



MAJOR FOOD STAMP CHANGES BILL PROPOSED

Two major food stamp changes that have been proposed in the Legislature will ultimately have a serious and likely negative affect for every FoodShare user. Both bills will have a hearing next week in the Assembly. FoodShare, like WisconsinShares are integral to our community's success and growth. Whenever legislation is introduced that seeks to make such dramatic changes to the people in our communities, we need to be both aware and informed so that we can make our voices heard. AB 82 is a proposal to allow criminal penalties for "trafficking" food stamp benefits. In 2011, news media in Milwaukee drew attention to the trafficking of Quest cards. Cards were sold to retailers for cash through the use of social media sites like Facebook. AB 82 prohibits several actions including: buying, selling, stealing, or exchanging benefits for cash or any other compensation; reselling of any food purchased with benefits; and, exchanging benefits for firearms or weapons. Although the bill appears to be common sense, we must be considerate of the all the implications of this legislation. Also of concern are the bill's stringent criminal penalties. A first-time offender under the new law (for benefits over \$100) would be charged with a Class I felony. AB 110 would create a pilot program in which FoodShare users would only be allowed to buy food defined by the state as having "sufficient nutritional value". Under AB 110, the state government would have the power to dictate which foods Quest cards holders can and cannot purchase with their cards. According to the authors, the intent is to prevent the purchase of junk food – chips, soda, candy, etc. These hearings will be important and you can find the information about them on the back page. Please make your voice heard!

COMMUNITY ALERT

Are You Ready ?

Greater New Birth Church
8237 W Silver Spring Drive.

Sunday, April 21st @6pm.

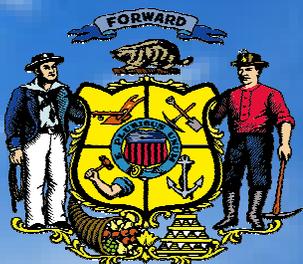
Admission is free.



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!





HEARINGS ON FOOD STAMP BILLS

Tuesday, April 9

8:30am

Rm 300 NE

State Capitol, Madison

Assembly Committee on State Affairs

AB 82 — Trafficking food stamps

AB 110 — Pilot Program for Food Stamps

PUBLIC WELCOME

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Budget Hearing Brings Debate; Residency Addressed

The state budget hearings began this week with a hearing in Greendale in Southern Milwaukee County. One of the big issues at the hearing was residency requirement changes in the budget. I had an opportunity to hear from many on both sides yesterday, including Mayor Barrett. I remain deeply concerned about the economic impact on Milwaukee on this provision which doesn't belong in the state budget. There will be much more to come on the budget.



Hearing on Milwaukee County Bill, AB 85

This week Wednesday, there will be a hearing on AB 85, the Milwaukee County Bill at the Capitol in Madison. The hearing will begin at 10am in Room 412 East. If you are not able to be at the hearing, I will be happy to collect your comments and registrations on the bill and forward them to the committee. You can reach me



at the contact information at the bottom left. I look forward to testifying on the bill, hearing concerns and suggestions on the bill, & provide some clarity on topics that caused confusion.

Wise Words of the Week!

Contact Us!

We Enjoy Hearing From You!

I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear.

-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Women, if the soul of the nation is to be saved, I believe that you must become its soul.

-Coretta Scott King

