



DEVIN LEMAHIEU

STATE SENATOR

December 10, 2018

Jennifer Hudon
900 Quay St
Manitowoc, WI 54220-4543

Dear Jennifer,

Thank you for contacting me to share your thoughts regarding the Extraordinary Session. I appreciate hearing from you.

The bills passed in Extraordinary Session enable the legislature to do our job as part of a co-equal branch of government. They also ensure the reforms we have made over the last few years cannot simply be undone by unaccountable agency bureaucrats or a broad Executive Order.

Some of the reforms the Extraordinary Session put into Wisconsin State Statute include:

- Providing citizens with the ability to get a free ID for voting
- Expanding the definition of proof of citizenship compared to current rules to make it easier to get an ID to vote
- Include technical college IDs as a valid form of identification for voting
- Drug-testing, screening, and treatment requirements for Foodshare recipients
- Bipartisan reinsurance legislation to protect vulnerable populations who fall through the ACA cracks
- Online sales tax revenue collection procedures resulting from a Supreme Court case
- Tax entity changes needed as a result of the federal tax law changes

Contrary to what has been portrayed in the media, the changes we made do not strip Governor-Elect Evers of his powers. They assert the role of the legislature and ensure that we have a seat at the table allowing for a better exchange of ideas and cooperation. It is important to remember that Governor-Elect Evers will continue to hold one of the strongest veto pens in the country.

Furthermore, Governor-Elect Evers indicated that he plans to dismantle the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). The legislature took action to ensure that significant economic development projects that are currently in progress throughout the state are protected. WEDC has played a vital role in the expansion of many businesses in the 9th Senate District including Johnsonville, Ameriquip, Millipore Sigma, Masters Gallery and DowCo. The WEDC transitional plan that was passed will enable the legislature to work with the Governor-Elect to efficiently transition this important agency and collaboratively keep economic development in Wisconsin robust.

Under the legislation, the Attorney General's office will continue to operate with legislative oversight. AG-Elect Kaul has indicated that he will not represent the legislature in several cases that currently reside in the court system. In light of these remarks the legislature took action to ensure we have the ability to retain counsel and represent our constituencies.

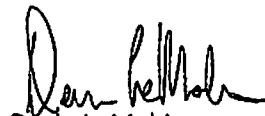
The Senate also approved a series of outstanding appointments made over the last year by Governor Walker. Two of these appointments reside in the 9th Senate District and I am happy that they get to serve on the boards they were appointed to – a dentist on the Dental Examining Board and a student to the Wisconsin Technical College System Board.

I was hopeful that the session would fulfill my campaign promise of ensuring health insurance coverage for those with pre-existing conditions. The bill failed in the Senate 16-17. Every single democrat voted against protecting those with pre-existing conditions. I voted in favor of this bill and will continue to advocate for this protection being added to Wisconsin Statute.

Finally, the Senate Republicans stood firm and refused to take up the proposal to change the Presidential Primary date.

Thanks again for contacting me to share your thoughts on the Extraordinary Session. Please feel free to contact my office in the future if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Devin LeMahieu

State Senator

9th Senate District