

COMMUNITY ALERT

WWBIC

Small Business
Funding Panel

Thurs, Feb 7th
Washington Park
Library

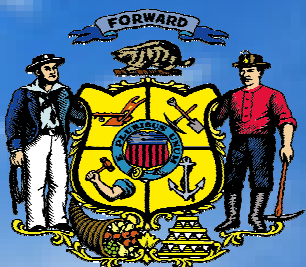
2121 N Sherman
6-7:30pm

wwwbic.com/node/1753

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!



Mining Hearing Disappoints, More Work Needed

This week, we had the first and possibly only public hearing on Senate Bill 1/Assembly Bill 1, Senator Tiffany's mining reform bill. To say the least, the operation of the hearing was a massive disappointment. The hearing lacked honesty and transparency and has garnered in my mind, serious doubts about the legitimacy of this bill. I did not expect that the first version of mining reform would be the ultimate solution; but, I did expect that Republicans and Democrats alike would be invested in creating a mining permit process that actually works. The mining hearing did little to reassure that belief.



Father Groppi Honored, Governor Rebuked

MLK Day celebrations at the Capitol included a honor for Father James Groppi, the iconic civil rights leaders from Milwaukee who marched with the likes of Vel Phillips for open housing and other crucial progressive issues. Father Groppi's widow, Margaret Rozga, accepted the MLK 2013 Heritage Award at the ceremony, and also delivered



some stinging words, aimed at the Governor and GOP. Specifically, Rozga denounced attempts to end collective bargaining and curb voting rights, issues she said were inconsistent with the vision and dream of Dr. King.

Fr. Groppi is famous for his leading the occupation of the State Assembly (right) in the late 60's to demand open housing law be passed.



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Senator Taylor's Office

(608) 266-5810
sen.taylor@legis.wi.gov
www.senatortaylor.com
Rm 19 South, State Capitol

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Increased Transportation Funding in Report



The state's Transportation Policy & Finance Commission issued a bipartisan report this week calling for major increases, 4.8 billion over 10 years, to fund transportation, bike, airport, and transit systems. The funding would come from new gas taxes, mileage fees, and other increases. The average driver would pay about \$120 a year more. It will be up to GOP leadership to decide what to include in the budget.

Senate Scholars Wanted, Apply Today!

The Senate Scholar Program is an intensive week-long educational program offered by the Wisconsin State Senate. High School Junior and Seniors receive a hands-on, up-close view of the Legislature's role in our democracy. Senate Scholars gain experience in policy development, constituent relations, and processing legislation by working with Senators, legislative staff and UW faculty. Apply today at www.senatescholar.com



Contact Us! We Always Enjoy Hearing From You!

"Conservation is a state of harmony between men and land."

Aldo Leopold



"Water is the driving force of all nature."

Leonardo da Vinci