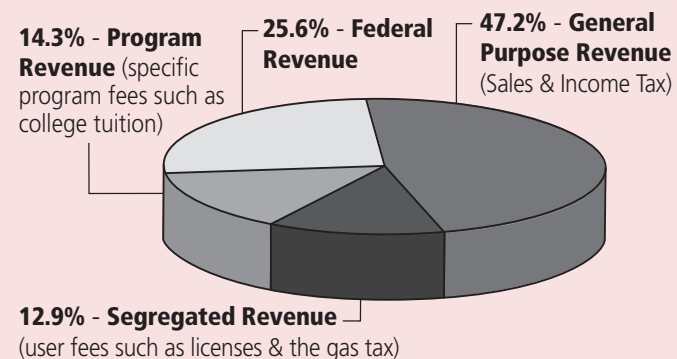
Representative **MARY WILLIAMS**

SERVING THE 87<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Governor's Proposed Budget for the State of Wisconsin 2007-2009

Where Does the Money Come From?

Where Does the Money Go?



Source: Legislative Fiscal Bureau

For more information go to: [www.legis.state.wi.us/lfb](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lfb)



Madison, WI 53708  
PO Box 8953

**WILLIAMS**  
State Representative **MARY**

Please place stamp here



**MARY WILLIAMS**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 87<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



Dear Friend,

It's my privilege to again serve as your state representative in Madison. As our new legislative session begins, I am providing you this update.

One of the things that always surprises me when I'm in Madison is how different each legislator's viewpoint is. Sometimes it's a challenge to not let the prevailing voice drown out different opinions, but I know it's my duty to bring your voice, your values, your views, and your concerns to them. I have made it my number one priority to bring the concerns of the north with me every time I go down to Madison. I strive to make sure I am doing just that, but it's important for me to hear from you so that I know what you think.

This legislative session presents new challenges for all of us. As I have traveled through our communities in Rusk, Price, Taylor, Sawyer, and Marathon counties, I've heard a lot of different ideas on what we need to do. There are some common threads, however. Hard working families keep telling me they are worried about being able to afford health care. Educators keep telling me they are worried about keeping their schools open. Parents keep telling me we need more good jobs so that our kids will want to start their careers here. And nearly everyone tells me they can't afford new taxes.

We can view these challenges as mere problems, but I prefer to see them as opportunities. We have the opportunity to reform our health care system and bring down costs so that working families don't have to choose between receiving health care and buying groceries. We have the opportunity to look for innovative ways to improve our education system and maintain the excellence of our northern schools. We have the opportunity to attract businesses that will provide good jobs for the next generation right here in our own communities. And legislators like myself have the opportunity to show taxpayers that we will make their government get the most out of their tax dollars so that we don't chase even one more hard working citizen or valuable senior out of the home they've lived in all their life.

These are my thoughts, but I want to hear from you. Please contact me to let me know what you think.

Best Wishes!

*Mary*

**Mary Williams**  
State Representative  
87th Assembly District

Keep in Touch With Mary

17 West, State Capitol  
Post Office Box 8953  
Madison, Wisconsin 53708

Phone: 608-266-7506  
Toll Free: 888-534-0087  
District: 715-748-5980

Email:  
Rep.WilliamsM@legis.wi.gov

Committees:

- Property Rights (Chair)
- Tourism, Recreation and State Properties (Vice Chair)
- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Natural Resources
- Rural Economic Development
- Rules

State Representative **MARY WILLIAMS**

87<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**Legislative Focus for 2007**

**Here are some priorities I am working on this session:**

have first hand experience of the root causes that drive good jobs out of our state. Taxation, regulation, and litigation need to be replaced with education, innovation, and business-friendly legislation. That's why I will reintroduce the Rural Jobs Act to attract more good jobs to our rural areas. I will also promote legislation that invests in our workforce and expands venture capital to help small businesses and entrepreneurs.

**Health Care Reform**

Last year we passed the Health Insurance Transparency Act which will allow consumers to know the quality and cost for available health care. In my last legislative update, 92% of people who responded thought the tax on personal health savings accounts is unfair so I will again fight to end it. More and more people are finding out how they can save money with personal and family Health Savings Accounts which let you roll-over unused health care dollars from year to year rather than losing it all as with traditional plans. This is one more component in our plan to bring down health care costs with free market health care reform.



Representative Williams meets with Marilyn Bhend from the Town of Johnson to discuss proposals important to small towns.

**Tax Relief**

Taxes are too high, especially for Seniors. Last session, I helped end taxes on social security benefits, starting in 2008. This session, I will support the effort to end taxes on pensions. And taxes shouldn't follow you into the grave, which is why I will again fight to end the death tax. I will also work to make sure we don't balance the state's budget on the backs of hardworking taxpayers.

**Job Growth**

Wisconsin ranks near the bottom when it comes to creating a friendly business climate. As a small business owner, I

**Education**

Last session, we sent over \$13 billion—over half of our state's budget—to fund education. Due to the rise in fuel costs, I succeeded in getting more money to our schools for transportation costs. I also sat on a committee to review our state's school funding formula. I will continue to look for ways to improve our funding structure to make sure our northern schools continue to provide an excellent education for our kids.

**Meet me at Office Hours**

Are you having problems with a state agency? Do you want to discuss a legislative issue? Would you simply like to meet your state representative? I'd love to meet you. I hold office hours throughout the 87th Assembly District. Please check your local paper or call my office to find out the next time I'll be in your community for office hours.

**Helpful State Numbers**

- Medigap Hotline.....(800) 242-1060
- Commerce, Dept. of .....(800) 435-7287
- Consumer Protection .....(800) 422-7128
- DNR.....(608) 266-2621
- DNR Service Centers
- Ladysmith .....(715) 532-3911
- Park Falls .....(715) 762-3204
- DOT Regional Centers
- Eau Claire.....(800) 991-5285
- Rhineland.....(888) 368-3478
- Handgun Hotline .....(800) 262-4867
- Insurance Complaints .....(800) 236-8517
- Medicare .....(800) 772-1213
- Road Conditions.....(800) 762-3947
- State Bar Lawyer Hotline .....(800) 362-9082
- WI No Call List.....(866) 966-2255



Representative Williams stands in the rotunda of the State Capitol with kids, parents, and teacher Laura Beyer from Holy Rosary Catholic School from Medford.



Cheryl Nussberger, mother of the late Staff Sgt. Patrick Lybert addresses the Assembly in Madison as John and Carol Vacho, parents of the late Sgt. Nathan Vacho look on. The Assembly recognized both soldiers and their families for their sacrifice in Afghanistan and Iraq.

**Legislative Survey**  
*I Want To Hear From You!*

There is a **2nd Reply** option if more than one member of the household wishes to respond.

At my desk on the Assembly floor, I can only vote "Yes" or "No". Although in some cases it would be nice to have a "Maybe" button, I do not have that option. I'm asking for your "Yes" or "No" vote.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your input is a valuable tool in representing you and the families of Northern Wisconsin.

**Check here if you'd like a Wisconsin State Highway Map sent to you.**

	1st Reply	2nd Reply
1. Should Wisconsinites be free to set up tax-free health savings accounts to save money on health care costs?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
2. Should communities be required to make detailed comprehensive future development plans, an initiative known as smart growth?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Should governments be required to either compensate landowners for zoning restrictions that reduce their property's fair market value or, if they don't want to compensate landowners, be required to take away those restrictions altogether?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
4. Should high school students be required to take at least 3 years of math and 3 years of science courses?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5. Do you agree with increasing the tax on cigarettes by \$1.25 per pack?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6. Do you support a statewide smoking ban on all indoor public and workplaces?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. Do you approve of reauthorizing the Stewardship Fund at \$105 million a year? The fund allows the state to borrow money (currently \$60 million a year) in order to purchase land now that must be paid back with interest in the future.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
8. Do you support eliminating school district revenue limits and allowing them to raise property taxes to whatever level they deem necessary?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
9. Do you support eliminating bail for illegal immigrants charged with violent crimes in WI so they cannot flee the country?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
10. If you had one suggestion for me or for state government, what would it be? _____		

**1ST REPLY • OPTIONAL INFO**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**2ND REPLY • OPTIONAL INFO**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Updates** — From time to time, I send an e-mail update to people in my district. These updates are a way for me to keep in touch with you and also get your feedback on important issues. Please e-mail me at **Rep.WilliamsM@legis.wi.gov** or fill in your address above when you send in your survey and I will make sure you get one. Thanks for your help!

Cut along the dotted line, fold twice and tape top. Then place stamp on mailing section to return mail.