



Anne Tonnon Byers

ASSEMBLY SERGEANT AT ARMS  
WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

ALL ASSEMBLY LEGISLATORS

From: Anne Tonnon Byers

Date: January 27, 2025

Re: Committee Room Assignments 2025-2026 Session

### Committee Room Assignments 2025-2026 Session

Tuesday Even		Wednesday Even		Thursday Even	
Agriculture (15) <b>Tranel</b>	GAR	Criminal Justice & Public Safety (15) <b>Spiros</b>	GAR	Veterans & Military Affairs (13) <b>Penterman</b>	GAR
Campaigns & Elections (7) <b>Maxey</b>	300NE	Children & Families (9) <b>Snyder</b>	300NE	Environment (6) <b>Goeben</b>	300NE
Urban Revitalization (6) <b>Donovan</b>	400NE	Regulatory Licensing Reform (7) <b>Sortwell</b>	400NE	Consumer Protection (6) <b>Callahan</b>	400NE
Energy & Utilities (13) <b>Steffen</b>	225NW	State Affairs (10) <b>Swearingen</b>	225NW	Sporting Heritage (10) <b>Pronschinske</b>	225NW
Forestry, Parks & Outdoor Recreation (12) <b>Mursau</b>	328NW	Tourism (9) <b>Green</b>	328NW	Insurance (10) <b>Dittrich</b>	328NW
Government Operations, Accountability & Transparency (9) <b>Nedweski</b>	415NW	Science Technology & AI (6) <b>Gustafson</b>	415NW	Housing & Real Estate (15) <b>Brooks</b>	415NW
Tuesday Odd		Wednesday Odd		Thursday Odd	
Transportation (6) <b>VanderMeer</b>	GAR	Health, Aging & Long-Term Care (15) <b>Moses</b>	GAR	Education (13) <b>Kitchens</b>	GAR
Public Benefit Reform (6) <b>Knodl</b>	300NE	Financial Institutions (10) <b>Duchow</b>	300NE	Small Business Development (10) <b>Armstrong</b>	300NE
Constitution & Ethics (6) <b>Wichgers</b>	400NE	State & Federal Relations (6) <b>Allen</b>	400NE	Judiciary (6) <b>Tusler</b>	400NE
Workforce Development & Economic Opportunities (9) <b>Melotik</b>	225NW	Jobs, the Economy & Small Business (10) <b>Gundrum</b>	225NW	Colleges & Universities (11) <b>Murphy</b>	225NW
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Prevention (10) <b>Tittl</b>	328NW	Local Government (10) <b>Novak</b>	328NW	Ways & Means (10) <b>O'Connor</b>	328NW
Corrections (9) <b>Kaufert</b>	415NW	Rural Development (6) <b>Behnke</b>	415NW	Commerce (6) <b>Kreibich</b>	415NW

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

Assembly leadership has established a system of alternating even and odd weeks for allocating 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. The Sergeant’s room schedule ([rms](#)) also has these indicated.

#### **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.

If looking to schedule a committee meeting during another committee's assigned time it is the responsibility of the committee clerk to check with the other chair to see if they can utilize their room and avoid getting bumped. The Speaker's office also requires notification when meetings are held outside of the 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 committee's workload, where the committee previously met, the number of legislators and support staff on each committee, 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 the Speaker's office.

### **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 [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 [anne.tonnonbyers@legis.wi.gov](mailto:anne.tonnonbyers@legis.wi.gov)