



My Job as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections, and Consumer Protection

As the newly elected Senator of the 8th district, I have been looking forward to my committee assignments and this week I was given the opportunity to chair the Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections, and Consumer Protection. I am extremely grateful for the trust and responsibility granted to me. These issues are important to not only the 8th Senate District, but the entire state. I would like to go over the issues and what this committee will be addressing and how I am best suited to do the job.

One of the timeliest topics of this committee will be shared revenue. This committee will be ensuring that local governments are given the resources they need to address the demands of their citizens. This also includes oversight of those funds and making sure your local officials are using them effectively and efficiently. Over the years, shared revenue has created winners and losers in our local governments and I look forward to fixing the mismanagement that has plagued this source of state funding.

Elections has been a hot button topic for the past few years and for good reason. The pandemic was used to change how elections are done across the country, and we have to make sure that these changes don't affect the outcome of our free and fair elections. Recently, there have been comments from the Senate Minority Leader stating that I am "unfit" to chair the committee on elections, which I believe is unfortunate and immediately sets up an adversarial relationship regarding election oversight. I am uniquely qualified to chair such a committee because of my election reform legislation and my recognition of election irregularities. Just this past session, I authored Senate Bill 938 which simply validates that if you are voting you are in fact a U.S. citizen. This legislation was even based on real cases, which are currently being prosecuted. Unfortunately, ensuring only U.S. citizens are voting in our elections is not one of the governor's top priorities, because he vetoed the legislation. Making sure our elections are fair and accurate should be a bipartisan effort and we should be continually looking to improve our election process. I am inviting both Republicans and Democrats to partner and productively participate in those efforts. That is exactly what this committee will be focusing on and I am looking forward to accomplishing those goals.

It is of utmost importance that every citizen in Wisconsin has confidence in their vote being legally cast and counted correctly. Election integrity is not a partisan issue and we need to work together to ensure successful, free, and fair elections.