

WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

CAPITOL UPDATE

May 23, 2008

Contents Include:

1. Governor Advances Budget Repair Bill
2. List of Legislators Not Seeking Re-Election Grows
3. Save the Date - Catholics *at the* Capitol 2009

Budget Repair Bill Enacted

Governor Jim Doyle signed the budget repair bill late last week, after using his partial veto power to alter the measure. The bill responds to an estimated \$652 million shortfall in revenue collections for the 2007-09 budget biennium.

Among the items vetoed was a provision that would have altered property tax exemption rules for low-income housing. Governor Doyle explained his elimination of the provision on the grounds that it was a non-fiscal policy matter and should receive greater consideration by the Legislature. With the veto, current law regarding tax exemptions for housing projects remains in effect. The Governor also eliminated a measure that would have delayed the state school aids payment.

The bill also includes an \$18 million increase in funding for child care payments under the Wisconsin Shares program.

The Legislature is unlikely to overturn any of the Governor's vetoes.

List of Legislators Not Seeking Re-Election Grows

Several incumbent state senators and representatives have announced that they will not seek re-election this fall. Senator Roger Breske (D-Eland) of the 12th Senate District and Senator Carol Roessler (R-Oshkosh) of the 18th Senate District have both announced they will not be seeking another term in office. (The Governor announced this week that Sen. Breske has been selected as Wisconsin's new Railroad Commissioner.)

In the Assembly, the following representatives have announced that they will not seek re-election:

Sheryl Albers (R-Reedsburg), 50th Assembly District
Frank Boyle (D-Superior), 73rd Assembly District
Barbara Gronemus (D-Whitehall), 91st Assembly District

Eugene Hahn (R-Cambria), 47th Assembly District
Suzanne Jeskewitz (R-Menomonee Falls), 24th Assembly District
Terry Musser (R-Black River Falls), 92nd Assembly District
Carol Owens (R-Oshkosh), 53rd Assembly District
Dave Travis (D-Waunakee), 81st Assembly District
Sheldon Wasserman (D-Milwaukee), 22nd Assembly District
Steve Wieckert (R-Appleton), 57th Assembly District

Although not seeking another term in the Assembly, Rep. Wasserman has announced that he is running for the 8th District's Senate seat. Also, it is presumed that Representative Jim Kreuser (D-Kenosha) will not likely return to represent the 22nd Assembly District as he is currently running for Kenosha County Executive unopposed. This special election will take place in June.

Save the Date - Catholics *at the Capitol* 2009

"Catholics *at the Capitol* 2009" will be held on Tuesday, March 31, 2009, at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin. Registration information will be provided via the *Capitol Update* and will be posted on the [WCC website](#) this fall.

Web Sites of Interest

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/waml>

- Who are my legislators

<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/leginfo.html>

- 2008 Special Session Calendar
- Weekly Schedule of Committee Activities
- Senate and Assembly Daily Floor Calendar

Capitol Update is a periodic e-mail on legislative issues from the Wisconsin Catholic Conference. To "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" please send a request to office@wisconsincatholic.org.

Wisconsin Catholic Conference
131 W. Wilson St., Suite 1105
Madison, WI 53703
608/257-0004
www.wisconsincatholic.org