State Policy Update A Briefing for Mental Health Advocates

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State Election Results

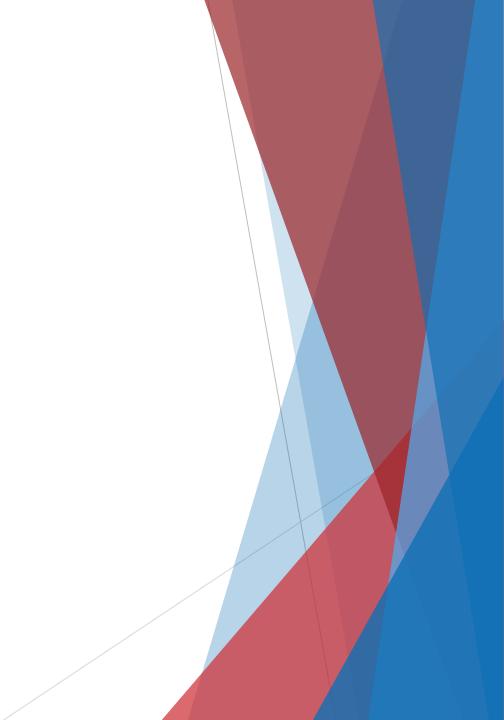
State elected officials

- State Senate (22 Rs, 11 Ds). Republican super-majority (changed to 21 Rs with resignation of Sen. Darling).
- State Assembly (64 Rs, 35 Ds). Republican majority.
- Governor/Lt. Governor, Tony Evers/Sarah Rodriguez (D)
- State Attorney General, Josh Kaul (D)
- Secretary of State, Doug LaFollette (D)
- State Treasurer, John Lieber (R)

Election Results

Federal elected officials

U.S. Senate, Ron Johnson (R)
U.S. House of Representatives (6 Rs, 2 Ds)



What do the election results mean?

Governor Evers (D) re-elected Governor.

- State agency appointed leadership remains.
- Policy direction of state agencies likely to remain similar.

State Legislature remains controlled by Republicans

- State Senate and Assembly chose same leadership as last session (Senate, Sen LeMahieu, Assembly, Rep. Vos).
- General policy direction and relationship with Governor likely to remain similar.
- State Senate (21 Rs, 11 Ds).
 - 8th SD open; spring election will determine if there is a super-majority
- State Assembly (64 Rs, 35 Ds).

Significant turnover in legislature

- 30% of the legislature will be new to their positions. Most will have been elected for the first time.
- •Few legislators have served more than 10 years. Most have served less than three terms.
- Assembly swore in 24 new members: 16 Republicans and 8 Democrats.
- Senate swore in 7 new members: 5 Republicans 2 Democrats.
- Most legislative staff are new.
- New opportunities to build relationships and educate.

Legislative Committees

New Committee Assignments are posted <u>https://legis.wisconsin.gov/</u>

- Select the Committee tab to view committee information.
 - Senate Committees (wisconsin.gov)
 - Assembly Committees (wisconsin.gov)
 - Joint Committees (wisconsin.gov)

Senate Committee on Mental Health, Substance Abuse Prevention, Children and Families

- Senator James (Chair)
- Senator Cabral-Guevara (Vice-Chair)
- Senator Ballweg
- Senator L. Johnson
- Senator Hesselbein

Assembly Committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse Prevention

- Representative Tittl (Chair)
- Representative Dittrich (Vice-Chair)
- Representative Behnke
- ► <u>Representative Gundrum</u>
- Representative Magnafici
- Representative Plumer
- Representative VanderMeer
- ► <u>Representative Wichgers</u>
- Representative Vining
- Representative Considine
- Representative Moore Omokunde
- ► <u>Representative Palmeri</u>

Joint Committee on Finance

- Representative Born (Co-Chair)
- Senator Marklein (Co-Chair)
- Representative Katsma (Vice-Chair)
- Senator Stroebel (Vice-Chair)
- Senator Felzkowski
- Senator Ballweg
- Senator Testin
- Senator Wimberger
- Senator L. Johnson
- Senator Roys
- Representative Zimmerman
- Representative Rodriguez
- Representative Kurtz
- Representative Dallman
- Representative Goyke
- ► <u>Representative McGuire</u>

Some Other Committees of Interest

- Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules
- Assembly Committee on Corrections
- Assembly Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety
- Assembly Committee on Education
- Assembly Committee on Housing and Real Estate
- Senate Committee on Education
- Senate Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety
- Senate Committee on Housing, Rural Issues and Forestry

Next Steps: Connect with Your Legislators

- Look up who are your legislators at <u>https://legis.wisconsin.gov/</u>).
 - Sign up to receive their newsletter
 - Review which committees they serve on
- Set up a meeting, call, or e-mail their office.
 - Introduce yourself as a constituent and credible mental health resource on issues that impact people in their district.
 - Meet in the district or at the Capitol

Other Next Steps

- Expect to see legislation from the last session return as well as new proposals introduced
- Attend one of the Governor's budget listening sessions and share your priorities for the budget.
 - https://evers.wi.gov/Pages/BudgetListeningSessions.aspx
- Listen to the Governor's State of the State address on January 24.
- Governor will present his proposed Biennial Budget to the Legislature on February 15. It will be referred to the Joint Finance Committee and kick off the state budget process.
- Participate in the Mental Health Task Force we will keep you updated!

Budget Process Basics

- 1. The Governor crafts his executive budget proposal and submits it to the legislature (early February)
 - Governor's budget proposal based on agency revenue estimates and requests and Governor's vision
 - Governor Evers gathered public input (budget listening session) on several topics; his budget proposal may be influenced by public comments.
- Governor's budget referred to 16-member Joint Finance Committee (JFC), which removes, edits, and adds items to the budget.
- JFC holds budget hearings for public comment (March-April) and hearings on each state agencies section of the budget (March-May).
- JFC submits edited budget proposal to state Senate and Assembly for a vote (late May-June).
- 5. Revised budget sent to Governor for signature (by June 20, 2021

2023 Elections

Spring Primary: February 21, 2023

Spring Election: April 4, 2023

Resources are available on: https://disabilityvote.org/

- ▶ <u>Make Your Plan to Vote fact sheet</u>
- Voter Toolkit 2023 Elections
- Disability Rights Wisconsin Voter Hotline: 844-347-8683 info@disabilityvote.org

What's on the Ballot?

Spring elections are nonpartisan races.

- State Supreme Court seat (Justice Pat Roggensack is retiring.)
- Court of Appeals Districts 1 and 4
- Circuit Courts In many counties
- Special Election Senate District 8

Local races depending on where you live:

- County Executive
- County Board
- Mayor
- City Council, Town or Village President and Board
- School Board

Constitutional amendments

Questions?