

## **JOAN BALLWEG**

STATE SENATOR · 14TH SENATE DISTRICT

Contact: Sen. Joan Ballweg January 17, 2023 (608) 266-0751

Column: Senator Ballweg Begins Work in New Legislative Session

The Wisconsin State Legislature is back in session! I am honored to have the responsibility of being your voice in Madison.

This session, I was once again appointed chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Tourism. The 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District is a hub for both of these industries, so I am excited to continue my work in these areas. Last session, the committee approved legislation that established a comprehensive agricultural export program and made changes to the well compensation, producer-led watershed and county conservation grant programs. We also held informational hearings on important topics like the meat processing industry, which led to investments in the state budget. I am already setting up meetings to talk about priorities for this session.

Additionally, I was reappointed to the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC). The JFC works on the state budget and oversees the allocation of money to state agencies and services. I am committed to ensuring we craft a responsible budget that invests in our local communities, maintains the high level of government Wisconsin is known for and ensures you are able to keep as much of your hard-earned dollars as possible.

Other committees I was assigned to include the State Building Commission, Committee on Mental Health, Substance Abuse Prevention, Children & Families and Universities & Revenue. I also plan to continue the work done by the Legislative Council Study Committee on Uniform Death Reporting I chaired this past summer.

In addition to my legislative duties, my office is here to support you if you need help with a state agency, have questions on legislation or have any other concerns surrounding state government. Please feel free to call my office in Madison at (608) 266-0751, or email me at <a href="mailto:Sen.Ballweg@legis.wisconsin.gov">Sen.Ballweg@legis.wisconsin.gov</a>.

Also, make sure to sign up for my e-newsletter for legislative and budget updates from my office! I look forward to working with you and my colleagues in the Senate and Assembly to keep Wisconsin moving in the right direction.

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