



WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR  
**TIM CARPENTER**  
SENATOR – 3RD DISTRICT

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### Wisconsin's Presidential Primary Should be on February 16, 2016

*“Moving up the primary election date will give our state greater influence  
in selecting our presidential nominees.”*

Madison – Today State Senator Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee) announced that he will be introducing a bill to move up the date of Wisconsin's presidential primary election to the third Tuesday of February.

“In the last presidential election, Wisconsin's increasing influence in the general election as a ‘swing state’ was evidenced by the many visits to our state by the candidates and national figures. I believe that our state should also have proportionate influence in the primary nominating process,” said Carpenter.

The current presidential primary date is the first Tuesday in April, by which time it is likely that the presidential nominees may have already been decided.

“The earlier the primary is held, the more influence it has on nominating the candidate. As there is not an incumbent president running in 2016, I believe that now is the time to implement this change in this election date,” said Carpenter.

The election date under this bill in 2016 would be Tuesday, February 16, 2016. This is after the Iowa Caucus and New Hampshire primary, but before South Carolina's primary on February 27, 2016.

Wisconsin has previously held its presidential primary elections in February in both 2004 and 2008.

Senator Carpenter's press releases are available for review at  
<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/sen03/news>

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