

JIM STEINEKE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 5th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



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Rep. Steineke meets with Freedom Elementary students and teachers.

“If we want Wisconsin to remain a state where families choose to come and raise their kids, and a state where businesses want to locate, we must offer a top-notch education system. Extra investment in our children’s education will help Wisconsin remain competitive. Most importantly, it will help our students receive the best education they possibly can.”

-- Jim Steineke



E-Updates

Periodically I send out an E-update to constituents in the district to keep them informed regarding what is happening in Madison. Oftentimes we feature a section in our E-update asking for your input on a piece of legislation that is circulating throughout the Capitol for co-sponsorship, because we want you to have a voice. If you would like to stay informed please send me an e-mail.



Wisconsin State Capitol Tours

Our State Capitol building in Madison is the best in the nation. It has a rich history and a unique beauty that I encourage everyone to experience on a guided tour. Please let us know when you stop by. We would love to greet you and take a picture.

2016 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



State Representative JIM STEINEKE

Proudly representing the 5th Assembly District, which includes the communities of Kaukauna, Nichols, Black Creek, Seymour, Little Chute, Freedom, Cicero, Vandenbroek, Osborn, Oneida, Center and Ellington.



JIM STEINEKE

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Thank you for the honor of serving as your representative in the Wisconsin State Assembly. This past session has been full of accomplishments. Here’s a quick summary:

- Passed the state budget with no tax increases.
- Invested more money in public schools.
- Froze tuition for in-state college students.
- Preserved long-term care programs and SeniorCare.
- Held the line on property taxes.
- Cut fraud, waste and abuse in public benefit programs.
- Passed laws to combat heroin and opiate addiction.

These are just some of the many highlights that are positively impacting families in the 5th District and all across our state. I’m proud of the work that we’ve been able to accomplish, and I’m optimistic about the direction our state is headed. Our unemployment rate is at a 14-year low. The rate of our labor force is growing well above the national average and was 9th highest nationally in 2014. Our per capita income growth since 2007 has exceeded the nation’s and the region’s growth.

I rely on your input, so please keep communicating with me. If you have thoughts about this past session or ideas for next session, feel free to share them with me. I’m grateful for the opportunity to represent the great people of the 5th Assembly District, and I look forward to continuing to work together.

Best Regards,

Jim Steineke
State Representative
5th Assembly District

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[State Representative Jim Steineke](#)

RepSteineke.com
Sign up for E-Updates!

“I am committed to serving the 5th Assembly District, and I will continue to listen and gain your input when dealing with issues that have a direct impact on you.”

-- Jim Steineke



State Representative

JIM STEINEKE



FIGHTING WASTE, FRAUD AND ABUSE

A top priority this session was to reduce waste, fraud and abuse in government programs. That's why we passed laws to make sure taxpayer-funded benefits are used to help individuals who are most in need. Public benefits exist to help those who have fallen on hard times and need temporary taxpayer assistance. Sadly, some have taken advantage of the programs. Recent investigations have found millions of dollars in overpayments in the FoodShare and unemployment insurance programs.

PROTECTING TAXPAYER DOLLARS, FIGHTING WASTE, FRAUD AND ABUSE



My responsibility as your representative is to use taxpayer dollars wisely. Thanks to the Assembly's work on preserving the integrity of Wisconsin's safety-net programs, you can rest assured that your tax dollars are being spent on individuals who won't take advantage of them. Reforming welfare so it works for those who truly need it is a Wisconsin tradition that I am honored to continue.

Assembly OKs overhaul of civil service system

MOLLY BECK
WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL
MADISON - The Assembly passed sweeping changes to the state's civil service system...

Rep. Steineke applauds \$200 million in additional education funding

Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna) voiced his support in response to the Joint Finance Committee's decision to add extra funding to the state budget...

Rep. Steineke pleased about vote on SeniorCare

Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna) is happy about the Joint Finance Committee vote to remove the Senior Care changes Governor Walker included in his state budget...

REP. STEINEKE AUTHORS FREEDOM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BILL

The Town of Freedom is one of the fastest growing communities in Wisconsin. In order to make room for additional development, town officials approached me to sponsor legislation that authorizes the use of a Tax Incremental District (TID). I'm happy to report that this proposal became law, and now Freedom's industrial park will be able to keep expanding, bringing more jobs and economic development to the community.



TRANSPORTATION FUNDING REMAINS A TOP PRIORITY

One of the biggest challenges of the 2015-2016 legislative session was prioritizing spending in the state budget. Top on my list of spending priorities was transportation funding, which is why I was disappointed that Governor Walker used bonding as a way to pay for transportation projects. Going into debt to pay our bills is not a long-term solution because continued bonding means that our overall debt service increases. The more money directed to pay interest on our debt is less money to use on actual transportation projects. While the final budget bill did contain a decrease in the original amount of bonding, I am still advocating for a long-term solution based on finding new funding mechanisms, and streamlining our transportation spending. While I will always have reservations with any attempt to raise taxes or fees on Wisconsin residents, I believe that all options should be debated and analyzed.

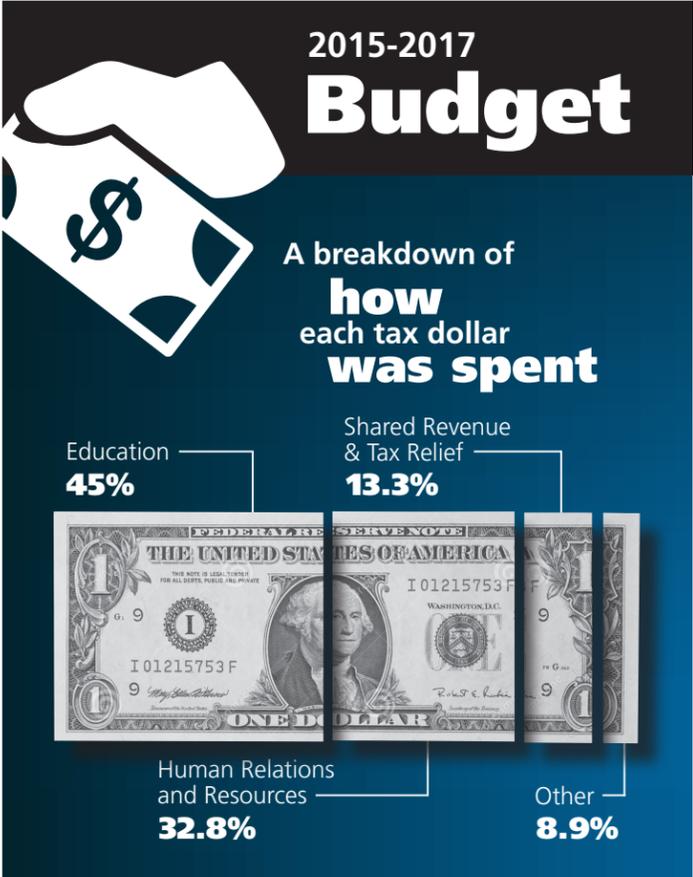
“Any serious discussion on transportation needs to include the necessity of making changes to ensure that every dollar spent on transportation is spent wisely. We need to maximize the impact of every tax dollar our constituents send to Madison.”

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION REFORMS

A legislative highlight during the 2015-2016 legislation session was passing the Recruitment and Retention Reform Act. This new law reforms Wisconsin's civil service laws by bringing them in line with the private sector's best practices. Now, the state's hiring process will be more efficient and top-quality employees can receive merit-pay bonuses. Actions that are cause for immediate dismissal are clearly defined in statute, and the appeals process has been streamlined.

Essentially this bill is about getting the best and the brightest to work for our great state. That was Governor La Follette's goal back in 1905 when he signed civil service protections into law and that remains our goal today. Thanks to this law, we are keeping pace with a changing workforce and updating our current law to meet the needs of a 21st century job market. Plus, there's a high number of state employee retirements expected in the near future. Our state employment laws will help attract, hire, and retain the best possible employees.

94% OF NEW LAWS RECEIVED BIPARTISAN VOTES
SOURCE: LRB



BUDGETING FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Legislators this session were tasked with a large responsibility to craft a budget that funds our state's top priorities without asking taxpayers for more money, and that's exactly what we did. During the budget making process, we greatly improved the budget for the people of Wisconsin. Many of these changes were prompted by the thoughtful input and suggestions from people all throughout the state, including the 5th District. This budget makes Wisconsin better for our students, our most vulnerable populations, small businesses and taxpayers. This budget is good for Wisconsinites and keeps our fiscal house in order.

K-12 EDUCATION LARGEST EXPENDITURE IN THE STATE BUDGET