



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DAVID CRAIG

83rd District
2011-2012
Legislative
Update

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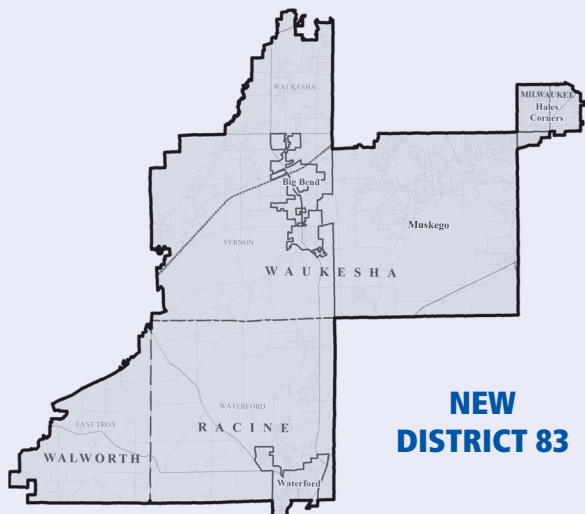
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Rep. Craig speaks on the floor of the Assembly in support of a bill that he authored.

2012 Redistricting

Every ten years, following the national census, every state must redraw their legislative boundaries. Under 2011 Act 43, the 83rd District lines will change slightly, pending the results of litigation. If Act 43 stands, the 83rd District will now include Hales Corners, a portion of the Town of Waukesha, as well as a small portion of Franklin. The City of Muskego, the Town of Vernon, the Town of Waterford, the Village of Waterford, the Village of Big Bend and a portion of the Town of East Troy will remain in the 83rd District.



**NEW
DISTRICT 83**

Toll-Free Government Numbers

- Aging & Long-Term Care Medigap Helpline **800-242-1060**
- Business Helpline **800-435-7287**
- Consumer Protection Hotline **800-422-7128**
- Crime Victim Center **800-446-6564**
- Do Not Call List **866-966-2255**
- Drug Tip Hotline **800-622-3784**
- Firearms Hotline **800-262-4867**
- State Waste, Fraud & Abuse Line **877-372-8317**
- Insurance Complaints **800-772-1213**
- Social Security **800-435-7287**
- Medicare **800-633-4227**
- Statewide Road Conditions **800-762-3947**
- Tourism **800-432-8747**
- Unemployment (DWD) **800-822-5246**
- Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs **800-947-8387**

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DAVE'S COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- Insurance
- Financial Institutions
- Judiciary and Ethics



DAVID CRAIG
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Dear Friend,

It has been an honor to represent the 83rd District in the State Assembly over the past year. This has been an exciting year for Wisconsin as the legislature has instituted many pro-job reforms and fulfilled our obligation to balance the state budget for the first time in a decade—without raising taxes. Already, we have seen our reforms working as local municipalities and school districts have been able to balance their budgets. Further, job creators are coming to see Wisconsin as the place to do business.

While the policies enacted over the past year have led to a balanced budget and a more positive business climate, state government is still too large and too restrictive. In the 2011-2013 State Budget, the legislature and Governor Walker fixed a \$3.6 billion deficit, despite the fact that much of the budget is hamstrung by bureaucrats in Washington D.C. that are unwilling to allow the state the flexibility we need to run programs like Medicaid efficiently and responsibly. As a result, we have much more work to do to put the state on sound fiscal footing for our children's future.

I value your input on matters regarding state government as I represent the 83rd District in the State Assembly. Please know that I remain committed to representing your voice in the State Assembly and to returning this state to a path of fiscal responsibility and long-term prosperity. I look forward to hearing your thoughts on these issues as we move Wisconsin forward!

Sincerely,

David Craig
State Representative
83rd Assembly District

LEGISLATIVE E-UPDATE

Sign up for my free E-Update. Send an email to Rep.Craig@legis.wi.gov or call **(888) 534-0083** to sign up for my e-update and stay informed on current state legislative issues and activities.

**SERVING PORTIONS OF WAUKESHA, RACINE,
WALWORTH AND MILWAUKEE COUNTIES**

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID CRAIG

Legislative Update

2011-2012 Legislative Highlights

Concealed Carry and Castle Doctrine:

These newly enacted laws help restore our 2nd Amendment right to keep and bear arms and to protect ourselves and our families. Senate Bill 93 (Concealed Carry) finally allows residents to obtain a permit to carry a concealed weapon. Senate Bill 69 (Castle Doctrine) protects your right to use force to defend yourself and your family in your own home. I successfully fought to include "Stand Your Ground" language in the bill, which prohibits a judge from finding that an individual who used force to defend himself or herself had to first look for an opportunity to flee or retreat before using force.

Eligibility for CCW:

- 21 years of age or older
- Not prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law
- No court order prohibiting possession of a firearm
- Wisconsin resident
- Proof of firearms training

Application and General Requirements*:

- Submit completed application form to the Department of Justice (www.doj.state.wi.us)
- Submit \$50 fee for license and background check

Training Requirement*:

- Hunter education program established by the Department of Natural Resources
- Firearms safety or training course conducted by a national or state organization that certifies firearms instructors, or a course offered by a law enforcement agency to the public

*This is only a partial listing. For more information and requirements, please visit the DOJ website: <http://www.doj.state.wi.us/dles/cib/ConcealedCarry/ConcealedCarry.asp>, or call the DOJ phone tree for Concealed Carry at 608-261-8647.

Mining: The Assembly passed Assembly Bill 426, streamlining the ferrous metallic mining permitting process on January 26, 2012. Unfortunately, this bill stalled in the State Senate. While not perfect, AB 426 strikes a reasonable balance between being responsible stewards of our state's natural resources and allowing responsible economic progress in the state. What the bill does:

- Maintains rigorous state and federal environmental standards.
- In addition to state standards, mining permit applicants must also comply with strict federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations and meet the approval of the Army Corp of Engineers.
- Provides certainty, creating a minimum 2-year permitting process.
- Provides for public input.
- Creates a reasonable and fair process by which mining companies can apply for a permit.
- Returns a fair portion of the tax revenue generated from a mine to the communities surrounding the mine.

Defending the Sanctity of Life:

- **Partial-Birth Abortion Ban:** This session I authored and introduced a bill in the Assembly to ban partial-birth abortions in Wisconsin. Assembly Bill 448 bans this heinous procedure which is typically performed on babies in the 20th-26th weeks of gestation or later. It is necessary to enact a ban at the state level to ensure that Wisconsin's Attorney General can prosecute violations of the ban instead of relying on the U.S. Attorney General to prosecute violations in Wisconsin.
- **Personhood Amendment:** I co-sponsored Rep. André Jacque's personhood amendment, Assembly Joint Resolution 77, which would amend the Wisconsin Constitution to simply recognize the right to life of the unborn and of humans at any stage of development.



Rep. Craig questions OCI Deputy Commissioner Daniel Schwartzer during a public hearing on Assembly Bill 210, which implemented portions of ObamaCare in Wisconsin. Craig later voted against the bill.

Asian Carp: This session both the Assembly and Senate passed a bill I authored, Assembly Bill 377, changing the definition of Asian Carp to rough fish and allowing the taking of all rough fish with a crossbow. Classifying Asian Carp as "rough fish" allows for them to be harvested like common carp, changing the DNR rule that allowed the taking of only one Asian Carp per day. This bill is good news for disabled sportspeople, who are often unable to participate in sports like bowfishing. AB 377 is also good news for the environment, as it allows Wisconsin's sportsmen and women to help fight the infestation of our waterways by nonindigenous fish that harm our aquatic ecosystems.

Earn-a-Buck: This session, the legislature repealed the archaic Earn-a-Buck program, which required hunters to tag an antlerless deer in order to earn a tag for a buck. This program has frustrated Wisconsin deer hunters for years and its repeal was widely called for. Deer hunters will now have a better opportunity for a successful hunt while also helping the state control the deer population, instead of having to wait to take an antlerless deer first.

Roundabouts: Given the prominence roundabouts have had in road projects in Wisconsin over the last decade, I co-authored a bill with Rep. Evan Wynn that would ensure public input is heard when roundabouts are proposed by government. This bill requires approval by voters in a referendum held in a municipality where the proposed roundabout would be located.

2011-2013 State Budget

Although this legislature inherited a \$3.6 billion budget deficit from the previous administration and legislature, I and my Republican colleagues, along with Governor Walker, balanced the state budget without raising taxes for the first time in a decade.

Over the course of the 2001-2003 biennium, state government spent a total of \$48.8 Billion. During the Doyle Administration, state spending ballooned from \$48.8 Billion to \$65.7 Billion – a whopping increase in total spending of 26% in just ten years, which resulted in a jobs exodus from Wisconsin. With the 2011-2013 state budget, our government will spend \$66.05 Billion over the next two years, firmly putting the brakes on state spending. Although we still have much work to do to put the state on a sound fiscal path for our children's future, the 2011-2013 state budget is a good start. This budget further fulfills our obligation to balance the state books without raising taxes or using dishonest accounting gimmicks.

The budget also:

- Expanded school choice to help improve access to education for areas of Wisconsin that need it the most.
- Instituted a permanent property tax freeze.
- Made reforms to the state Medicaid program to ensure efficiency and root out waste, fraud and abuse.

LEGISLATIVE E-UPDATE

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ObamaCare in Wisconsin: I am committed to fighting the implementation of President Obama's unconstitutional Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA, a.k.a. ObamaCare). To that end, I recently introduced two bills that will require transparency and legislative oversight should a future administration attempt to implement ObamaCare in Wisconsin.

- Assembly Bill 530 requires state agencies to submit annual reports to the legislature on the impact of ObamaCare in Wisconsin.
- Assembly Bill 531 stipulates that no provision of ObamaCare may be implemented in Wisconsin unless it is enacted by the legislature.

These bills will ensure that major decisions governing Wisconsin's health care and insurance industry will be made only through the stability and predictability of statute while also allowing state legislators and Wisconsin's congressional delegation to monitor the impact of ObamaCare on our state.



Rep. Craig discusses Assembly Bill 346, regarding the licensing requirements for kennels, with residents of the Waterford area.

Act 10, Budget Repair Bill

The Budget Repair Bill, more commonly known as Act 10, contained a package of reforms—budgeting tools—for local governments to help offset the reductions in school and local aids that had to be made in the 2011-2013 state budget. Those decisions were difficult to make but necessary in order to balance the state budget for the first time in over a decade. Thanks to the tools in Act 10 and the 2011-2013 state budget, school districts in the 83rd District reduced their combined total tax levies from 2010-2011 by over \$800,000. Across the state this year, school tax levies dropped \$47 million.

With the Act 10 reforms, school districts now have the tools they need to reward teachers that succeed in the classroom while also ensuring teacher accountability. The positive impact Act 10 is having on local government and the state budget shows this legislation was crucial to putting Wisconsin on a long-term, sound fiscal path. As that is the case, I will continue to support these crucial reforms going forward.

How Your Money Is Spent

