

Dear Neighbor,

Another two-year legislative session has ended in Madison—the ninth since my 1998 election to the state Assembly! I want to thank all of you who have taken the time to participate in our democratic process by contacting me about various issues being considered by the Legislature. Your messages have helped me

form my positions on matters including education, women's healthcare, the environment, local control, assisting our veterans and our human and civil rights. My decisions are always made with you, my friends and neighbors, in mind.



I was taught as a child to give back to my community, a goal I still strive to achieve. As we head into spring and summer, I look forward to seeing many of you at the various events that help make this community unique, and at your doors as I visit your neighborhoods.

In the meantime, even though the Legislature is done making new state laws until next year, my staff and I remain available to help you with your questions and concerns about our state government. My contact information is available in this newsletter; please feel free to use it!

With warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine Sinicki".

Christine Sinicki, State Representative
20th Assembly District

Legislative Round-Up

A short list of bills I authored or co-authored:

- Workers' equal pay protections, including veterans.
- Giving the Milwaukee County Board a say in land sales.
- Regulating gift cards; voucher schools; and video medical records.
- Forbidding hunting and trapping in our state parks.
- Allowing pets to be rescued from closed vehicles, and to be included in restraining orders.
- Legislative resolutions honoring Cudahy football coach Jerry Bowe; Healthy Aging Month; Workers' Memorial Day; and the Bay View Strike and Tragedy.

(For a complete list, see <http://bit.do/SinickiBills>.)

New laws I supported:

- improve restaurant food-handling rules.
- keep microbead toiletry products out of our water.
- regulate GPS monitoring devices.
- increase the statute of limitations on sexual assaults.
- make vital records available at the County level.
- packages dealing with: dementia; child abuse prevention and foster care & adoption; opioid addiction & treatment; domestic abuse; and veterans.

New laws I opposed:

- weaken air pollution rules, lead-abatement laws.
- lift the cap statewide on the voucher schools.
- undermine the state campaign finance laws.
- turn the Governmental Accountability Board into a partisan body.
- politicize the state civil service.
- allow switchblade concealed carry.
- tell unions they have to represent workers who do not pay membership dues.

(For a list of all new laws, see <http://bit.do/2015Acts>.)

The future of health records is video!

Last year a friend asked me to look into a new kind of medical record – video/audio recordings of health care procedures. After his sister died in an operating room (OR), he found out how hard it is to get the facts about what actually happened in such cases.



So, we decided to ask health care facilities to videotape surgical procedures if patients or doctors request it, and so create a confidential, factual video/audio record of such procedures.

I believe such confidential, digital medical records will protect doctors, nurses, and patients alike. The bill I introduced, Assembly Bill 255, says the medical record could only be used to review the actual procedure or for training purposes. Other restrictions would also apply.

Hospitals and doctors here oppose this bill, but the public and media have expressed interest nationwide and in Canada. At least one other state has since introduced a similar bill.

Video records are already used by medical schools, outpatient clinics, and even nursing homes. The practice is already in use, and we should regulate these new medical records now.