

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

STATE SENATOR LENA C. TAYLOR



## COMMUNITY ALERT

### 2nd Annual Community Resource Fair

#### Grace Fellowship

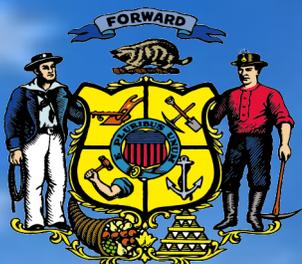
3879 N. Port Wash Rd,  
Milwaukee, WI  
414-265-5546,  
1-2 PM.

Nearly 22 agencies will be on hand to share about available resources in Milwaukee for residents.

Dear Friend,

Thank you for reading the legislative update. I hope you find the information provided here useful.

As Always, I'm Here to Serve!



## LEADING REFORM EFFORTS ON INCARCERATION AND RE-ENTRY

Excited that I will join the Executive committee for the Integrated Reentry and Employment Strategies Pilot Project in Milwaukee! The pilot project will be completed over the course of three years. The pilot's first step will focus on collecting information about what a good "client matching system," National Reentry Resource Center's research division will analyze the population of prisoners trying to reenter Milwaukee's workforce, assessing its needs and working to determine its varying levels of criminogenic risks and job readiness. Researchers will also study area providers that specialize in services for criminals reentering the workforce. Their assessment will gauge how well these providers can meet the workforce development needs of the population and address criminogenic risk. That data will inform the project's goal of ensuring the right systems are in place to get individuals through the right doors into the right programs, with integrated support from corrections on the front end and providers on the back end.



## GOP TAKES ANOTHER STEP TO AMMEND STATE CONSTITUTION



The GOP continued their effort to fast-track a constitutional amendment to ballot by the spring election. After Republican legislators on the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety rammed this proposal through committee, by providing the public and my colleagues with less than 25 hours' notice, and by rescheduling the vote on the bill from a week away to the same day as the public hearing. Republican legislators voted unanimously to adopt the Senate Joint Resolution 2 for the April 2015 ballot despite the measure's numerous issues. As matter of fact, the resolution as drafted would leave our state without a Chief Justice for the time period between the certification of votes, and election of a new Chief Justice. The constitutional amendment isn't clear about the voting mechanism, procedure, or timeframe for implementation. Moreover, the proposal will go to ballot during the April election where about 20% of the electorate participates, instead of November where about 70% of eligible Wisconsinites cast their ballots. Despite the numerous amendments aimed at fixing continuity and fairness questions, offered by my colleagues and I, Republican legislators adopted this deeply flawed measure. It is wrong for Republicans to move so swiftly and cavalier without respect for the gravity of their decision. Our state constitution, Chief Constitutional Officer, and the people of Wisconsin deserve more than this!



**ACA Signup Outreach**  
Sat, January 24, 10:30am

Coffee Makes You Black,  
2803 N. Teutonia Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI

A representative from Covering Kids & Family will answer questions about the second enrollment period for the Affordable Care Act. Then teams will travel to Lena's Food Stores where they will pass out enrollment information.

**Senator Taylor's Office**

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**WISCONSIN FAMILIES FIRST**



Senate Democrats have a clear plan to grow our economy and move Wisconsin forward by investing in families, businesses and local communities. We are focused on addressing the issues that matter most to working families, children, and seniors in our state. Over the next several days and weeks, Senate Democrats will be introducing several legislative proposals to encourage job creation, increase family wages and strengthen local communities as part of our plan to put Wisconsin Families First. Scott Walker is moving ahead with his campaign pledge to ensure that drug users aren't getting public health care, food stamp or jobless benefits.

**SCOTT WALKER BUDGET PLANS**

For the first time Thursday, Walker committed to drug testing recipients of BadgerCare Plus health coverage and also pledged free treatment and job training for those testing positive for drugs. But the governor offered no details on how the state would cover the costs of that or the testing or whether he expected it to cost the state money overall, as a similar program did in Florida, or save tax dollars. Wisconsin is already facing a 2.2 Billion dollar deficit. Moreover, the Obama administration would likely reject the proposal and that it would likely cost the state more than it "saved."



**Wise Words of the Week!**

**Contact Us!**  
**We Enjoy Hearing From You!**

*"I have no more campaigns to run... I know because I won both of them."*—**President Barack Obama**

