

COMMUNITY ALERT

Dealing with Depression

Join Dr. Benjamin Tobin for knowledge that could help you and your loved ones attain victory in the battle against depression.

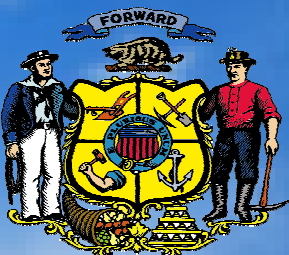
Saturdays April 14 - 28
10 am to 11 am

Greater New Birth Church
8237 W Silver Spring Dr.
Milwaukee 53212

Dear Friend,

Thank you for reading the legislative update. I hope you find the information provided here useful.

As Always I'm Here to Serve!



Fake Dems are New Low for Republican Party



It seems that party politics have hit a new low in Wisconsin. Republicans have recruited members within their party to run as fake democrats, in order to force primary elections in this spring's recall elections. They are deliberately manipulating the election process to give their recall candidates more time to prepare a defensive strategy in an attempt to avoid recall. The debate is still up in the air about whether this tactic is even legal, but law aside I find this type of manipulative politics to be morally reprehensible. Voting and elections are the core foundation of democracy and the more we degrade those processes the more we degrade democracy. I would like to challenge all Republicans to stop the back door politics and let us return to fighting the issues at hand, which is creating a better Wisconsin for all her citizens.

Supreme Court Refuses to Hear Voter ID

Earlier this week, the Wisconsin Supreme Court refused to hear the controversial Voter ID cases being filed throughout the state. People in my district have known for months that the Voter ID law, passed last year with Governor Walker's support, has been an attempt to disenfranchise low-income people and remove them from the political process. I am thrilled that the Wisconsin Supreme Court has decided not to hear appeals for or against the Voter ID law, especially considering that the law has already been halted from going into effect in Milwaukee by the District Court. Though the future of this law remains disturbingly uncertain, I am greatly encouraged by this recent development, which may be the first major step in doing away with Voter ID forever.

We Should Try for Race to Top Grant



Last year our schools here in Wisconsin suffered dual defeats when we lost a \$500 million grant for the education of young children and additionally faced the worse budgets cuts to education in the history of the state. Now, Wisconsin is one of only five state eligible for the second round grants of this same early childhood education program. I believe Wisconsin should apply for this grant. We cannot afford to do everything within our power to improve the education of our children.



HOPE NETWORK SCHOLARSHIP FOR SINGLE MOTHERS

APPLY TODAY!

HOPE Network is offering its Edmund Springman Educational Grants to single mothers who are pursuing a post-high school education. There will be \$1,000 scholarships awarded this year and the money can be used for tuition, day-care costs or both. Applicants must be HOPE Network members, and if they aren't they can submit membership applications online.

APPLY by APRIL 31st!
hopenetworkinc.com

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DPI Releases Post-Budget Repair Numbers

Data released by the Department of Public Instruction shows that 2.3% of public school staff have been laid off during the last school year, even while the student population has remained constant throughout the state. Personally, I do not believe we should be letting our teachers leave the education system in such large numbers. Though the number of educators went down under former Governor Doyle, the losses were never so great and so focuses in low-income areas like Milwaukee.

Catholic Bishops Reject Ryan's Budget



A U.S. congressman from Janesville, Paul Ryan's proposed national budget has made him a national figure. In the last few months. Recently, though, the Ryan budget has come under attack by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishop for its deep cuts to programs that benefit the poor and most vulnerable members of our society. The budget, for example, would cut funding for food stamps and housing assistance, while leaving huge subsidies for certain large corporations in place. Though I am not, Rep. Ryan is practicing Catholic. Though I and the Catholic Church may not see eye to eye on every issue, I have always respected the Catholic's commitment to social justice. I think that the Church's repudiation of the Ryan Budget speaks greatly to the harsh, inhumane direction in which even the mainstream of the Republican Party seems to be heading. In this recession, the poor need our care and compassion more than ever.

Contact Us! We Always Enjoy Hearing From You!

"Give the world your best and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway. For in the end, it was always between you and God."

-Mother Theresa



"Rich or poor, you can look anyone in the eye and say, I'm probably no better than you, but I'm certainly your equal."

- Harper Lee