4TH SENATE DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

STATE SENATOR LENA C. TAYLOR

Week of Oct 13 — Oct 19

COMMUNITY ALERT

Energy Assistance Now Available!

You may apply for heating assistance through the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP)

For more information call: 866-432-8947

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!

HIGHER ED, LOWER DEBT

The U.S. Federal Reserve System estimates that there are 753,000 Wisconsin residents with student loan debt. Under present law, banks profit from tens of billions of dollars per year from interest while Wisconsinites students are overwhelmed by the burden of their debts. The federal deadlock is stalling national efforts to aid student debt holders, we cannot wait for Congress to act. This week, Senator Dave Hansen and Representative Cory Mason introduced the "Higher Ed, Lower Debt" bill. This bill provides practical and common sense solutions for Wisconsin's student loan borrowers. Through this piece of legislation, student loans will be able to deduct their payments from their income tax, refinance their loans under more favorable interest rates and receive financial counseling regarding their loans. Through efforts to provide support for students, The Higher Ed, Lower Debt Bill practically and proactively addresses the student loan crisis.

SENATE PASSES TAX CUT

I am proud to be a part of the bipartisan effort that is delivering the citizens of Wisconsin modest property tax relief. This week, the Senate passed a tax cut that should begin to lessen the burdens of taxpayers starting this December. This tax cut is the result of a $100 million dollar property tax relief plan that is not only expected to halt rising tax responsibilities, but also provide $33 in tax savings over the next two years. Undoubtedly, the people of Wisconsin deserve more than a couple of dollars in Scott Walker's unsatisfactory economy. I hope Republicans will continue to collaborate with my Democratic colleagues and I, so in the future we can all continue to make improvements that benefit the people Wisconsin.

Help a Child in Need!

Coats for Kids Campaign

Volunteers are need to sort and hang donated coats October 22nd, 24th, 25th and 28th!

Sign up to help the Salvation Army distribute these coats October 30th-November 2nd.

Register as a volunteer at www.samilwaukee.org

Or contact the volunteer department at 414-302-4300

TASK FORCE TACKLES MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM

A legislative task force was summoned to confront pressing issues in the state's mental health institutions. This month, the task force is introducing legislation to the Senate that significantly modifies and improves existing mental health institutions and practices. Investing in the community, when done properly, is a wise and progressive decision. I look forward to seeing how some of these bills can improve the quality of life in the state of Wisconsin, and particularly in my district.

EXEMPLARY EAGLES IN GLENDALE

Troop 445, chartered by St. Marks AME, is a standout example of a Boy Scout troop in the city of Glendale. James Hightower III, a proud member of Troop 445, is the youngest African-American Eagle Scout in the United States. Boy Scouts of America is essential for youth development throughout our nation. The organization focuses on educating scouts to become both better individuals, as well as better citizens in the community. I commend the boys of Scout Troop 445 for their success as a group and their community achievements.

Wise Words of the Week!

"There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it."

- Edith Wharton

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine– and shadows will fall behind you"

- Walt Whitman

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Contact Us! We Enjoy Hearing From You!