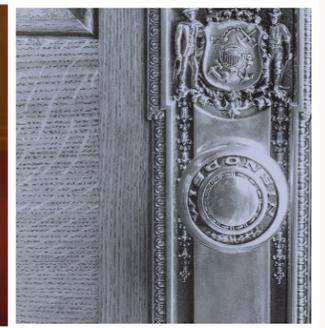
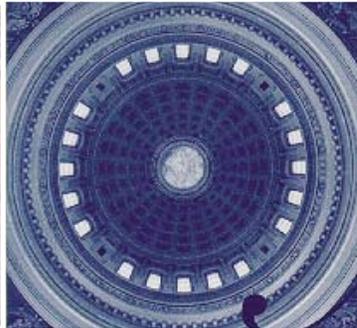
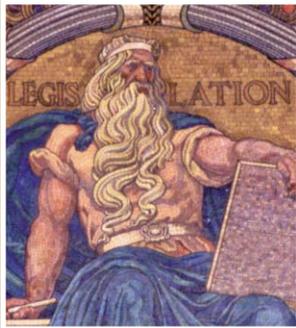


WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE VOTING RECORD



for the 2007-08 legislative session

2007-2008



INTRODUCTION

The Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce (WMC) is a voluntary business association whose primary mission is to advance public policies that help build a stronger economy for our families, our communities, and Wisconsin's future.

Every two years, the WMC Board of Directors develops a proactive legislative agenda to serve as a blueprint for policymakers whose goal is to grow Wisconsin's economy. WMC's team of lawyers, policy experts, and public relations professionals work to advance this agenda through the biennial legislative cycle by working with legislators in both houses and the Governor. At the same time, they work to ensure that harmful legislation — raising taxes, or imposing unnecessary new regulation — is defeated.

The following is a report on the outcome of the 2007-2008 biennial legislative session, including a roll call showing how members of the Senate and Assembly voted on the key issues.

100% PRO-BUSINESS LEGISLATORS

WMC's proactive legislative agenda is a blueprint for improving Wisconsin's business climate which will help grow our economy and create new jobs. The following is a list of legislators who have a 100% voting record on WMC issues. They clearly understand the connection between a strong economy and the quality of life we enjoy in Wisconsin. We salute these 100% pro-business legislators — they deserve our thanks and support.

Senator Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau)
Senator Ted Kanavas (R-Brookfield)
Senator Neal Kedzie (R-Elkhorn)
Senator Mary Lazich (R-New Berlin)
Representative Joan Ballweg (R-Markesan)
Representative Brett Davis (R-Oregon)
Representative Jeff Fitzgerald (R-Horicon)
Representative Mark Gottlieb (R-Port Washington)
Representative Mark Gundrum (R-New Berlin)
Representative Eugene Hahn (R-Cambria)
Representative J.A. Hines (R-Oxford)
Representative Mark Honadel (R-S. Milwaukee)
Representative Mike Huebsch (R-West Salem)
Representative Suzanne Jeskewitz (R-Menomonee Falls)
Representative Dean Kaufert (R-Neenah)
Representative Thomas Lothian (R-Williams Bay)

Representative Dan Meyer (R-Eagle River)
Representative Terry Moulton (R-Chippewa Falls)
Representative Jeffrey Mursau (R-Crivitz)
Representative John Murtha (R-Baldwin)
Representative Terry Musser (R-Black River Falls)
Representative Lee Nerison (R-Westby)
Representative Al Ott (R-Forest Junction)
Representative Carol Owens (R-Oshkosh)
Representative Jerry Petrowski (R-Marathon)
Representative Kitty Rhoades (R-Hudson)
Representative Roger Roth (R-Appleton)
Representative Jeff Stone (R-Greendale)
Representative Scott Suder (R-Abbotsford)
Representative John Townsend (R-Fond du Lac)
Representative Leah Vukmir (R-Wauwatosa)
Representative Steve Wieckert (R-Appleton)



KEY TO SYMBOLS

Each Senate and Assembly bill used in the ratings is described separately and is identified by a number that corresponds to the numbers at the top of the columns of tabular information.

Supported our position	✓
Opposed our position	✗
Did not vote	-

The percentage calculations were made using only ✓ and ✗.

Note: Representatives Gundrum (AD 83) and Roth were (AD 56) deployed to Iraq for a large part of the session and, therefore, were not present to vote.

ASSEMBLY

1) STATE CO₂ CAPS – AB 157

This bill gives DNR broad authority to regulate carbon dioxide emissions from businesses and electric utilities. It requires a reduction to 1990 CO₂ levels by the year 2020. This unique Wisconsin regulation would lead to higher electric rates, and a competitive disadvantage for many manufacturing sectors, especially the pulp and paper industry. There currently is no known technology to control CO₂ emissions. The vote recorded is to withdraw from committee. **WMC Position: Oppose Withdrawal from Committee.**

2) VIDEO COMPETITION – AB 207

Prior law required video service providers (such as cable companies) to negotiate franchise agreements municipality-by-municipality. Such agreements generally required cable companies to pay franchise fees and to carry public access channels. Under AB 207, a video service provider will have to enter into just one franchise agreement, at the state level. Video service providers will continue to pay municipalities a franchise fee and would continue to be required to carry public access channels. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

3) SEX OFFENDERS IN THE WORKPLACE – AB 260

This bill would permit an employer to refuse to employ or to terminate from employment an individual who has been convicted of a sex offense or a violent offense. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

4) NUCLEAR POWER PLANT MORATORIUM REPEAL – AB 346

This bill repeals Wisconsin's virtual moratorium on the construction of new nuclear power plants. Under AB 346, the Wisconsin Public Service Commission could approve construction of a new nuclear power plant, subject to strict economic and environmental scrutiny. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

5) HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT DEDUCTION – AB 47

This bill provides a state tax exemption for contributions to health savings accounts. Such accounts are currently exempt from federal taxes. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

6) REMOVE DNR ACCOUNTABILITY – AB 504

This bill insulates the DNR's top decisionmaker from the scrutiny of elected officials by allowing the unelected Natural Resources Board to select the DNR Secretary, instead of the Governor. The vote recorded is to withdraw from committee. **WMC Position: Oppose Withdrawal from Committee.**

7) EDUCATION TAX CREDIT FOR BUSINESSES – AB 67

This bill creates an income tax and franchise tax credit for businesses that pay tuition for an individual to attend a university, college, or technical college. The credit is equal to 50% of the tuition paid by a business for an individual to attend school in a taxable year, if the individual is enrolled in a degree-granting program; and 75% of the tuition paid by a business for an individual to attend school in a taxable year, if the individual is enrolled in a degree granting program and if the individual's taxable income is not more than 185% of the federal poverty line. If the credit claimed by a business exceeds the business's tax liability, the state will not issue a refund check, but the business may carry forward any remaining credit to subsequent taxable years. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

8) E25 ETHANOL MANDATE – AB 682

This bill initially requires that all gasoline be blended with 10% ethanol, and then ratchets up to a 25% ethanol mandate over time. It requires the fuel industry to purchase "credits" to reach mandated levels if they cannot sell the required amount of ethanol, resulting in significant market distortions and consumer price hikes. The vote recorded is to withdraw from committee. **WMC Position: Oppose Withdrawal from Committee.**

9) CREATING AN INCOME & FRANCHISE TAX CREDIT FOR ELIGIBLE INNOVATION PROJECTS & PROJECT FACILITIES – AB 696

This bill creates an income and franchise tax credit that is equal to 75% of the costs paid in a taxable year related to creating, operating, or maintaining an eligible innovation project or facility. The amount that a claimant may claim in any taxable year may not exceed \$500,000; and the total amount of all claims in each year may not exceed \$10,000,000. The bill defines an eligible innovation project as any real property, tangible personal property, or intangible property related to a new product or process that is based on new technology or the creative application of existing technology. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

How They Voted

10) TAX DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS – AB 751

This bill requires publicly traded corporations to submit annual statements to the Department of Revenue (DOR) with information including total gross income, total business income apportioned to this state, and total deductions for management services, fees, rents, royalties, interest, and license fees paid to an affiliated entity. The information contained in the statement would be considered a public record and available to anyone. The bill also requires DOR to publish the information and put it on the internet. The vote recorded is to withdraw from committee. **WMC Position: Oppose Withdrawal from Committee.**

11) INCREASED GARBAGE TAXES – AB 76

This bill would more than triple the current garbage tax from \$3 per ton to \$10 per ton. The corresponding \$48 million annual tax increase would fall predominantly on the backs of Wisconsin businesses and homeowners. The current level of taxation generates a large surplus, so a tax increase is unwarranted. The vote recorded is to withdraw from committee. **WMC Position: Oppose Withdrawal from Committee.**

12) INCOME TAX CREDIT AND PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR RESEARCH – AB 770

This bill allows corporations claim an income and franchise tax credit equal to the amount of their qualified research expenses in the taxable year for research conducted in this state that exceeds the amount equal to the average amount of the corporation's qualified research expenses in the previous three taxable years multiplied by 1.25. If the credit claimed by a corporation exceeds the corporation's tax liability, the state will not issue a refund, but the corporation may carry forward any remaining credit to five subsequent taxable years. AB 770 also creates a property tax exemption and a sales and use tax exemption for machinery and other tangible personal property used for qualified research by persons engaged primarily in manufacturing or biotechnology in this state. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

13) HEALTH CARE PRICE TRANSPARENCY – AB 872

This bill would require healthcare providers to provide patients with charge estimates, should the patient request, for services, tests and procedures. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

14) CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PRESERVING THE RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO PRIVATELY CONTRACT FOR HEALTHCARE SERVICES – AJR 106

This constitutional amendment would protect the right of citizens to privately contract for healthcare services and would prohibit the state from requiring any citizen from participating in a government-run healthcare plan. The vote recorded is on adoption. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

15) CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROTECTING SEGREGATED FUND INTEGRITY – AJR 34

This constitutional amendment would prohibit transferring dollars from a state fund, such as the Transportation Fund, and spending the dollars for purposes other than for which they were collected. The vote recorded is on adoption. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

16) CAUSE OF ACTION IN COURT & PUNITIVE DAMAGES FOR WISCONSIN FAIR EMPLOYMENT ACT CASES – SB 165

This bill would allow compensatory and punitive damages for all Wisconsin Fair Employment Act (WFEA) claims, and exposes employers to both the Equal Rights Division administrative process AND circuit courts in defending WFEA claims, and all of the costs associated with those processes. The vote recorded is to withdraw from committee. **WMC Position: Oppose Withdrawal from Committee.**

17) HEALTHCARE INSURANCE MANDATE FOR AUTISM THERAPY – SB 178

This bill creates a new healthcare insurance mandate, requiring health insurance policies sold in Wisconsin to cover treatment for autism, Asperger's syndrome, and pervasive developmental disorders not otherwise specified. Coverage would have to be provided for treatment by a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker certified to practice psychotherapy, or a paraprofessional working under the supervision of any of these. Health insurance mandates drive up the cost of employer-sponsored health insurance plans. The vote recorded is to table. **WMC Position: Support Tabling.**

18) PHOSPHOROUS FERTILIZER BAN – SB 197

This bill, with very limited exceptions, bans the sale and use of fertilizer containing phosphorous. The bill also prohibits retailers from displaying fertilizer containing phosphorous in their stores, even in cases where it is lawful to sell. The vote recorded is withdraw from committee. **WMC Position: Oppose Withdrawal from Committee.**

ASSEMBLY

19) BUDGET BILL: ELIMINATING TAX INCREASES – SB 40, ASA 1

The budget passed by the Senate included several major tax increases included in the Governor's bill, including a gross receipts tax on oil companies, an increase in the real estate transfer fee, elimination of local property tax limits, and the elimination of the qualified economic offer for teacher arbitration. The Senate also added a 14% payroll tax to fund government run healthcare and imposed combined reporting for corporate income taxation. Tax increases in the Senate budget exceeded \$18 billion, and assembly substitute amendment 1 eliminated all tax increases. The vote recorded is on adoption.

20) UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS – SB 431

This bill adjusts the taxable wage base for all Wisconsin employers and shifts revenues to the systems' solvency fund. The bill increases the amount of time that UI claimants must have worked in order to qualify for unemployment insurance benefits, and also freezes UI benefit levels at current levels until 2009. The vote recorded is on concurrence.

Issue Number:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
Bill Number:	AB 157	AB 207	AB 260	AB 346	AB 47	AB 504	AB 67	AB 682	AB 696	AB 751	AB 76	AB 770	AB 872	AJR 106	AJR 34	SB 165	SB 178	SB 197	SB 40/1	SB 431		
Preferred Position:	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Score	
Albers, Sheryl (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	95%
Ballwea, Joan (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Benedict, Chuck (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	15%	
Berceau, Terese (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	25%	
Bies, Garey (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	95%
Black, Spencer (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	25%	
Bovle, Frank (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10%	
Colon, Pedro (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	15%	
Cullen, David (D)	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	25%	
Davis, Brett (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Fields, Jason (D)	✗	✓	✗	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✗	✗	✓	-	✗	✓	✗	-	✗	✗	✓	25%	
Fitzgerald, Jeff (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Friske, Donald (R)	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	90%
Garthwaite, Phil (D)	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	35%	
Gottlieb, Mark (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Griqsbv, Tamara (D)	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	25%	
Gronemus, Barbara (D)	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗		✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	20%	
Gunderson, Scott (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	95%

How They Voted

Issue Number:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
Bill Number:	AB 157	AB 207	AB 260	AB 346	AB 47	AB 504	AB 67	AB 682	AB 696	AB 751	AB 76	AB 770	AB 872	AJR 106	AJR 34	SB 165	SB 178	SB 197	SB 40/1	SB 431		
Preferred Position:	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Score	
Gundrum, Mark (R)	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	-	100%	
Hahn, Eugene (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Hebl, Gary (D)	✗	✗	✗	-	-	-	-	-	✗	✗	✗	✓	-	✗	✗	✗	-	✗	✗	✓	10%	
Hilgenberg, Steve (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	-	✓	20%	
Hines, J. A. (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Hintz, Gordon (D)	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	30%	
Hixson, Kim (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	20%	
Honadel, Mark (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Hraychuck, Ann (D)	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	35%	
Hubler, Marv (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	30%	
Huebsch, Michael (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Jeskewitz, Suzanne (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Jorgensen, Andy (D)	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	35%	
Kaufert, Dean (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Kerkman, Samantha (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	95%
Kessler, Frederick (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	5%	
Kestell, Steve (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	95%
Kleefisch, Joel (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	95%	

Note: Representatives Gundrum (AD 83) and Roth were (AD 56) deployed to Iraq for a large part of the session and, therefore, were not present to vote.

How They Voted

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Preferred Position:	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Score	
Ott, Alvin (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Ott, Jim (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	95%
Owens, Carol (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Parisi, Joseph (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10%
Petersen, Kevin (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	95%
Petrowski, Jerv (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Pocan, Mark (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	-	✓	15%
Pope-Roberts, SONDY (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	20%
Pridemore, Don (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	95%
Rhoades, Kittv (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Richards, Jon (D)	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	20%
Roth, Roger (R)	-	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-	-	100%
Schneider, Marlin (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	10%
Seidel, Donna (D)	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	25%
Sheridan, Mike (D)	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	30%
Sherman, Gary (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	15%
Shilling, Jennifer (D)	✗	✓	-	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	35%
Sinicki, Christine (D)	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	-	✓	20%
Smith, Jeff (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	15%

Note: Representatives Gundrum (AD 83) and Roth were (AD 56) deployed to Iraq for a large part of the session and, therefore, were not present to vote.

SENATE

1) VIDEO COMPETITION – AB 207

Prior law required video service providers (such as cable companies) to negotiate franchise agreements municipality-by-municipality. Such agreements generally required cable companies to pay franchise fees and to carry public access channels. Under AB 207, a video service provider will have to enter into just one franchise agreement, at the state level. Video service providers will continue to pay municipalities a franchise fee and would continue to be required to carry public access channels. The vote recorded is on concurrence. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

2) STATE MINIMUM WAGE – SB 130

This bill increases state minimum wage from \$6.50 per hour to \$7.25 per hour, and indexes the rate as of September 1, 2008. The vote recorded is on passage.

WMC Position: Oppose Passage.

3) CLAIMS FOR LOSS OF SOCIETY & COMPANIONSHIP – SB 138

This bill expands the eligibility for recovery for loss of society and companionship in medical malpractice claims to include recovery between adult children and their parents. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Oppose Passage.**

4) REMOVE DNR ACCOUNTABILITY – SB 15

This bill insulates the DNR's top decisionmaker from the scrutiny of elected officials by allowing the unelected Natural Resources Board to select the DNR Secretary, instead of the Governor. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Oppose Passage.**

5) CAUSE OF ACTION IN COURT & PUNITIVE DAMAGES FOR WISCONSIN FAIR EMPLOYMENT ACT CASES – SB 165

This bill would allow compensatory and punitive damages for all Wisconsin Fair Employment Act (WFEA) claims, and exposes employers to both the Equal Rights Division administrative process AND circuit courts in defending WFEA claims, and all of the costs associated with those processes. The vote recorded is on passage.

WMC Position: Oppose Passage.

6) HEALTHCARE INSURANCE MANDATE FOR AUTISM THERAPY – SB 178

This bill creates a new healthcare insurance mandate, requiring health insurance policies sold in Wisconsin to cover treatment for autism, Asperger's syndrome, and pervasive developmental disorders not otherwise specified. Coverage would have to be provided for treatment by a psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker certified to practice psychotherapy, or a paraprofessional working under the supervision of any of these. Health insurance mandates drive up the cost of employer-sponsored health insurance plans. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Oppose Passage.**

7) BUDGET BILL: GOVERNMENT-RUN HEALTH CARE – SB 40

The Senate Democrat budget included a government-run health care proposal, funded by a new 14.5% payroll tax. This would have raised state taxes by \$15.2 billion annually, nearly \$3 billion more than what Wisconsin currently collects in sales taxes, individual income taxes, corporate income taxes, public utility taxes, cigarette and tobacco products taxes, liquor and wine taxes, beer taxes, and estate taxes. The plan would have been administered by a gubernatorially-appointed board of directors that would have had the power to set the tax rate, determine eligibility, determine benefits, and establish cost-containment measures such as limiting access to care and new technologies. The plan lacked a requirement that the able-bodied work to help pay for benefits, or that beneficiaries be legally present in the United States. The vote recorded is on passage.

WMC Position: Oppose Passage.

8) BUDGET BILL: ELIMINATE GROSS RECEIPTS TAX ON OIL COMPANIES – SB 40, SA 5 to SSA 1

The Senate Democrat budget included a modified version of the Governor's proposed the 2.5% tax on oil company gross receipts. The Senate version creates a graduated scale of rates at which gross receipts would be assessed based on each supplier's annual amount of gross receipts during each state fiscal year, rather than assessing all gross receipts at 2.5%. At peak summer of 2007 gasoline prices, the tax would be over 8-cents per gallon of gasoline. SA 5 to SSA 1 would have eliminated this new tax on gas. The vote recorded is to table the amendment. **WMC Position: Oppose Tabling Amendment.**

9) BUDGET BILL: PATIENT'S COMPENSATION FUND RAID – SB 40, SA 7 to SSA 1

The Senate Democrat budget included the Governor's proposed \$175 million transfer from the Patients Compensation Fund to help pay for other spending. According to the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance, this fund, created to help compensate medical malpractice victims, has total assets of \$750 million and total liabilities of \$690 million. SA 7 to SSA 1 would have eliminated the Patients Compensation Fund raid. The vote recorded is to table the amendment. **WMC Position: Oppose Tabling Amendment.**

10) BUDGET BILL: ELIMINATE TRANSPORTATION FUND RAIDS – SB 40, SA 8 to SSA 1

The Senate Democrat budget included the first year of the Governor's proposed conversion of 16 existing appropriations from the General Fund to the Transportation Fund. The Senate Democrat budget included the first year of the Governor's proposed use of the Transportation Fund to pay the debt service on some Federal Fund-issued bonds. The Senate Democrat budget included the Governor's proposal to pay \$55 million in pupil transportation aids from the Transportation Fund, instead of the General Fund. SA 8 to SSA 1 would have eliminated the Transportation Fund transfers and, instead, have maintained the integrity of the Transportation Fund. The vote recorded is to table the amendment. **WMC Position: Oppose Tabling Amendment.**

How They Voted

11) PENALTIES FOR EMPLOYING ILLEGAL ALIENS – SB 404

Under this bill, any company that has hired illegal aliens is, for a period of seven years, ineligible to 1) receive any income or franchise tax credit or property tax exemption; 2) enter into a contract with the state or a local governmental unit for the construction, remodeling, or repair of a public work or building, or for the furnishing of supplies, services, equipment, or material of any kind; and 3) receive any grants or loans from a local governmental unit. Given the difficulty of determining the status of prospective employees, the bill's penalties are overly harsh. The vote recorded is on passage.

WMC Position: Oppose Passage.

12) WORKERS COMPENSATION – SB 430

This reform legislation includes modest increases in benefits for injured and disabled workers. It clarifies the legal rights of temporary workers, provided by multiple employers, who are working at the same work site. The vote recorded is on passage.

WMC Position: Support Passage.

13) UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS – SB 431

This legislation adjusts the taxable wage base for all Wisconsin employers, and shifts revenues to the system's solvency fund. The bill increases the amount of time that UI claimants must have worked in order to qualify for unemployment insurance benefits, and also freezes UI benefit levels at current levels until 2009. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Support Passage.**

14) COMBINED REPORTING – SB 510

This bill requires combined reporting for corporate income taxation, as part of the Senate Democrat caucus economic development package. The Legislative Fiscal Bureau estimates combined reporting to increase corporate income taxes by more than \$90 million annually. The bill also included various other initiatives, some supported and some opposed by the business community. Combined reporting, however, is the most significant piece, as it would impose taxes on income earned outside of Wisconsin. The vote recorded is on passage. **WMC Position: Oppose Passage.**

SENATE

Issue Number:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Bill Number:	AB 207	SB 130	SB 138	SB 15	SB 165	SB 178	SB 40	SB 40/5/1	SB 40/7/1	SB 40/8/1	SB 404	SB 430	SB 431	SB 510	
Preferred Position:	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Score
Carpenter, Tim (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	14%
Coggs, Spencer (D)	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	28%
Cowles, Robert (R)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	85%
Darling, Alberta (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	92%
Decker, Russell (D)	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	21%
Ellis, Michael (R)	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	78%
Erpenbach, Jon (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	14%
Fitzgerald, Scott (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Grothman, Glenn (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	92%
Hansen, Dave (D)	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	21%
Harsdorf, Sheila (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	85%
Jauch, Robert (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	14%
Kanavas, Theodore (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-	✓	100%
Kapanke, Dan (R)	✓	✗	✓	✗	-	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	76%
Kedzie, Neal (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Kreitlow, Pat (D)	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	21%
Lasee, Alan (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	92%
Lassa, Julie (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	-	-	✗	0%

How They Voted

Issue Number:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Bill Number:	AB 207	SB 130	SB 138	SB 15	SB 165	SB 178	SB 40	SB 40/5/1	SB 40/7/1	SB 40/8/1	SB 404	SB 430	SB 431	SB 510	
Preferred Position:	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Score
Lazich, Mary (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	100%
Lehman, John (D)	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	21%
Leibham, Joe (R)	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	92%
Miller, Mark (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	21%
Olsen, Luther (R)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	85%
Plale, Jeffrey (D)	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	21%
Risser, Fred (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	21%
Robson, Judith (D)	✗	-	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	15%
Schultz, Dale (R)	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	92%
Sullivan, Jim (D)	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	21%
Taylor, Lena (D)	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	21%
Vinehout, Kathleen (D)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	14%
Wirch, Robert (D)	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	21%

* Senators Breske and Roessler not listed due to retirement.