



## Anne Tonnon Byers

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# Memo

To: ALL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATORS  
From: Anne Tonnon Byers  
Date: January 14th, 2019  
Re: Committee Room Assignments 2019-2020 Session

Tuesday Even		Wednesday Even		Thursday Even	
Energy & Utilities (15) <i>Kuglitsch</i>	225NW	Health (15) <i>Sanfelippo</i>	225NW	Criminal Justice & Public Safety (12) <i>Spiros</i>	225NW
Constitution & Ethics (9) <i>Wichgers</i>	300NE	Government Accountability & Oversight (9) <i>Steffen</i>	300NE	Environment (12) <i>Kitchens</i>	300NE
Forestry, Parks & Outdoor Recreation (12) <i>Mursau</i>	328NW	Tourism (15) <i>Tranel</i>	328NW	Rural Development (12) <i>VanderMeer</i>	328NW
Aging & Long Term Care (9) <i>Gundrum</i>	400NE	Local Government (9) <i>Novak</i>	400NE	Labor & Integrated Employment (9) <i>Edming</i>	400NE
Agriculture (15) <i>Tauchen</i>	GAR	Jobs & the Economy (14) <i>Neylon</i>	GAR	Education (16) <i>Thiesfeldt</i>	GAR
Corrections (10) <i>Schraa</i>	415NW	Small Business Development (15) <i>Brandtjen</i>	415NW	Insurance (16) <i>Petersen</i>	415NW
Community Development (9) <i>Allen</i>	NHR	Federalism & Interstate Relations (7) <i>Vorpagel</i>	NHR		
Tuesday Odd		Wednesday Odd		Thursday Odd	
Public Benefit Reform (9) <i>Krug</i>	225NW	State Affairs (15) <i>Swearingen</i>	225NW	Colleges & Universities (16) <i>Murphy</i>	225NW
Campaigns & Elections (9) <i>Tusler</i>	300NE	Children & Families (12) <i>Snyder</i>	300NE	Judiciary (9) <i>J. Ott</i>	300NE
Mental Health (12) <i>Tittl</i>	328NW	International Affairs & Commerce (18) <i>Hutton</i>	328NW	Ways & Means (12) <i>Macco</i>	328NW
Medicaid Reform & Oversight (9) <i>Summerfield</i>	400NE	Science & Technology (9) <i>Quinn</i>	400NE	Housing & Real Estate (9) <i>Jagler</i>	400NE
Transportation (14) <i>Kulp</i>	GAR	Sporting Heritage (14) <i>Stafsholt</i>	GAR	Veterans & Military Affairs (15) <i>Skowronski</i>	GAR
Workforce Development (15) <i>Petryk</i>	415NW	Financial Institutions (15) <i>Duchow</i>	415NW	Regulatory Licensing Reform (9) <i>Horlacher</i>	415NW
Family Law (9) <i>Rodriguez</i>	NHR	Substance Abuse & Prevention (9) <i>Plumer</i>	NHR	Consumer Protection (9) <i>Pronschinske</i>	NHR

### Note to Committee Chairs: How the Even/Odd System Works

The Assembly leadership has established a system of alternating even and odd weeks for the allocation of committee meeting dates and rooms. This has been done for several reasons. It helps to minimize situations in which members have multiple hearings to attend simultaneously. It also increases our ability

to assure that committee chairs will have access to the hearing rooms they need when they want to hold committee meetings.

There are several ways for the committee chair to determine whether a date on which he or she proposes to meet falls within an “even” or “odd” week. Attached to this memo is a calendar of the biennium, indicating which weeks are even and which are odd.

#### **Presumptive Right of Access**

There are a number of good reasons for committee chairs to schedule their hearings on their assigned day. The best reason is that, with the exception of certain events sponsored by the Assembly leadership (like party caucuses), a committee chair has bumping rights over other events scheduled in the room assigned to his or her committee – including other committee hearings. So scheduling a hearing on the scheduled day and in the assigned room greatly reduces the chance that the chair will be asked to change rooms or to re-schedule his or her hearing. Our office will also require the permission of the Speaker’s office to schedule hearings for committees outside of their regularly scheduled day.

#### **Why This Room?**

Unfortunately, the amount of space available to the Assembly for hearings is limited. In developing these room assignments, we took a lot of different things into consideration including the committees similarities, the number of legislators and support staff on each committee, where the committee previously met, the number of times each committee is likely to meet, the amount of overlap members might experience with other committees, and the size of the crowds the committee is likely to draw. The assignments have been developed in coordination with Speaker’s office. Should considerable conflicts arise, we will review the assignments once the committees start meeting regularly, and make changes if they are warranted, based on practical experience. But, out of fairness to everyone, our inclination is to leave the assignments as unchanged as possible.

#### **Reserving Your Room**

Committee chairs are respectfully asked to contact Pat McKee (237-9624) or [pat.mckee@legis.wi.gov](mailto:pat.mckee@legis.wi.gov) to reserve a hearing room for their committees. Rooms may also be requested online by access the Room Management System at <http://rms>. It is imperative that the Sergeant’s office be called to check on room availability before a hearing notice is published. Even though committee chairs have bumping rights in their assigned rooms, it is not safe to assume automatically that a given room is available. A committee’s room may already be reserved for a superseding use, such as a partisan caucus, leadership press conference, or the like. Additionally, we need to make sure the meeting actually gets added to our schedule, so we can assign a messenger to work at the hearing and make sure the room is set up in advance.



**Important - Please do not assume that your room is available. The Sergeant's office should always be contacted prior to scheduling a hearing. We would not want a committee clerk, chair, or other committee members to be embarrassed by not having the committee set up or worse yet not having a committee room available at all.**

**In addition, it is important to notify us if you expect to have an extraordinary large turnout at a committee meeting so that we can try to accommodate all who are in attendance.**

#### **Questions?**

Please feel free to call me at 237-9623. I can also be reached at [atonnon@legis.wi.gov](mailto:atonnon@legis.wi.gov)