



Bob Ziegelbauer

Ziegelbauer has been elected to the Assembly since 1992. He is a former City of Manitowoc finance director and small businessman, owning a retail music store. He was born in Manitowoc on Aug. 26, 1951.

Support 1. **OWI felony: Do you support lowering the felony OWI from 5th offense to 3rd offense?**

Undecided 2. **Ignition interlocks: Legislators have promised to introduce a bill that would require an ignition interlock for anyone who has more than .16 blood alcohol content. Do you support or oppose this idea?**
I would support expanded use of ignition interlock in a way that gives more discretion to the courts rather than making it mandatory for all of a broad class of cases.

Opposed 3. **Bar specials: Twenty-three states have banned all-you-can drink bar specials. Wisconsin is not among them. Should the state ban all-you-can-drink bar specials?**
This prohibition is not necessary. As there has been growing societal awareness of the issues associated with excessive alcohol use these specials have fallen out of favor on their own without the need for government action prohibiting them. This is preferable to a governmental mandate.

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- Undecided** **4. OWI criminal offense: Wisconsin is the only state in America that does not treat the first OWI as a criminal offense. Should first OWI be a criminal offense in Wisconsin?**
Making the first offense a felony offense would be too punitive too soon. However I would support alternatives which give the courts more options for extended supervision after the first offense which would result in more opportunities for more penalties and direct accountability by the offender to the court during the time immediately after the conviction for the first offense.
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- Support** **5. Mandatory prison time: Should 5th time offenders convicted of felony OWI receive mandatory prison time?**
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- Opposed** **6. Beer tax: Wisconsin hasn't raised its beer tax since 1969, and the tax rate is among the lowest in the country. Do you support any increase in the beer tax rate?**
I am unalterably opposed to raising this tax. It would be incredibly regressive - falling disproportionately on the lower income earners - just as the massive increase in the cigarette tax currently is. Increasing taxes on the poor is NOT the answer. I'm troubled that the knee jerk reaction to too many of the challenges we face is to try to find a way to raise a tax to affect behavior. Our problem is definitely NOT that taxes are too low. We should stop seeming to look to raise taxes as the first option every time we encounter a challenging issue that we want to mobilize government on.
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- Opposed** **7. Sobriety checkpoints: MADD's national president recently called for Wisconsin to allow roadside sobriety checkpoints. Would you support this change?**
I support increased enforcement efforts in this area but they should not be done in a way that potentially undermines basic individual rights.
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- Undecided** **8. Drinking age: Some college presidents have called for reducing the drinking age. Do you support lowering the drinking age from 21 to 18 if doing so would not cost Wisconsin any federal transportation funds?**
While I do not expect that there will be a widespread desire to move in the direction of an 18 year old drinking age anytime in the foreseeable future, I hope we have the courage to embark on a community-wide discussion of this option rather than simply rejecting it immediately out of hand. I believe we can learn a lot by examining how our society dealt with all of these issues as we went through the massive societal changes of the 60's, 70's and 80's. During that time we evolved from a split drinking age (18 for beer, and 21 for other alcohol) to a drinking age of 18 and then 19, before the national move to a 21 year old drinking age for all alcoholic beverages.

If you are a legislator and want to update your position on any issue, write to capitolconnect@journalssentinel.com

Info...

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