



# TREIG E. PRONSCHINSKE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 92<sup>nd</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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## Time to Cut the Red Tape

What do the Wisconsin economy, children's health, over regulation and personal freedom all have in common? Milk choice. Across America's Dairyland and the nation we are seeing a lack of milk choice in our schools. This is an obvious slap in the face to our hard-working farmers here in Wisconsin.

Instead of promoting the consumption of milk, there have been numerous bills, rules and bureaucrats eagerly tearing down milk and our personal choices. Recently in Arcadia, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) reviewed their high school and determined that the 16 oz. milk bottle vending machine, sponsored by The Future Farmers of America (FFA), was in violation of Federal law and needed to be removed, while allowing some pop and energy drinks to remain. The FFA has been very vocal about this concern, as they should be. In a Facebook post they shared their frustration and it has now reached over 1,800 shares.

Since I was elected to be the State Representative of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District, one of my priorities has been the agricultural industry and ensuring that we are not overlooking those who put food on our tables.

One of the biggest obstacles in obtaining this goal has been the Federal Government's 2010 Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act along with its companion The Smart Snacks Rule. This Act states that any snacks or beverages sold must be 12oz. or less, must be zero or low calorie, and any snacks that do not meet these guidelines can only be sold 30 minutes after the last school bell rings until midnight. The Act also regulates the lunch program for students by not allowing 2% or whole milk to be served, among other restrictions. More information on this can be found at <https://www.fns.usda.gov/school-meals/healthy-hunger-free-kids-act> and <https://dpi.wi.gov/school-nutrition/program-requirements/smart-snacks>.

Agriculture is one of the three pillars of Wisconsin next to Industry and Tourism that continues to move our state 'Forward.' The path that our state and our nation are currently on is moving away from the importance of agriculture and the benefits it provides to our world economy.

I introduced a piece of legislation, AB 956, a few weeks ago to provide grants to purchase milk dispensers for schools, as well as a resolution in support of increased milk options in the



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National School Lunch Program, Assembly Resolution 20. I have also sent a direct letter to President Trump asking for a review of this program.

We need to continue to pass legislation and to roll back the red tape to ensure that our farms are not closing their doors, we have our personal freedoms, and that our children are healthy.

As always, feel free to contact my office with questions, comments, or concerns.

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