



COMMUNITY ALERT

ABSENTEE VOTING

**ENDS FRIDAY,
MARCH 29**

Vote at your
municipal clerk

ELECTION DAY

Tuesday, April 2

Polls Open
7am—8pm

REQUIRING OPEN MEETINGS IN THE LEGISLATURE

This week, I introduced the Open Meetings Law Constitutional Amendment which, if ratified, would require Open Meeting Laws to apply to the Legislature. The amendment would reverse the finding of the Supreme Court in *Ozanne v. Fitzgerald* where the court ruled that the Legislature was free to regulate itself regardless of statutes. This new amendment would require any court to apply the open meeting laws to the Legislature & require a 2/3 supermajority vote of the Legislature to change any open-meetings laws. This amendment gives power to the people to require the Legislature to comply with the law. The Legislature is not independent from the will of the people to have the business of the state conducted in an open & transparent process.



Two Bipartisan Taylor Bills Clear Committee

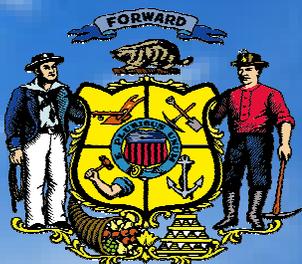
Two bills I authored this session have been passed from committee and are headed to the Senate for a vote. I have worked in a bipartisan manner to get these bills scheduled and approved. SJR 5 requires fiscal estimates on criminal penalty bills. It was originally a recommendation of the Leg Council Study Committee on Criminal Justice Funding & Strategies. For the policy in SJR 5, this week's vote marks the first bipartisan support of this proposal since its introduction in the 2011 session. SB 39 is a bipartisan bill changing accreditation standards to allow more students to test for accountancy in Wisconsin. It was authored with Rep. Dale Kooyenga (R-Brookfield). My deepest thanks go to the members of the committee for their work and especially to Chairman Paul Farrow for his consideration of these proposals and willingness to bring about a vote on both.



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!





Rain Garden Project

The MMSD Rain Garden Project encourages the use of rain gardens help soak up more water by providing plants at a reduced price

Applications Due:
April 4

Order Pickup: May 18

Visit h2ocapture.com or call (414) 225-5151 for more information

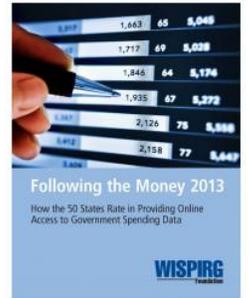
Senator Taylor's Office

(608) 266-5810
sen.taylor@legis.wi.gov
www.senatortaylor.com
[Facebook.com/SenLenaTaylor](https://www.facebook.com/SenLenaTaylor)
[Twitter.com/sentaylor](https://twitter.com/sentaylor)
Rm 19 South, State Capitol

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Wisconsin Gets An "F" For Spending Transparency

Wisconsin was one of 5 states given an "F" grade for failing at providing online transparency for spending in the state. The report comes from the Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group. Wisconsin fell from a D-grade last year. Our neighboring states fared much better—Minnesota "C", Iowa "B", Michigan & Illinois "A-". Obviously Wisconsin must do more to increase transparency of our spending and subsidies. Read the report at: <http://bit.ly/14qHh10>



Budget Hearing Set for Milwaukee Area

The Joint Committee on Finance will come to the Greater Milwaukee area on Thursday, April 4th for a budget hearing. This is your opportunity to voice your opinions on the state budget and the issues you care about. The hearing will be held at the Greendale High School Auditorium, 6801 Southway, Greendale, WI. The hearing will be held from 10am to 6pm. Come early to register so you can be heard by the committee. Contact me if you have more questions or concerns.



Wise Words of the Week!

Contact Us!
We Enjoy
Hearing
From You!

The budget is not just a collection of numbers, but an expression of our values and aspirations.

- Treasury Secretary Jacob "Jack" Lew

The aim of education is the knowledge not of facts but of values.

-William Ralph Inge

