



TYLER AUGUST

2017–2018 Legislative Session Update



KEEP IN TOUCH

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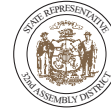
Phone: 608-266-1190

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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS & APPOINTMENTS

- Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore
- Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions (*Co-Chairman*)
- Committee on Insurance
- Committee on Rules
- Committee on Assembly Organization
- Law Revision Committee
- Joint Legislative Council



TYLER AUGUST

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 32ND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

It is an honor being your voice in the state legislature. This session, I worked to ensure your state government continues to be efficient, effective, and accountable.

Since I first took office back in 2011, we've implemented common sense reforms like Act 10 that has saved taxpayers billions, voter ID that has protected election integrity, and cutting government red tape state to boost our healthy economy.

However, we are not done. Our reforms have led to an all-time low unemployment rate of 2.9%, down from over 9% in 2010. We've also passed the largest economic development plan in state history where Foxconn will bring billions in economic growth and thousands of good-paying careers.

We've not only balanced the budget and cut taxes by \$8 billion, but we've been able to do so all while investing record amounts in our local schools that educate our children.

Finally, as in the past, my newsletter will be only distributed electronically. By not printing and mailing my newsletter, I am able to return almost all of my allotted office account, which is made up of your tax dollars.

I respect the hardworking citizens of our area and will continue to ensure Wisconsin remains a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

Sincerely,

Tyler August
State Representative
32nd Assembly District

Proudly representing portions of Walworth, Kenosha, and Racine Counties



TYLER AUGUST

PROMOTING A HEALTHY ECONOMY

Record Low Unemployment

Unemployment in Wisconsin has fallen to a mere 2.9% - **an all-time record low!** This is a stark difference from the 9.3% unemployment level we saw in 2010 just before I took office. Our pro-job, pro-family reforms are definitely having a positive effect on the economy. It is clear that our message that **'Wisconsin is Open for Business'** is resonating.

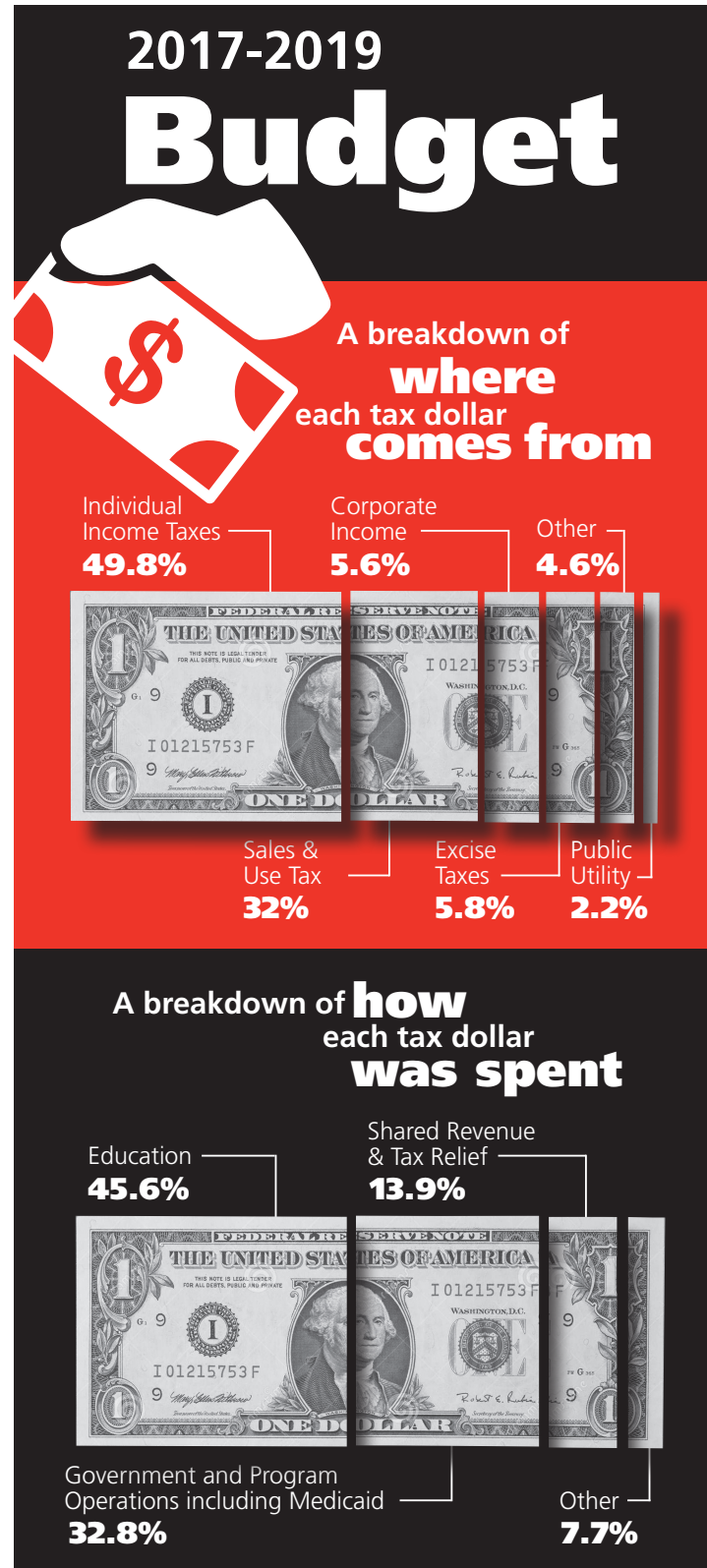


Tourism up Over \$5 Billion

Tourism is an important part our local and state economies. Over the last six years, tourism activity in Wisconsin is up more than \$5 billion. Coming from an area in which tourism is so important, making Wisconsin a great place to visit has always been a priority for me.

Cutting Red Tape

Regulations are one of the biggest cost drivers for our job creators. High cost regulations can hamper our economy and drive businesses out of the state. We passed laws that would require the legislature to approve all new high cost regulations, **taking power away from Madison bureaucrats.** We also passed legislation that would create a review process of all current regulations every 10 years.





TYLER AUGUST

INVESTING IN EDUCATION



Rep. August votes in favor of introducing Right to Work legislation earlier this year.

Wisconsin Merit Scholarship

I authored legislation along with Senator Nass to create a new Wisconsin Merit Scholarship. This new scholarship will give the UW System a new tool to ensure we are **keeping our best and brightest students** right here in Wisconsin. The scholarships will be available for only Wisconsin residents who are attending a UW System college. Valued at \$5,000 per scholarship, they will be awarded based solely on merit. The fund is constitutionally protected and does not require any new tax dollars.



UW System Accountability

While we enjoy one of the best university systems in the nation, more can always be done to help protect taxpayers' support of the UW system. With this in mind, we created an outcomes-based funding model that will bring **additional resources and oversight to the UW system.**



Tuition Freeze

Saving average student \$6,000 over 4 years

Freezing Tuition

The legislature approved the extension of the popular **tuition freeze to protect Wisconsin's students** from the high tuition increases that were common before the freeze.

Increasing School Safety

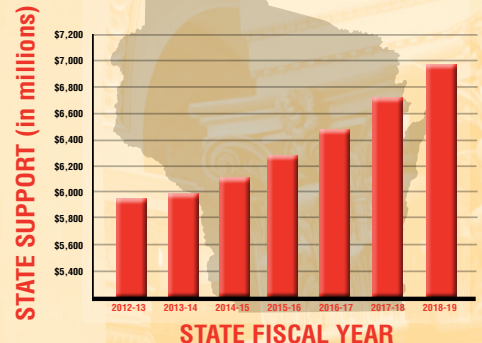
Protecting our children is one of the most important things that we were able to accomplish this session. For the first time, we created a \$100 million grant program for schools to make their buildings safer. We have also supplied **additional resources to help meet the mental health needs** of our students.

Investing in our Local Schools

This session, we were able to provide the **largest investment in our public schools** in the history of our state, with over \$630 million sent to schools based upon a per pupil basis. This allowed all schools to receive funding based upon their enrollment and not the value of the property within the district.



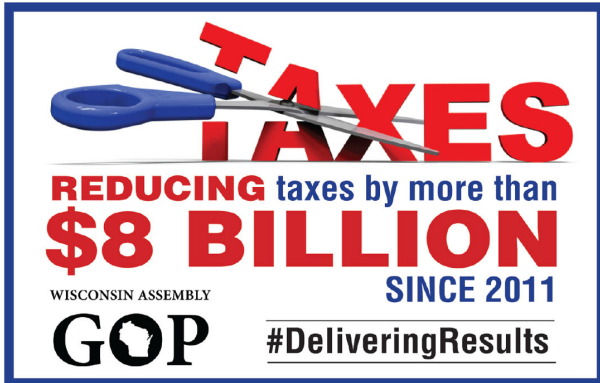
RECORD FUNDING FOR K-12 EDUCATION





TYLER AUGUST

SMALLER, MORE EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT



Eliminating Entire Taxes

This session we actually **eliminated three taxes** and started the phase-out of a fourth tax. These include the “state” line-item on everyone’s property tax bills, the alternative minimum tax, the sales tax on internet service, as well as the phase-out of the personal property tax.

Lowest Tax Burden in 50 years

Due to our successful reforms, the tax burden in Wisconsin, as a percentage of personal income, is the **lowest it has been in 50 years**.

Balanced Budget Amendment

For too many years, both Democrats and Republicans in Washington have implemented poor fiscal policy putting our nation at risk. As I write this, the federal debt is over \$21,000,000,000,000 (trillion).

The time has come for the states to step in and force the federal government to **balance its budget**. The states can do this by utilizing a little-known tool that was written into Article V of the US Constitution, which allows the states to amend the constitution.

The State Assembly just passed an article V resolution calling for a balanced budget at the federal level. As a co-author of the legislation, I proudly voted yes.

Spending in Washington has been out of control for too many years. It is my hope that this will be a first step toward **balancing the federal budget and returning to a more limited and responsible level of government**.

Return Surplus to Taxpayers

After the state budget had passed, the state had grown a surplus due to our healthy economy. Rather than spend the funds, we chose to **return it to the taxpayers** in the form of a child tax credit.

Changing the Way Madison Budgets

I supported base budget review legislation that would require state agencies to justify all of their spending. This reform would **change the way budgeting is done in Madison** to more closely reflect the private sector. Taxpayers will be better protected by this change.

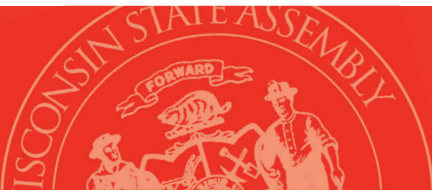


Putting the “REINS” on Spending

I supported the REINS (Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny) Act. This would require legislative approval for high cost regulations. This bill will take power out of the hands of Madison bureaucrats and back into the taxpayers’.

**PROTECTING
TAXPAYER DOLLARS,
FIGHTING WASTE,
FRAUD AND ABUSE**





TYLER AUGUST

STATE BUDGET

Taxpayers-First Budget

The state budget we passed improves Governor Walker's proposal by **protecting middle class taxpayers**. The budget proposal puts taxpayers-first by spending less and taxing less.

Overall, the budget spends \$500 million less and cuts 432 state employees compared to the Governor's original proposal. The budget also includes a provision that protects taxpayers by requiring referenda to be limited to regularly scheduled elections as well as **eliminating three taxes** and started the phase-out of a fourth tax.

The state budget is once again not only balanced, but it leaves a nearly \$300 million balance in the state's rainy day fund. This protects taxpayers from any future economic fluctuations that may occur. In addition, the budget included positive provisions for education by **increasing funding to K-12 schools as well as freezing tuition at the UW System**.

Finally, we made common sense changes within the Transportation portion of the budget. This includes both increased aids for local roads as well as the lowest level of transportation bonding in over a decade. The budget also included **multiple transportation reforms**, which will reduce the cost of state projects, create more accountability, and limit the size of the DOT.

GOP STATE BUDGET

- ✓ Cuts Taxes
- ✓ Provides more money for schools
- ✓ Invests in worker training
- ✓ Increases gov't accountability

#RightPriorities #DeliveringResults

WISCONSIN ASSEMBLY
GOP

GOVERNMENT REFORM

Welfare Reform

Wisconsin has been a national leader when it comes to reforming welfare. The passage of our W-2 program has been a model for other states and even the federal government. We were able to continue to reform this program by **increasing work requirements, expanding our successful drug testing program, and requiring healthier foods** in the food stamps program.

Getting Tough on Crime

I voted to fund and allocate nearly 54 positions throughout the state to help **alleviate critical staffing shortages in local district attorney's offices**. In our area, this includes an additional position in Walworth County as well as two full time positions in Kenosha and Racine Counties.

Under-staffing in our DAs offices can have massive impact on victim's receiving the justice they deserve. If DAs do not have the manpower to take these cases to trial, many times it leads to higher numbers of plea deals and criminals receiving lighter sentences. Now is the time to start reversing this trend.

Continuing our fight against Opioids

Wisconsin has been a national leader in our fight against opioid abuse, but there is more to do to **protect our communities against this epidemic**. This session, we were able to provide more funding to law enforcement, drug prosecutors and drug courts to better protect our loved ones from this devastating problem.



TYLER AUGUST

REFORMING HEALTHCARE

Controlling Healthcare Premiums

We worked to protect Wisconsinites from massive health insurance premium increases due to the **failures of ObamaCare**. Many individuals that were forced to purchase insurance through federal exchanges saw as much as 100% premium increases due to the negative effects ObamaCare has had on Wisconsin's insurance market.



Preexisting Conditions

As the Federal Government continues to debate replacing ObamaCare, I felt it was important to protect Wisconsinites from losing their health coverage through no fault of their own. With this in mind, we passed legislation that would prohibit health insurance companies from denying coverage due to preexisting conditions.

Alzheimer's and Dementia Care

We all have loved ones that have been affected by Alzheimer's or Dementia. It is a debilitating disease that can devastate families. Many families aren't aware of the resources available to help them care for their loved ones. We created a grant program to help counties to raise awareness of these needed programs.

Combating Breast Cancer

Breast cancer is one of the top causes of death in women. Early detection of the disease is imperative in beating this terrible disease. Unfortunately, high breast density can mask the ability to correctly identify breast cancer. We passed legislation that would require physicians to inform women that have high breast density in order to decide if further testing is necessary.

Right to Try

Many individuals with terminal illnesses have tried all approved medications to try to fight their disease, without positive results. On some occasions, there are medicines that haven't been approved by the FDA that may be able to help people. Through our work, we were able to provide hope to those that are suffering. Now, individuals will be able to try those unapproved medicines if they have exhausted all other options.



Governor Scott Walker signs SB 486, which I authored with Senator Nass on behalf of the Town of Delavan.