

HOW THEY VOTED



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE VOTING RECORD: 2025-2026 SESSION

HOW THEY

WORKING FOR WISCONSIN AWARD 2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

18 Senators
54 Representatives

Scored 70% or better on the WMC scorecard

About WMC's Working for Wisconsin Award

Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce (WMC), the combined state chamber of commerce and manufacturers' association, is recognizing the efforts of certain lawmakers by presenting them with the coveted "Working for Wisconsin" award. The Working for Wisconsin award recognizes legislators who supported specific pro-growth policies and earned a high rating on WMC's biennial legislative scorecard. It is awarded based on individual voting records, regardless of a legislator's partisan affiliation.

Legislators who earn the award each session supported pro-growth policies and reforms aimed at improving the state's business climate. All Wisconsin legislators are considered for the award, but it is only earned by those who consistently vote to make Wisconsin a better place to do business.



VOTED

2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

WMC GOVERNMENT RELATIONS TEAM



KURT BAUER
President/CEO



SCOTT MANLEY
Executive Vice President of
Government Relations



RACHEL VER VELDE
Associate Vice President of
Government Relations &
Senior Political Advisor



EVAN UMPIR
General Counsel &
Director of Tax,
Transportation & Legal Affairs



ADAM JORDAHL
Director of Environmental
& Energy Policy



ANNA BLASZKOWSKI
Senior Manager of Employment
Regulation & Technology
Infrastructure Policy

HOW THEY

SENATE



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Julian Bradley



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Cabral-Guevara



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Mary Felzkowski



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Dan Feyen



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Rob Hutton

Legislator	District	Hometown	For	Against	%
Julian Bradley (R)	SD-28	New Berlin	23	0	100%
Rachael Cabral-Guevara (R)	SD-19	Fox Crossing	23	0	100%
Tim Carpenter (D)	SD-3	Milwaukee	4	19	17%
Kristin Dassler-Alfheim (D)	SD-18	Appleton	8	15	35%
Dora Drake (D)	SD-4	Milwaukee	5	18	22%
Mary Felzkowski (R)	SD-12	Tomahawk	21	2	91%
Dan Feyen (R)	SD-20	Fond du Lac	23	0	100%
Jodi Habush-Sinykin (D)	SD-8	Whitefish Bay	7	16	30%
Dianne Hesselbein (D)	SD-27	Middleton	8	15	35%
Rob Hutton (R)	SD-5	Brookfield	21	2	91%
André Jacque (R)	SD-1	New Franken	22	1	96%
John Jagler (R)	SD-13	Watertown	23	0	100%
Jesse James (R)	SD-23	Thorp	23	0	100%
LaTonya Johnson (D)	SD-6	Milwaukee	5	17	23%
Chris Kapenga (R)	SD-33	Delafield	20	3	87%
Sarah Keyeski (D)	SD-14	Lodi	7	16	30%
Chris Larson (D)	SD-7	Milwaukee	3	20	13%
Devin LeMahieu (R)	SD-9	Oostburg	23	0	100%
Howard Marklein (R)	SD-17	Spring Green	23	0	100%



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. André Jacque



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. John Jagler



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Jesse James



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Chris Kapenga



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Devin LeMahieu

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VOTED

2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

SENATE



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Howard Marklein



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Stephen Nass



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Romaine Quinn



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Rob Stafsholt

Legislator	District	Hometown	For	Against	%
Stephen Nass (R)	SD-11	Whitewater	20	3	87%
Brad Pfaff (D)	SD-32	Onalaska	9	13	41%
Romaine Quinn (R)	SD-25	Birchwood	23	0	100%
Melissa Ratcliff (D)	SD-16	Cottage Grove	5	18	22%
Kelda Roys (D)	SD-26	Madison	5	17	23%
Jeff Smith (D)	SD-31	Brunswick	9	14	39%
Mark Spreitzer (D)	SD-15	Beloit	5	18	22%
Rob Stafsholt (R)	SD-10	New Richmond	23	0	100%
Patrick Testin (R)	SD-24	Stevens Point	23	0	100%
Cory Tomczyk (R)	SD-29	Mosinee	23	0	100%
Jamie Wall (D)	SD-30	Green Bay	8	15	35%
Van Wanggaard (R)	SD-21	Racine	23	0	100%
Eric Wimberger (R)	SD-2	Oconto	23	0	100%
Robert Wirch (D)	SD-22	Pleasant Prairie	4	19	17%



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Patrick Testin



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Cory Tomczyk



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Van Wanggaard



PRO BUSINESS

Sen. Eric Wimberger

Legislators designated in the shaded bars scored 70% or better on the WMC Scorecard and received the 2025-2026 WMC Working for Wisconsin Award.

HOW THEY

ASSEMBLY



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Scott Allen



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. David Armstrong



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Tyler August



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Elijah Behnke



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Mark Born

Legislator	District	Hometown	For	Against	%
Scott Allen (R)	AD-82	Waukesha	29	2	94%
Clinton Anderson (D)	AD-45	Beloit	6	26	19%
Deb Andraca (D)	AD-23	Whitefish Bay	6	23	21%
David Armstrong (R)	AD-67	Rice Lake	32	0	100%
Margaret Arney (D)	AD-18	Wauwatosa	5	27	16%
Tyler August (R)	AD-31	Walworth	32	0	100%
Mike Bare (D)	AD-80	Verona	5	27	16%
Elijah Behnke (R)	AD-6	Town of Chase	32	0	100%
Jill Billings (D)	AD-95	La Crosse	11	21	34%
Mark Born (R)	AD-37	Beaver Dam	32	0	100%
Lindee Brill (R)	AD-27	Sheboygan Falls	32	0	100%
Robert Brooks (R)	AD-59	Saukville	32	0	100%
Brienne Brown (D)	AD-43	Whitewater	7	25	22%
Calvin Callahan (R)	AD-35	Tomahawk	21	0	100%
Ryan Clancy (D)	AD-19	Milwaukee	4	28	13%
Angelina Cruz (D)	AD-62	Racine	5	26	16%
Alex Dallman (R)	AD-39	Markesan	32	0	100%
Karen DeSanto (D)	AD-40	Baraboo	6	26	19%
Ben DeSmidt (D)	AD-65	Kenosha	7	25	22%



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Lindee Brill



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Robert Brooks



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Calvin Callahan



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Alex Dallman



PRO BUSINESS

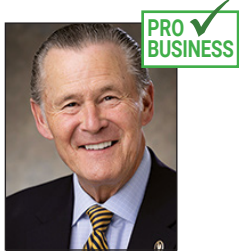
Rep. Barbara Dittrich

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VOTED

2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ASSEMBLY



Rep. Bob Donovan



Rep. Cindi Duchow



Rep. Benjamin Franklin



Rep. Joy Goeben



Rep. Chanz Green

Legislator	District	Hometown	For	Against	%
Barbara Dittrich (R)	AD-99	Oconomowoc	32	0	100%
Bob Donovan (R)	AD-61	Greenfield	32	0	100%
Steve Doyle (D)	AD-94	Onalaska	11	18	38%
Cindi Duchow (R)	AD-97	Town of Delafield	32	0	100%
Jodi Emerson (D)	AD-91	Eau Claire	9	19	32%
Joan Fitzgerald (D)	AD-46	Fort Atkinson	6	26	19%
Benjamin Franklin (R)	AD-88	De Pere	32	0	100%
Joy Goeben (R)	AD-5	Hobart	32	0	100%
Russell Goodwin (D)	AD-12	Milwaukee	6	26	19%
Chanz Green (R)	AD-74	Mason	32	0	100%
Rick Gundrum (R)	AD-58	Slinger	32	0	100%
Nate Gustafson (R)	AD-55	Omro	32	0	100%
Kalan Haywood (D)	AD-16	Milwaukee	4	25	14%
Francesca Hong (D)	AD-76	Madison	3	29	9%
Karen Hurd (R)	AD-69	Withee	32	0	100%
Andrew Hysell (D)	AD-48	Sun Prairie	6	26	19%
Brent Jacobson (R)	AD-87	Mosinee	32	0	100%
Jenna Jacobson (D)	AD-50	Oregon	7	25	22%
Alex Joers (D)	AD-81	Middleton	5	27	16%



Rep. Rick Gundrum



Rep. Nate Gustafson



Rep. Karen Hurd



Rep. Brent Jacobson



Rep. Dean Kaufert

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HOW THEY

ASSEMBLY



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. Joel Kitchens



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. Dan Knodl



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. Rob Kreibich



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. Scott Krug



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. Tony Kurtz

Legislator	District	Hometown	For	Against	%
Tara Johnson (D)	AD-96	Town of Shelby	8	20	29%
Dean Kaufert (R)	AD-53	Neenah	32	0	100%
Karen Kirsch (D)	AD-7	Greenfield	7	25	22%
Joel Kitchens (R)	AD-1	Sturgeon Bay	32	0	100%
Daniel Knodl (R)	AD-24	Germantown	32	0	100%
Rob Kreibich (R)	AD-28	New Richmond	32	0	100%
Scott Krug (R)	AD-72	Rome	32	0	100%
Tony Kurtz (R)	AD-41	Wonewoc	32	0	100%
Darrin Madison (D)	AD-10	Milwaukee	4	28	13%
Dave Maxey (R)	AD-83	New Berlin	32	0	100%
Renuka Mayadev (D)	AD-77	Madison	5	27	16%
Maureen McCarville (D)	AD-42	DeForest	9	23	28%
Tip McGuire (D)	AD-64	Kenosha	7	25	22%
Paul Melotik (R)	AD-22	Grafton	32	0	100%
Vincent Miresse (D)	AD-71	Stevens Point	7	22	24%
Supreme Moore Omokunde (D)	AD-17	Milwaukee	4	25	14%
Clint Moses (R)	AD-92	Menomonie	32	0	100%
David Murphy (R)	AD-56	Hortonville	32	0	100%
Jeffrey Mursau (R)	AD-36	Crivitz	32	0	100%



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. Dave Maxey



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. Paul Melotik



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. Clint Moses



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. David Murphy



PRO
BUSINESS

Rep. Jeffrey Mursau

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2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ASSEMBLY



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Amanda Nedweski



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Adam Neylon



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Todd Novak



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Jerry O'Connor



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. William Penterman

Legislator	District	Hometown	For	Against	%
Amanda Nedweski (R)	AD-32	Pleasant Prairie	32	0	100%
Greta Neubauer (D)	AD-66	Racine	6	26	19%
Adam Neylon (R)	AD-15	Pewaukee	32	0	100%
Todd Novak (R)	AD-51	Dodgeville	32	0	100%
Jerry O'Connor (R)	AD-60	Fond du Lac	32	0	100%
Sylvia Ortiz-Velez (D)	AD-8	Milwaukee	8	23	26%
Lori Palmeri (D)	AD-54	Oshkosh	11	21	34%
William Penterman (R)	AD-38	Hustisford	31	0	100%
Kevin Petersen (R)	AD-57	Waupaca	32	0	100%
Christian Phelps (D)	AD-93	Eau Claire	3	29	9%
Jim Piowarczyk (R)	AD-98	Hubertus	32	0	100%
Priscilla Prado (D)	AD-9	Milwaukee	5	23	18%
Treig Pronschinske (R)	AD-29	Mondovi	32	0	100%
Amaad Rivera-Wagner (D)	AD-90	Green Bay	8	23	26%
Jessie Rodriguez (R)	AD-21	Oak Creek	32	0	100%
Ann Roe (D)	AD-44	Janesville	5	27	16%
Joe Sheehan (D)	AD-26	Sheboygan	9	22	29%
Christine Sinicki (D)	AD-20	Milwaukee	7	25	22%
Lee Snodgrass (D)	AD-52	Appleton	4	28	13%



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Kevin Petersen



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Jim Piowarczyk



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Treig Pronschinske



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Jessie Rodriguez



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Patrick Snyder

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HOW THEY

ASSEMBLY



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Shae Sortwell



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. John Spiros



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. David Steffen



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Rob Summerfield



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Rob Swearingen

Legislator	District	Hometown	For	Against	%
Patrick Snyder (R)	AD-85	Weston	32	0	100%
Shae Sortwell (R)	AD-2	Two Rivers	32	0	100%
Ryan Spaude (D)	AD-89	Ashwaubenon	9	20	31%
John Spiros (R)	AD-86	Marshfield	32	0	100%
David Steffen (R)	AD-4	Howard	31	0	100%
Angela Stroud (D)	AD-73	Ashland	5	27	16%
Sheila Stubbs (D)	AD-78	Madison	6	23	21%
Lisa Subeck (D)	AD-79	Madison	7	25	22%
Rob Summerfield (R)	AD-68	Bloomer	32	0	100%
Rob Swearingen (R)	AD-34	Rhineland	32	0	100%
Sequanna Taylor (D)	AD-11	Milwaukee	6	25	19%
Angelito Tenorio (D)	AD-14	West Allis	4	28	13%
Paul Tittl (R)	AD-25	Manitowoc	27	0	100%
Travis Tranel (R)	AD-49	Cuba City	32	0	100%
Duke Tucker (R)	AD-75	Grantsburg	32	0	100%
Ron Tusler (R)	AD-3	Harrison	32	0	100%
Randy Udell (D)	AD-47	Fitchburg	7	25	22%
Nancy VanderMeer (R)	AD-70	Tomah	32	0	100%
Robyn Vining (D)	AD-13	Wauwatosa	6	25	19%



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Paul Tittl



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Travis Tranel



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Duke Tucker



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Ron Tusler



PRO BUSINESS

Rep. Nancy VanderMeer

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VOTED

2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ASSEMBLY



Rep. Robin Vos



Rep. Chuck Wighers



Rep. Robert Wittke



Rep. Shannon Zimmerman



Legislator	District	Hometown	For	Against	%
Robin Vos (R)	AD-33	Rochester	32	0	100%
Chuck Wighers (R)	AD-84	Muskego	32	0	100%
Robert Wittke (R)	AD-63	Caledonia	32	0	100%
Shannon Zimmerman (R)	AD-30	River Falls	25	0	100%

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HOW THEY

BILL SUMMARIES

ASSEMBLY BILLS

Assembly Bill 1:

Restoring Educational Standards at DPI

State Superintendent Underly lowered academic standards for K-12 students by moving away from national standards set by the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) in September 2024. This legislation returned Wisconsin's pupil assessment cut scores, score ranges and pupil performance categories to be aligned with the standards set out in the NAEP, reinstating cut scores to their previous standard. This bill, supported by WMC, passed both chambers and was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

Assembly Bill 89:

Retail Theft Aggregation

This bill empowered district attorneys to charge multiple theft & retail theft crimes together to seek a more severe penalty. The bill also included increased penalties for repeat offenders, if reconvicted. WMC supported this legislation to deter theft, make communities safer, and protect retail employees from dangerous situations. This bill passed both the Assembly and Senate, and was signed into law as Act 106.

Assembly Bill 166:

Academic and Career Planning Services to Students

This legislation, supported by WMC, provided transparency for students on key indicators that allow them to make informed decisions on postsecondary schools, degrees and financial aid. It would provide students with average salary, average debt, graduation rates and the fifty most in demand jobs within the state. This bill passed both the Assembly and the Senate, but was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

Assembly Bill 167:

UI Reform – Misconduct Updates and Enhanced Benefits Oversight

WMC was supportive of this bill which would have protected the integrity of the unemployment insurance system by updating the misconduct statutes, requiring Department of Workforce Development to audit work searches and requiring Joint Finance Committee oversight of enhanced unemployment benefits. This bill passed both chambers and was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

Assembly Bill 169:

UI Reform – “Ghosting”

WMC supported this legislation that would have curbed the practice of unemployment insurance claimants that miss interviews or fail to respond to interview requests or job offers but claim that they fulfilled their work search requirements in order to keep benefits. The bill says if a claimant does this and the report by an employer is found credible, the claimant loses their weekly benefit for the week in which the claim was verified. The bill passed both the Assembly and the Senate, but was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

Assembly Bill 219:

Rail Modernization & Access Credit

This bill created a tax credit for short line railroads and rail customers for track replacement and other capital projects to promote access to, or continued, rail service. This bill passed the legislature and was signed into law as Act 242.

Assembly Bill 461:

No Tax on Overtime

WMC supported this legislation to exempt overtime pay from Wisconsin state income tax, aligning state law with the federal "No Tax on Overtime" provision. The bill would have rewarded additional work, improved Wisconsin's competitiveness, helped address workforce shortages, and simplified tax compliance for employers and employees by better aligning state and federal tax treatment. The bill passed both the Assembly and Senate but was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

Assembly Bill 598:

Hospital Price Transparency Amendment

WMC did not take a position on this underlying bill but was supportive of the amendment added to the legislation. The amendment was that if the federal hospital price transparency regulation is repealed in its entirety, the Department of Health Services (DHS) in Wisconsin must promulgate and enforce state regulations on hospital price transparency. Also, if the shoppable services requirement at the federal level is repealed, DHS must promulgate and enforce shoppable services regulations on hospitals. This bill passed both the Assembly and Senate and was signed into law as Act 115.

Assembly Bill 602:

Participation in the Federal Tax Credit for Contributions to Scholarship Granting Organizations

As a part of the OBBBA, the federal government created an opportunity for individuals to receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit for charitable contributions to nonprofits that fund student scholarships. If their state opts into participation, taxpayers will be able to claim up to \$1,700 in federal tax credits for donations to a qualified Scholarship Granting Organization. This bill would have required the Governor to notify the federal government that Wisconsin will participate. This bill, supported by WMC, passed the Assembly and Senate, but was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

Assembly Bill 625, ASA 2:

Establishing a Civil Cause of Action for Civil Rights Violations

This substitute amendment created a broad civil cause of action against any individual for a violation of civil rights. This amendment, contrary to WMC's civil justice agenda, would generate frivolous and costly litigation against businesses and individuals like. The amendment was ruled irrelevant to the underlying legislation and did not pass the Assembly.

Assembly Bill 651:

Worker's Compensation Advisory Council Agreed Bill

This legislation was the product of the Worker's Compensation Advisory Council process and was unanimously passed by the Council by both labor and management representatives. Some of the key changes in this bill are reforms to case closures and clarification that case closure revisions in last session's agreed-on bill are applied to all dates of injury. Additionally, it prohibits the stacking of disability ratings for the same injury. The bill ensures that employers or insurer case management personnel are allowed access to records and participation in discharge planning for an injured worker. Additionally, it includes an increase of in the maximum weekly benefit for permanent partial disability of \$8 each year for the next two years and provides an increase in benefit levels for individuals that have been permanently and totally disabled in the past. The bill also allows APRNs, PAs and Doctors of Audiology to provide opinions on the cause and extent of disability, along with a provision that will allow workers compensation coverage for PTSD suffered by emergency medical responders, emergency medical services practitioners and volunteer or part-time firefighters. This bill, supported by WMC, passed the Assembly and Senate, and was signed into law as Act 145.

VOTED

2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILLS (CONT'D)

Assembly Bill 652:

Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council Agreed Bill

This legislation was the product of the Unemployment Insurance Advisory Council process and was unanimously passed by the Council by both labor and management representatives. Important provisions in this legislation include enhanced identity verification measures to prevent benefit fraud, audits of work search information to ensure claimants are meeting obligations under state and federal law, a process to allow employers to report instances of “ghosting” by new hires and job applicants and a \$25 increase in weekly unemployment benefits. This bill, supported by WMC, passed the Assembly, but was not considered by the Senate.

Assembly Bill 657:

Nuclear Fusion SUT Exemption

This bill created a sales and use tax exemption for property used to construct, or otherwise used for, a nuclear fusion project. WMC supported this bill which passed the Assembly and Senate and was signed into law as Act 165.

Assembly Bill 840, ASA 2:

New Energy Taxes and Unworkable Data Center Regulations

This amendment, opposed by WMC, would have imposed costly new mandates and fees on data center projects and certain large energy users, sending the message that development is not welcome in Wisconsin, rather than encouraging investment in our state. The amendment would have imposed millions in new energy taxes on large customers and directed half of that revenue to the governor’s unaccountable “green” slush fund, with no statutory authority or oversight mechanisms to ensure transparency or fiscal responsibility. Other provisions in the amendment would make data center projects very expensive or outright unworkable, such as requiring those projects to source 70 percent of their energy from renewable resources, pay the prevailing wage rate, and obtain “sustainable design” or “green building” certification. WMC supported the Assembly vote to table this amendment.

Assembly Bill 915:

Small Business Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangements (ICHRA) Tax Credit

WMC supported this legislation to create a nonrefundable tax credit of up to \$400 per employee for small businesses with fewer than 50 employees that offer Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangements (ICHRAs). The credit would have helped small employers offset the cost of providing employees with funds to purchase health insurance and pay other qualified medical expenses, making it easier to attract and retain workers. The bill passed the Assembly but was not considered by the Senate.

Assembly Joint Resolution 133:

Constitutional Amendment:

Restoring Legislative Oversight of Rulemaking

WMC supported this constitutional amendment to restore the Legislature’s authority to suspend, temporarily or indefinitely, administrative rules promulgated by state agencies, in whole or in part. The amendment would reverse the Wisconsin Supreme Court’s decision in *Evers v. Marklein II*, which significantly limited legislative oversight of agency rulemaking, and restore an important check on unelected regulators. The amendment must pass again in identical form during the next legislative session before being submitted to Wisconsin voters for approval.

SENATE BILLS

Senate Bill 184:

Prohibiting Bans on Vehicles, Equipment, and Appliances Based on Energy Source

WMC supported this legislation to protect consumer choice and promote a uniform energy policy by prohibiting local governments and state agencies from restricting the use or sale of motor vehicles or other devices such as home appliances and outdoor power equipment based on the energy source used to power those vehicles and devices. Wisconsin manufacturers must be able to continue to produce and sell the affordable, reliable products that consumers demand, such as lawn mowers, leaf and snow blowers, outboard motors, and many other kinds of devices and appliances. Wisconsin builders must be able to continue to install the natural gas-powered stoves, furnaces, water heaters, and fireplaces that homeowners desire, some of which are also manufactured in our state. Finally, businesses and consumers alike must be able to choose the vehicles that best suit their needs. Elsewhere, major state and city governments have moved aggressively to ban or “phase out” gas-powered vehicles, appliances, and devices. In Wisconsin, the current administration’s “Clean Energy Plan” and “Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan” both discuss the prospect of rapidly “transitioning” away from vehicles with internal combustion engines, which would require the government to impose costly, inefficient, heavy-handed mandates. This bill passed both the Assembly and the Senate, but was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

Senate Bill 277:

Administrative Code Review

WMC supported this legislation to establish a seven-year sunset review cycle for all chapters of the Wisconsin Administrative Code, requiring state agencies to regularly review and eliminate outdated, unnecessary, and burdensome regulations. WMC successfully secured amendments to ensure the review process would not disrupt businesses’ ability to obtain necessary permits and approvals. The bill passed both the Senate and Assembly but was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

HOW THEY

BILL SUMMARIES

SENATE BILLS (CONT'D)

Senate Bill 291:

Business Child Care Tax Credit

WMC supported this legislation to expand the Business Development Tax Credit to include a broader range of employer-supported childcare expenses, including operating childcare programs, reserving childcare slots for employees' children, contributing to dependent care FSAs, and reimbursing employees' childcare costs. The bill would have provided employers with more flexible options to help address childcare needs beyond the existing credit for establishing a childcare program. The bill passed both the Senate and Assembly but was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

Senate Bill 389:

400-Year Property Tax Repeal

The 2023-25 State Budget provided a \$325 per-pupil increase to the revenue limit for two school years (2023-24 and 2024-25). Governor Evers used his appropriation bill partial veto power to extend this two-school year increase by 400 years until the year 2425. This legislation repealed Governor Evers partial veto and stopped an automatic increase in property taxes each year without the approval of the voters, placing massive tax hikes on autopilot for 400 years. WMC was very supportive of this legislation which passed both the Assembly and Senate, but was ultimately vetoed by Governor Evers.

Senate Bill 482:

R&D Carryforward

This bill extends the expiration of the R&D income tax credit from 15 to 50 years. This change will allow businesses that generate credit beyond their tax liability to utilize the full value generated before it expires. WMC supported this bill, which passed the Senate and Assembly, and was signed into law as Act 220.

Senate Joint Resolution 116:

Constitutional Amendment: Prohibiting Line-Item Vetoes to Raise Taxes

This state constitutional amendment prohibits a governor from using a partial veto in an appropriations bill to increase a tax or fee. WMC supports this amendment to maintain the proper separation of powers and checks and balances on the power to impose taxes and fees. This amendment passed second consideration by the Legislature and will go to voters for ratification in November.

BUDGET BILL

Senate Bill 45/ Assembly Bill 50: Biennial Budget Bill

Senate Bill 45 SA1 SSA2:

Budget Amendment – Child Welfare Reforms, Paid Family Medical Leave

This amendment significantly expands state spending and the scope of Wisconsin's child welfare and family services programs by creating numerous new grant programs, increasing aid payments, and establishing additional administrative responsibilities for the Department of Children and Families and local agencies. The amendment establishes paid family medical leave and creates new requirements such as expanded reporting, and rulemaking authority. WMC supported the Senate vote to reject this amendment.

BUDGET BILL (CONT'D)

Senate Bill 45 SA2 SSA2:

Budget Amendment – Various Education Provisions

This amendment substantially expands the state's investment in Wisconsin's K-12 education system by creating dozens of new grant programs and ongoing appropriations. It increases per-pupil and sparsity aid and creates additional mandates and administrative responsibilities for the Department of Public Instruction and school districts. The amendment also establishes caps on school choice enrollment and new licensing requirements for choice teachers. WMC supported the Senate vote to reject this amendment.

Senate Bill 45 SA6 SSA2:

Budget Amendment – PFAS Policies, Fee Increases, and Integrated Resource Planning

This amendment included a variety of policies and funding changes related to the Department of Natural Resources. Notably, it would have exempted PFAS-related regulations from certain rulemaking procedures, expanded DNR authority related to PFAS site investigation and cleanup, and required proof of financial responsibility for PFAS manufacturers and possessors. Also, the amendment would have increased the fees for high capacity well and CAFO permit applications and instituted a new fee for WPDES general permit coverage. Finally, the amendment would have required each electric utility in Wisconsin to file an "integrated resource plan" with the state, including plans for "controlling customer loads" and "implementing customer energy conservation." WMC supported the Senate vote to reject this amendment.

Senate Bill 45 SA13-25 SSA2:

Budget Amendment – Medicaid Expansion, Minimum Wage Increase, Marijuana Legalization

These amendments included several major policy proposals, including Medicaid expansion, an increase to the state minimum wage, and the legalization of recreational marijuana. Lawmakers considered the amendments as a single package and ultimately voted to table the amendments en masse. WMC supported the Senate vote to reject these amendments.

Senate Bill 45 SA26 SSA2:

Budget Amendment – Workers Compensation Hospital Charges Fee Schedule & Wrap Up

This amendment is a wrap up to the Biennial Budget introduced by Senator Devin LeMahieu. It included a provision to create a hospital facility charges fee schedule for workers compensation. This fee schedule will be established by the Department of Workforce Development, and the state will be divided into five regions. The maximum fee that will be able to be charged for a service will be set at the 75th percentile of in-network commercial health plan payments plus 20%. This is a foot in the door due to it only applying to hospital facility charges, but it is a step in the right direction and will help control hospital costs for employers under workers compensation. This amendment, strongly supported by WMC, passed the Senate and was included in the state 2025-27 biennium budget.

VOTED

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BUDGET BILL (CONT'D)

Assembly Bill 50 AA1 ASA2:

Budget Amendment – Education Funding

This amendment increases the per-pupil revenue ceiling from the current \$11,000 to \$12,000 in 2025-26 and to \$12,400 for 2026-27. This allows lower-spending school districts to increase their budgets to these amounts without holding a referendum. This amendment also includes massive funding increases for the 2025-27 biennium including increasing general school aids by approximately \$1.2 billion, special education programs by approximately \$1.1 billion, per pupil aid by approximately \$212 million and sparsity aid by approximately \$20 million without any reforms and despite declining student enrollment in 68 of 72 Wisconsin counties. This amendment, opposed by WMC, was tabled by the Assembly.

Assembly Bill 50 AA6 ASA2:

Budget Amendment – Labor Provisions

This amendment repeals current law that prevents state and local governments from requiring government bidders to enter into project labor agreements for public works projects. Additionally, it reverses much of Act 10 for a new category of workers called “frontline workers.” It grants these workers collective bargaining rights, including bargaining on hours and conditions of employment, allows for the requirement to pay union dues, authorizes the state to deduct labor union dues from frontline worker paychecks and allows frontline workers to have their health insurance contributions be determined through collective bargaining. Also, this amendment requires employers to provide up to 8 weeks of paid family and medical leave. The amendment requires employers with more than 15 employees to follow new statutory requirements on work schedule predictability and flexibility, adds gender expression and gender identity to state nondiscrimination laws, and increases penalties for worker misclassification. This amendment, strongly opposed by WMC, was tabled by the Assembly.

Assembly Bill 50 AA7 ASA2:

Budget Amendment – Transportation Funding & DOT Provisions

This amendment, among other provisions, creates new regional transit authorities that possess the power to issue bonds, impose a 0.5% sales and use tax, and a \$2 rental car fee without direct taxpayer approval or input; this amendment also authorizes municipalities to adopt a local sales tax in 0.1% increments up to 0.5%. This amendment, strongly opposed by WMC, was tabled by the Assembly.

Assembly Bill 50 AA8 ASA2 :

Budget Amendment – Expansive Fiscal Provisions

This amendment creates numerous expansive funding increases for a variety of programs. It increases funding for Medicaid, adds several new insurance mandates that increase healthcare costs, requires health plans to apply drug coupons to deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums, creates a prescription drug affordability board to establish price limits, establishes a new childcare subsidy program, and creates permanent statutory programs that would continue beyond the biennium unless repealed. This amendment, strongly opposed by WMC, was tabled by the Assembly.

BUDGET BILL (CONT'D)

Assembly Bill 50 AA11 ASA2:

Budget Amendment – Healthcare Provisions

This amendment created a Prescription Drug Affordability Review Board to regulate drug prices and cap insulin cost-sharing. The amendment also included additional health insurance mandates. This amendment, opposed by WMC, was tabled by the Assembly.

Assembly Bill 50 AA12 ASA2:

Budget Amendment – PFAS Policies & Environmental Justice Permitting

This amendment included a variety of policies and funding changes related to the Department of Natural Resources. Notably, it would have exempted PFAS-related regulations from certain rulemaking procedures, expanded DNR authority related to PFAS site investigation and cleanup, required proof of financial responsibility for PFAS manufacturers and possessors, and provided \$50 million for the governor’s unaccountable “green” slush fund. Also, the amendment would have established new requirements and restrictions for all air, water, and waste permits for facilities located near “environmental justice” communities, including requiring the applicant to prepare an environmental impact report and conduct a public hearing on the report, and allowing DNR to deny or condition such permits based on DNR’s opinion of the “cumulative impact” of the project or the testimony received at the public hearing. WMC supported the Assembly vote to table this amendment.

Assembly Bill 50 AA16 ASA2:

Budget Amendment – Healthcare Provisions

This amendment included many additional health insurance mandates, including requiring health insurers to apply drug manufacturer discounts toward plan holders’ deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums and mandating that self-insured health plans provide Essential Health Benefit coverage. Also, this amendment created a Prescription Drug Affordability Review Board to regulate drug prices. This amendment, opposed by WMC, was tabled by the Assembly.

Assembly Bill 50 AA18 ASA2:

Budget Amendment – Marijuana Legalization

This amendment would have legalized recreational marijuana. This amendment, opposed by WMC, was tabled by the Assembly.

Assembly Bill 50 AA23 ASA2:

Budget Amendment – State Backfill of Local Property Tax Freeze

This amendment creates a state-funded program that provides a 3% state payment to local jurisdictions that maintain or lower their property tax levy from the previous year. This policy shuffles taxpayer dollars on an annual and growing basis to communities that exercise fiscal restraint at the expense of state-level tax dollars. This amendment, opposed by WMC, was tabled by the Assembly.



HOW THEY VOTED



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