



SENATOR LENA TAYLOR

a Fierce Advocate for...

www.LenaTaylor.org

Worker's Rights

Lena fought against attacks on worker's rights

Act 10

When Walker introduced legislation in 2011 to gut public unions, Lena knew where she stood: with public workers. Lena was a part of The Wisconsin 14, a group of Democratic Senators who stayed in Rockford, IL for 21 days to deny Walker and the Republicans a vote on Act 10, a bill that would go on to rob public unions of their collective bargaining rights. Though Act 10 would go on to pass, Lena voted against this effort by the GOP to cripple public unions.

Right to Work

Lena strongly opposed Walker's "Right-to-Work" legislation. This legislation allows workers who do not financially contribute to union fees to reap the benefits of union membership on the dime of those who do contribute. In states with "Right-to-Work" laws, [the average worker makes \\$1,540 less than workers in other states](#), and employers in these states are less likely to offer health insurance coverage. Lena knew this was the wrong legislation for WI workers.

Prevailing Wage

More recently, Lena has been a vocal opponent of [SB 49](#), legislation that would eliminate the requirement that workers employed on the sites of public works projects be paid the prevailing wage. Prevailing wage laws prevent contractors from undercutting labor costs and ensure that construction employees are fairly compensated. Wisconsin has had prevailing wage laws since the 1930's, and Lena is committed to their continued survival.

*"They did not hear
you now, but they will
hear you later!"*

*--- Senator Lena Taylor
addressing Act 10
capitol protestors*



Lena rallies supporters of workers and public education in the Capitol Rotunda during Governor Scott Walkers Act 10 attack on public unions and public schools. Watch her speech rallying supporters in the Capitol Rotunda during Act 10.

Sided with Unions in 2010 Labor Contracts

Even when some Democrats wouldn't stand with labor, Lena went [against her own leadership](#) in supporting ratification of the union contracts in 2010. The contracts were rejected after Senate Majority Leader Russ Decker and one other Democratic Senator voted with Republicans to kill the contracts.

Lena continues to fight for workers

\$15 Minimum Wage

Lena agrees that the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 is simply not enough to survive. In 2016, she co-authored [SB2](#), a bill that would gradually raise the minimum wage in Wisconsin to a living wage of \$10.10 an hour. She also supports the Fight For \$15, which advocates raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. In negotiating in favor of the Milwaukee Bucks arena deal, she supported efforts by team owners to work with labor to ensure workers associated with the team would earn at a minimum a \$15 per hour living wage.

Tipped Worker Minimum Wage

Despite state laws mandating that tipped employees be paid minimum wage if their tips don't amount to \$7.25 per hour, one in ten tipped workers reports not receiving the minimum wage after a shift, and poverty rates for tipped workers are twice as high as poverty rates among non-tipped workers. Lena [authored legislation](#) that would raise the tipped worker minimum wage by \$0.95 for five years until the tipped minimum wage reaches a fair and guaranteed minimum wage.



Lena fights for worker's rights to fair wages and safe working conditions. As the daughter of a union steel worker, she knows just how important unions are to families and communities. Watch her speech receiving the United Steel Worker's "Fight Back" award in 2011.

Higher Wages & Better Working Conditions for Correction Workers

Lena acknowledges the hard, important work that our correction workers undertake. She has introduced multiple bills aimed at improving the working conditions of corrections workers that would:

- [guarantee collective bargaining](#) over workplace safety
- provide adequate [on-the-job training](#) for new hires
- [limit overtime](#)

Experienced Leader putting the needs of Wisconsin's workers first.

www.LenaTaylor.org

 PO Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707

 Sen.Taylor@Legis.WI.Gov

 [Twitter.com/SenTaylor](https://twitter.com/SenTaylor)

 414-342-7176 • 608-266-5810

 [Facebook.com/SenLenaTaylor](https://facebook.com/SenLenaTaylor)

 instagram.com/lena.taylor/