



DAVID CRAIG

STATE SENATOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senator Craig Statement on Extraordinary Session, Pre-existing Conditions

Madison, WI — Today, State Senator David Craig (R-Town of Vernon) released the following statement relating to the legislature's extraordinary session and Assembly Bill 365, relating to pre-existing condition coverage.

"When I was elected in 2011, I made a promise to voters that I would fight back against the harmful effects that Obamacare's costly mandates have on our state. Conservatives stood up against Obamacare and made the bold choice to reject the federal government's reach into Wisconsin. We covered more people, retained control over the program, and protected our state budget with a Wisconsin-based solution to a problem created in Washington.

"Today, I voted to reject an Obamacare related provision – a broad, sweeping mandate – that did nothing to address the cost of healthcare. I voted 'NO' and once again kept my promise to my constituents. Instead, I proposed an amendment which would have reinvigorated and modified the HIRSP program that, while not perfect, worked well to cover those with pre-existing conditions until Obamacare outlawed it.

"While I am glad that this central-government mandate will not further burden Wisconsin family budgets, our work to improve the overall healthcare market must continue. I am committed to working with colleagues and stakeholders to implement free-market solutions to effectively control Obamacare's ever-escalating costs and free people from the burden this bad law has placed on our state.

"It is important to note the important work that Republicans in the legislature accomplished in this extraordinary session. We ensured the incredible gains made over the past eight years will not be lost to activist courts working in concert with the new attorney general. Attorney General-elect Kaul and Governor-elect Evers have already pledged to dismantle many of the signature reforms that have saved taxpayers billions of dollars and improved our business climate. The actions of the Senate and Assembly Republicans ensure that the constitutional authority of the legislature is protected as is appropriate under the separation of powers."

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Senator Craig represents the 28th Senate District which includes parts of Waukesha, Milwaukee, Racine, and Walworth counties.