



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
ROBERT BROOKS

60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



March 16, 2015

A Note from Rep. Brooks

We are at the juncture in this legislative session when the legislature gets to review Governor Walker's budget proposal for year 2015-2017. My staff and I are currently in the process of reviewing the 1,800 page document and drafting amendments to improve upon the proposal.

There will be a series of statewide budget listening sessions coming up in the next few weeks. Additionally, I am in the of finalizing budget listening sessions here in the 60th district. As those dates, times, and locations become available, I will keep you abreast. The aforementioned statewide listening sessions will be held at the following locations:

Wednesday, March 18, 2015 (10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.). Brillion High School, Endries Performing Arts Center, W1101 County Road HR, Brillion, WI.

Friday, March 20, 2015 (10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.). Alverno College, Pitman Theater, 3400 South 43rd Street, Milwaukee, WI.

Thursday, March 26, 2015 (9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.). Reedsburg High School, CAL Center Auditorium, 1100 South Albert Street, Reedsburg, WI.

Additionally, I will be participating in two listening sessions on Monday, March 31, 2015 with United States Representative Jim Sensenbrenner.

The first listening session will be held at the **Newburg Village Hall, 614 Main Street, Newburg, from 9:00-10:00 A.M.**

The second will be held at the **Jackson Village Hall, N168W20733 Main Street, Jackson, from 1:00-2:00 P.M.**

As always, please contact my office regarding your concerns or questions. I value the input of every constituent.

Have a great week.



At a press conference with my Republican colleagues announcing the Assembly GOP's decision to take up right-to-work.

This week in Madison

Since our last e-update, Wisconsin became the twenty-fifth state to adopt right-to-work legislation. I supported this legislation for a number of reasons. First, freedom, liberty and the right to assemble have been cornerstones of our republic since the Constitution's ratification in 1789. In fact, the right to assemble is enshrined in that seminal document's First Amendment, part of the Bill of Rights which was ratified in 1791. As such, I am an ardent supporter of affording workers with the right to decide whether or not they want to join a union.

Second, It is my belief that in a free society, workers alone should make the choice as to whether or not they want to join a union.

Finally, upon conducting extensive research and reading innumerable policy papers penned by scholars on both sides of the issue, I realize that this legislation creates jobs, does nothing to dismantle labor unions and creates worker autonomy. The nonpartisan Congressional Research Service, in an engrossing empirically-based study entitled: Right-to-work laws:

Legislative Background and Empirical Research, found that between 2001 and 2011 (the most readily available data), employment-to-work states increased by 3.6 percent whereas in states with forced unionization, the number of new jobs created declined by 2.5 percent.

In addition to debating right-to-work, I had the opportunity to meet with leaders from the UW System, Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, and Wisconsin Technical College System to discuss the impact that Governor Walker's proposed budget cuts would have on their member institutions. These were excellent conversations and a lot of progress was made.

I also had the privilege of meeting and conversing with thirty-eight students from Port Washington high school.



Meeting with students from Mr. Brian Borley's Civics and American Government class at Port Washington School.



Additionally, it was a pleasure to welcome to the capitol, members of the local farm bureau. We had a substantive discussion on agriculture policy and the impact Governor Walker's proposed budget would have on the industry.

This week in the 60th District

This week, I had the opportunity to participate in the *It Can Wait* campaign, organized by Cedarburg High School. At this event, nearly 650 Cedarburg High School students learned about the dangers of sending text messages while driving and were urged to take the pledge to never text while behind the wheel.

Even though Wisconsin currently has a ban on text messaging while driving, many people are still sending messages while behind the wheel. Through efforts like the *It Can Wait* campaign, we hope to spread the message about the dangers to our young people and encourage them to take the pledge.

Nationally, this campaign has inspired more than six million pledges to never text and drive, and one-in-three people who have seen the text messaging while driving message say they have changed their driving habits.

Did you know that text messaging while driving causes more than 200,000 crashes on American roads every year?

Wisconsin's law, as of December 1, 2010, prohibits sending an e-mail or text message while driving and imposes a fine of up to \$400. As a primary enforcement law, officers may stop and ticket drivers solely for text messaging while driving.

Wisconsin is one of forty-one states that has banned text messaging while driving.

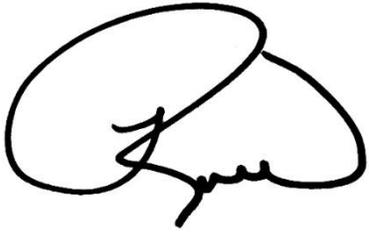


Speaking to students at Cedarburg High School about the dangers of texting while driving.



Meeting with community members and Cedarburg High School students and faculty who helped organize the *It Can Wait* campaign.

Have a great week,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Brooks", enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

As always, if you have any comments or thoughts regarding the subject of this E-update, please feel free to contact me.

If you would like to be removed from future mailings, email me and ask to unsubscribe.

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