



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 · MADISON, WI 53708

November 16, 2011

The Honorable Herb Kohl
United State Senate
330 Hart Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510-4903

The Honorable Ron Johnson
United State Senate
386 Russell Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner
House of Representatives
2449 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515-4905

The Honorable Thomas E. Petri
House of Representatives
2462 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515-4906

The Honorable Ron Kind
House of Representatives
1406 Longworth House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515-4906

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
House of Representatives
2446 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515-4902

The Honorable Paul Ryan
House of Representatives
1233 Longworth House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gwendolyn S. Moore
House of Representatives
2245 Rayburn House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Reid Ribble
House of Representatives
1513 Longworth House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sean Duffy
House of Representatives
1208 Longworth House Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Members of Wisconsin's Congressional Delegation:

We strongly support the immediate passage of the federal American Jobs Act – a common-sense package of proposals that recognize the crisis of job losses in the states while adopting effective job-creation solutions that many of our states are already advancing.

In order to create and save jobs, we also urge that the following critical issues be addressed in any final federal jobs legislation:

- **Relief to state budgets that will create jobs.** States cannot afford more job-killing cuts. To avoid another recession, provisions in the American Jobs Act that allow for the hiring and retraining of teachers, police officers, and firefighters must be included in final



legislation to counteract the continuing jobs crisis in the states. Over 600,000 state and local public-sector jobs have been lost since the beginning of the recession, losses that economists agree have been one of the main drags on our national economic recovery.

- **Inclusion of job-creating revenue generating measures that ask all to pay their fair share.** After seeing firsthand the job losses that budget cuts at the state level have caused, we also strongly support measures in President Obama's plan that ensure the wealthy contribute their fair share to address federal deficit reduction in order to avoid further job-killing cuts at the federal level. At a time of historic income inequality, declining median wages, and increasing poverty, asking those who have benefitted the most to share in the sacrifice that so many working families have already made is the only fair and equitable solution to our nation's long-term deficit issues.
- **Adoption of innovative state policies to save and grow jobs.** The American Jobs Act incorporates some innovative state policies intended to protect workers, including the prevention of employer discrimination against the unemployed and allowing workers to keep their jobs while collecting partial unemployment benefits through worksharing. Even in the toxic environment of anti-worker attacks that marred many state legislative sessions this year, these two common-sense measures have gained bipartisan support in many states, and should be supported in Congress as well.
- **Cost shift to states in Medicaid.** We are concerned about the proposed cost shift to states included in the deficit reduction proposals – specifically the adjustments to Medicaid, which would reduce federal matching dollars to states and threaten to harm the health security of families when they need it most. Creating the conditions necessary to create jobs and rebuild prosperity, while making sure any additional burdens do not fall on those who have already sacrificed so much and who can least afford them, is the single most important thing Washington can do in order to address both the jobs crisis as well as state and federal budget deficits.

State economies are in desperate need of positive action from Washington, D.C. on jobs. The economic effects of not passing the American Jobs Act would be devastating -- both at kitchen tables and in statehouses around the nation. We urgently support the immediate passage of the American Jobs Act.

Sincerely,



Mark Pocan
State Representative, 78th District



Sondy Pope-Roberts
State Representative, 79th District

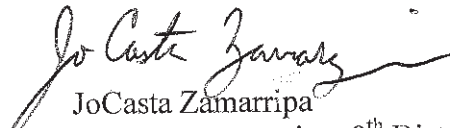


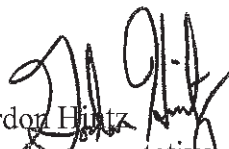
Robert Wirch
State Senator, 22nd District




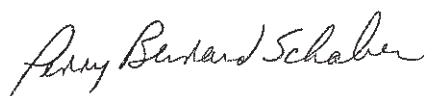
Sandy Pasch
State Representative, 22nd District



Leon Young
State Representative, 16th District

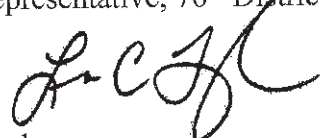

JoCasta Zamarripa
State Representative, 8th District



Gordon Hintz
State Representative, 54th District



Robert Turner
State Representative, 61st District



Penny Bernard Schaber
State Representative, 57th District



Terese Berceau
State Representative, 76th District



Lena Taylor
State Senator, 4th District


Jason Fields
State Representative, 11th District



Cory Mason
State Representative, 62nd District

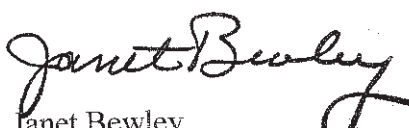

Louis Molepske, Jr.
State Representative, 71st District



Mark Miller
State Senator, 16th District

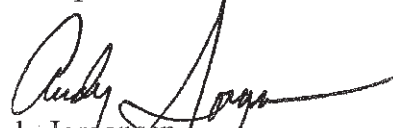

Chris Taylor
State Representative, 48th District

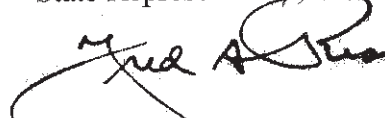

Brett Hulsey
State Representative, 77th District


Gary Hebl
State Representative, 46th District


Janet Bewley
State Representative, 74th District


Janis Ringhand
State Representative, 80th District


Andy Jorgensen
State Representative, 37th District


Fred Risser
State Senator, 26th District



Fred Kessler
State Representative, 12 District



Peter Barca
State Representative, 64th District



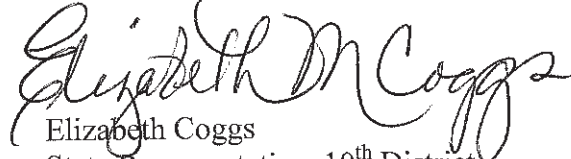
Kelda Roys
State Representative, 81st District



Spencer Coggs
State Senator, 6th District



Chris Larson
State Senator, 7th District



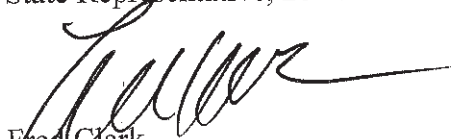
Elizabeth Coggs
State Representative, 10th District



Chris Sinicki
State Representative, 20th District



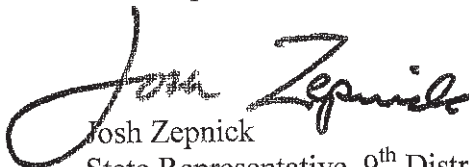
Dave Hansen
State Senator, 30th District



Fred Clark
State Representative, 42nd District



Tamara Grigsby
State Representative, 18th District



Josh Zepnick
State Representative, 9th District