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THROUGH THE LENS



Senator Taylor at the 4th of July parade this summer.

4th Senate District LEGISLATIVE UPDATE SENATOR LENA C. TAYLOR

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 14 - SEPTEMBER 18

Welcome to my Legislative Update!

I'm State Senator Lena C. Taylor and this is my legislative update. If you do not wish to receive my weekly update, please let me know at sen.taylor@legis.wisconsin.gov.

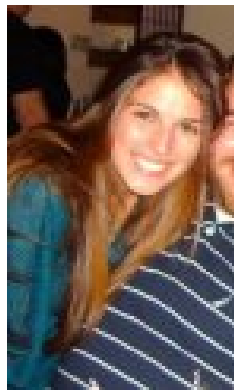
-Minority Business Growth & Development Act-

Developing minority owned businesses and minority job creation is one of my topic legislative agenda items. This past week, I introduced the Minority Business Growth & Development Act along with Rep. Leon Young (D-Milwaukee). The MBGD Act will restore the highly successful Minority Business Development Grant Program in the Department of Commerce.

Before that program was eliminated in the last budget, Wisconsin had leveraged 12 million dollars of public money into 67 million dollars of private investment in minority-owned businesses that create 2,748 jobs and retained another 1,054. With that kind of investment in some 695 businesses, minority jobs and business flourished.

The act is still circulating around the Legislature. I hope to have the bill in front of committees soon and on the floor yet this fall.

-Intern Spotlight-



Hello! My name is Rachel Schwarz, and I am a senior at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. After three years of jumping around and being unsure about my future education, I realized my passion for rhetorical studies and decided to pursue it seriously. With my Rhetorical Studies major nailed down, I recently became a pre-law student trying to take in as much as possible in my last year of undergraduate education. This is my first semester interning for Senator Taylor, but I have already jumped in head first! So far, I have had the opportunity to respond to constituent issues, particularly those in the Department of Corrections, as well as work directly with constituents to help them solve problems. Since I am planning on going to law school after I graduate from UW, this opportunity has opened my eyes to a possibility that I had not previously considered. This internship will surely lead me in a direction towards a more focused career path in law school. As this semester continues, I hope to further my knowledge of the legislative system and continue to help Senator Taylor's constituents resolve problems. It has already been jam-packed, and I look forward to the new experiences that I will have with the Senator.

MANNERS MOMENT



Dana World-Patterson
Visions Etiquette Training
visionsetiquettetraining.com

The guidelines for making introductions differ in social versus business situations. In social settings, *age* and *gender* are the key factors and in the business world, *rank* and *authority* determine who has more honor and prominence. For example, Mr. More Honor, I would like you to meet Mr. Less Honor. Less Honor is *always presented* to More Honor.

FROM THE BAR

Grand Jury

In the common law, a grand jury is a type of jury that determines whether there is enough evidence for a trial. Grand juries carry out this duty by examining evidence presented to them by a prosecutor and issuing indictments, or by investigating alleged crimes and issuing presentments. A grand jury is traditionally larger than and distinguishable from a petit jury, which is used during a trial.

-Education Forum-

Thursday night I provided yet another opportunity for the people of Milwaukee to make their voices heard. This time it was about education in the city.

State Superintendent Tony Evers, Julie Ewart from the U.S. Department of Education, as well as staff from the Wisconsin Department of Instruction made-up a panel that educated members of the audience on issues surrounding education in Milwaukee.



Federal funding sources were discussed, along with the requirements that need to be completed to be eligible for those resources. Panel members did an excellent job painting a clear picture of the educational landscape in Milwaukee. In light of the few that came to the meeting to corner the panelists into discussing the mayoral take-over (this was not the topic of last night's forum), the many that did have questions were answered thoroughly. I expect to hold future community forums as we continue to discuss this very important topic.

-Fun for the Kids-



Its been 40 years since humans have walked on the moon. But what about the future? This is a great opportunity to bring your family out to UWM Manfred Olson Planetarium to learn about the future of space exploration.

There are so many interesting things to learn like, new resources for clean energy, possible mining projects, and much much more. Come out to view the night sky because people will be on-hand to answer any question you may have about some of the wonders you see. The cost is \$2.

-Senator Taylor is on Facebook!-

In my busy lifestyle its difficult for me to keep in touch with all my constituents all the time. Now I have a Facebook page and I update it daily. Most of the time I just let people know what I'm up to, but sometimes I'll post those hard-hitting questions that demands the public's input.

I believe that everyone has valuable input and bright ideas to bring to the table and this is just the venue for me to be able to allow people to do that. If you have a Facebook profile, and you have some time, why don't you stop by my page and see what I'm up to?



HEALTH CORNER



A few health tips to help you live smarter and feel better.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE SWINE FLU?

Officials are preparing for a resurgence of H1N1, more popularly known as the “swine flu.” With children gearing up and returning to school, it is important to remind them to wash their hands, use hand sanitizer, and to cover their mouths when they sneeze or cough.

WORD OF THE WEEK

“There are different kinds of justice. Retributive justice is largely Western. The African understanding is far more restorative - not so much to punish as to redress or restore a balance that has been knocked askew.”

Desmond Tutu

-POSITION AVAILABLE-

My office has a position opening in the State Capitol office for a Research & Policy Advisor with duties to clerk the standing Committee on Judiciary, Corrections, Insurance, Campaign Finance Reform & Housing.

Qualified applicants will:

- Have working experience in and about Wisconsin State Government
- Be knowledgeable about the issues over which the committee has jurisdiction
- Experienced in Microsoft applications
- Ability to quickly learn legislative applications and procedure
- Have strong written and oral communication skills

A legal background and/or capitol experience is preferred, but not necessary. This is a full-time, benefitted position which provides competitive compensation, commensurate with experience, and on the job training.

TO APPLY:

Send cover letter, resume, and writing sample to:

Eric Peterson, Chief of Staff, Office of Senator Taylor, eric.peterson@legis.wisconsin.gov

No phone calls, please. **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS – Thursday, September 24th, 2009 5pm**

-Senate Returns to Work this Week-

The Senate returned to work on the floor this past Tuesday as we began the fall floor-period in the Legislature. The Senate has an ambitious agenda facing it that includes expansive work on health care, education, transit funding, work on drunk driving, and much more.

The first session day included some big steps to pass an increase in the homestead exemption for those facing bankruptcy from \$40,000 to \$75,000. In addition, the Senate took the first step to declare Juneteenth Day a legal holiday in the state, and we increased the fines for violators of the Do Not Call list.

This session extends through early May. While it seems like a long time, there will be few days that we are on the floor. I encourage you to keep watching the Senate and Assembly as see what good things we are doing before the session ends.

-September is Juror Appreciation Month-

September is Juror Appreciation Month in Wisconsin. Supreme Court Chief Justice, Shirley Abrahamson, proclaimed the month of September a time to celebrate the service of jurors around the state for the time and dedication citizens give to juries. As in years past, the Legislature, will add their voice of appreciation in thanking jurors for their service.

Along with Rep Joe Parisi (D-Madison) and Rep. Gary Hebl (D-Sun Prairie), I have authored a joint resolution to thank jurors for the service. The idea that guilt or innocence can only be determined by a jury is a foundational idea in the justice system we all know. In fact the right to jury trial enshrined in the law, goes back to the medieval England days when the nobles forced King John to sign the Magna Carta in 1215 at a place called Runnymede. Article 39 reads:

“No freeman shall be taken, or imprisoned, or disseized, or outlawed, or exiled, or in any way harmed — nor will we go upon or send upon him — save by lawful judgement of his peers or by the law of the land”

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Community Events

What: CAR SHOW!
When: August 22 and 23
Where: Veteran's Park, 1010 Lincoln Memorial Drive
Info: A full weekend of automotive events, with rare and unique people from around the world. American Muscle Cars, European Sports Cars, and rare Exotic cars will be on display. Visit milwaukee-masterpiece.com for ticket information.

What: Tribute to Les Paul
When: Friday, Aug 21, 10-2
Where: Discovery World
Info: Members of Milwaukee are invited to come pay their respects to Les Paul, the "Wizard of Waukesha." The Les Paul's House of Sound exhibit will be open during the services. Discovery World will also show his final concert.

If an organization you belong to has an event you feel should be included in the Community Events section please [e-mail](mailto:eric.peterson@legis.wisconsin.gov) me.

Do you have a computer? **Do you need help with food, prescriptions, or other services?** Use www.access.wi.gov to see if you and your family are eligible for a variety of state-sponsored services designed to assist citizens in procuring essential resources.

Useful Resources

Child Support Enforcement 414-278-5160	Elderlink 414-289-6874	Governor Doyle 414-227-4344
Employment Ways to Work Program 414-906-2820	Senior Care Insurance 1-800-657-208	Senior Law (414) 278-1222 (414) 278-7722
Energy Assistance 414-906-2800	Rent Assistance 414-286-5678	Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups Prescription Drug Assistance 1-866-456-8211
Food Assistance 414-733-0211	Bureau of Child Welfare 414-220-SAFE	City of Wauwatosa 414-479-8900
GED Program 414-264-6888	W-2 1-800-722-2295	City of Glendale 414-228-1700
Badger Care Insurance 1-800-362-3002	Milwaukee Common Council 414-286-2221	SENATE CONTACTS Sergeant-at-Arms Office 608-266-1801
Milwaukee County Economic Support 414-289-6000	US Congresswoman Gwen Moore 414-297-1140	Human Resources 608-264-8471
Wisconsin Foreclosure Hotline 414-278-1240	US Senator Russ Feingold 414-276-7282	Senate Chief Clerk's Office 608-266-2517
Medicaid 1-800-291-2002	US Senator Herb Kohl 414-297-4451	