



**WISCONSIN
GROCERS
ASSOCIATION**

Wisconsin Grocers Association – Capitol Days May 17 – Legislative Biographies



Senator Jesse James - R
District 23



- Born Eau Claire, Wisconsin, April 16, 1972; married; 4 children, 2 grandchildren.
- Graduate Eau Claire North High School, 1990; Associate degree in Police Science, Chippewa Valley Technical College, (Eau Claire, Wisconsin), 2001; Emergency Medical Responder, 2015; Entry level, Fire I, Fire II Firefighter, 2016; University of Wisconsin-Madison Command College (Certified Public Manager), 2017; University of Virginia Darden School of Business Emerging Legislative Leaders Program Attendee, 2020; Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD) Graduate, 2021.
- Small business owner; part-time police officer, Cadott Police Department; State of Wisconsin Firearms Instructor; Former warehouse specialist; SWAT team member; firefighter. Served in the U.S. Army Air Defense, 1990-93; U.S. Army Reserves (Medic), 1993–96; Persian Gulf War veteran.
- Member: Solis Circle Housing Project-Altoona (community representative); American Veterans Association Post 0654; American Legion Post 291 (Augusta, Wisconsin); American Legion Post 73 (Neillsville, Wisconsin); National Council of State Legislatures Opioid Fellow, 2022.
- Elected to Assembly 2018-20. Elected to Senate 2022.



Senator Pat Testin - R
District 24

- Born Madison, Wisconsin, June 9, 1988; married.
- Graduate Marinette High School, 2006; B.S. in Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, 2011; Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD) Fellow, 2018.
- Sales professional for Wisconsin-based wine distributor.
- Member: Stevens Point Elk Lodge 641; Ignite Leadership Network of Portage County; Wisconsin Wing, Civil Air Patrol Legislative Squadron.
- Recipient: Associated Builders and Contractors Building Wisconsin Award 2021–22, 2019–20; Wisconsin Property Taxpayer Champion 2021, 2019; Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce Champion of Commerce 2017–18; Wisconsin Ducks Unlimited Friend of the Ducks Award,

	<p>2021; American Conservative Union Conservative Excellence Award 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017; VFW Department of Wisconsin Legislator of the Year 2018; Dairy Business Association Legislative Excellence Award 2020, 2018; Wisconsin Water Alliance Outstanding Legislator of the Year 2020; Wisconsin Nurses Association Outstanding Legislator of the Year 2022; American Association of Nurse Practitioners State Award for Excellence 2022; Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association Hero Award 2020, 2018; Americans for Prosperity (AFP) Champion of Craft Beverage Freedom Award 2017–18; Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin Legislator of the Year 2020; Wisconsin Counties Association Outstanding Legislator of the Year 2021–2022, 2019–2020; Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce Working for Wisconsin Award 2021–22, 2019–20, 2017–18; Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians Friend of Family Medicine Award 2019–20, 2017–18; Wisconsin Paper Council Legislator of the Year 2020; Wisconsin Economic Development Association Champion of Economic Development Award 2019–20, 2017–18; Wisconsin Grocers Association Friend of Grocers 2020; Cooperative Network Friend of Cooperatives Award 2018; Wisconsin Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Legislator of the Year 2022, 2018; Whitetails of Wisconsin Legislator of the Year 2022, 2018; Wisconsin Public Health Association (WPHA) and Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards, Friend of Public Health 2019–20; Wisconsin Hemp Alliance Hemp Hero Award 2020; Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Association, Legislative Award 2018; Wisconsin Library Association Wisconsin Library Champion 2018; 3rd District Republican Party of Wisconsin Best Legislator of the Year Award 2019; Wisconsin Electric Cooperatives Association Champion of Electric Cooperatives Award 2021; Conservatives for a Clean Energy Future Clean Energy Champion 2020; Wisconsin Game Preserve Association Legislator of the Year 2022; Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association Community Health Center State Grant Champion 2021; Wisconsin State Firefighters Association Friend of Wisconsin State Firefighters Association 2020.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elected to Senate since 2016. Leadership positions: President Pro Tempore 2023, 2021; Majority Caucus Vice Chair, 2019, 2017.
 <p>Senator Jeff Smith - D District 31</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Born Eau Claire, Wisconsin, March 15, 1955; married; 2 children. Graduate Eau Claire North High School, 1973. Former owner/operator of window cleaning business, 1973–2011; community organizer for Western Wisconsin Organizing Cooperative of Citizen Action, 2016–18. Member Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce; Wisconsin Farmers Union Former member: Valley Gospel Choir (president); Eau Claire Male Chorus; Eau Claire Kiwanis Club; Eau Claire Area School District Parent Advisory Committee (founder and chair); Eau Claire Family Resource Center (board member); Governor’s Task Force for Educational Excellence; Wisconsin PTA state board; DPI Parent Leadership Corps; Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools; Township Fire Department (vice president of board of directors); Tainter-Menomin Lake Improvement Association (board member); University of Wisconsin Extension Community Partner Advisory Group. Elected to Town of Brunswick Board (chair), 2001-2007; Assembly 2006–10. Elected to Senate since 2018. Leadership positions: Assistant Minority Leader 2023; Minority Caucus Chair 2021.
 <p>Senator Brad Pfaff – D District 32</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Born Lacrosse County, Wisconsin, December 7, 1967 B.A. in public and environmental administration, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay; Master of Public Administration, George Mason University Former secretary-designee of the Wisconsin Department of agriculture, trade, and consumer protection; Worked for US Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency Member of Transportation Projects Commission and Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Elected to Senate 2021



Rep. Rob Summerfield – R
District 67

- Born Eau Claire, Wisconsin, February 24, 1980; raised in Bloomer, Wisconsin; married; 3 children.
- Graduate Bloomer High School, 1998; B.S. in Business Administration, University of Wisconsin–Stout, 2002.
- Small business owner.
- Member: Bloomer Chamber of Commerce; Bloomer Community Lake Association; Bloomer Rod & Gun; Chippewa County Tavern League; NRA; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (Bloomer, Wisconsin).
- Former member: Tavern League of Wisconsin.
- Elected to Assembly since 2016. Leadership positions: Majority Caucus Chair 2023.



Rep. Karen Hurd – R
District 68

- Born Houston, Texas, October 20, 1957; married; 5 children, 5 grandchildren.
- Graduate Kirkwood High School (Kirkwood, Missouri), 1976; B.A. in Spanish, Truman State University, 1980; Diploma in Comprehensive Nutrition, Huntington College of Health Sciences, 1994; M.S. in Biochemistry, University of Saint Joseph, 2017.
- Nutritionist; owner of Karen R. Hurd Nutritional Practice, 1994–present; K–12 substitute teacher, Fall Creek School System, 2021–present. Served as U.S. Army Captain, Military Intelligence, 1980–84.
- Member: Fall Creek Valley Housing/Fall Creek Retirement Housing (board member, former president); American Legion Post 376 (color guard commander, chaplain); Fall Creek Public Library Trustee; Fall Creek Lions Club; Fall Creek Historical Society.
- Former member: Faith Evangelical Free Church (director of music, worship leader, Sunday school teacher, women’s bible study leader).
- Recipient: Army Commendation Medal; Air Assault Badge; Expert Marksmanship Badge.
- Elected Fall Creek Village Trustee, 2021–present. Elected to Assembly 2022.





Rep. Donna Rozar - R
District 69



- Born Lancaster, Pennsylvania, February 9; single; 5 children, 6 grandchildren.
- Graduate Virginia Baptist Hospital School of Nursing, 1971; B.S. in Nursing, University of Tennessee, 1981; M.S. in Nursing, Viterbo University, 2008.
- Registered nurse; small business owner, residential and commercial rental property. Former nurse educator.
- Member: Special Committee on State Tribal Relations.
- Elected to Assembly 2020.



Rep. Nancy VanderMeer –
R
District 70

- Born Evergreen Park, Illinois, December 15, 1958; married.
- Graduate Evergreen Park Community High School, 1976; B.S. in Psychology, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, 1988; Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development class of 2017.
- Former automobile dealer; small business owner; family dairy farmer.
- Member: Jackson County Local Emergency Planning Commission; Farm Bureau; Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (former council president); Tomah Chamber of Commerce (former board of directors member); NRA; American Legion Auxiliary; board of directors of the nonprofit Handishop Industries; Monroe County Mental Health Coalition; American Association of University Women—Tomah Chapter.
- Former member: Tomah Memorial Hospital board of directors (former officer); American Business Women’s Association (former president).
- Recipient: Sparta Area School District *Certificate of Recognition* 2015; Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Association *Legislative Award* 2016; Wisconsin Academy of Family Physicians *Friend of Family Medicine* 2016; Dairy Business Association *Legislative Excellence Award* 2018, 2017, 2016; Wisconsin Library Association *Wisconsin Library Champion* 2016; National Foundation for Women Legislators *Elected Women of Excellence Award* 2017; U.S. Army War College Commandant’s National Security Program *Certificate of Leader Development* 2017; Tomah AAUW *Mary E. Wedin Women’s History Month Award* 2018; NCSL Early Learning Fellow 2018.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected to Assembly since 2014.
 <p>Rep. Katrina Shankland – D District 71</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born Wausau, Wisconsin, August 4, 1987; married. • Graduate Wittenberg-Birnamwood High School, 2005; attended University of Wisconsin-Marathon County, 2004–05, and Marquette University, 2005–06; B.A. in Political Science, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009; M.S. in Community and Organizational Leadership, UW-Stevens Point, 2019. • Full-time legislator. Former nonprofit professional. • Member: Born Learning Advocacy and Awareness Steering Committee; Wisconsin Legislative Children’s Caucus; Wisconsin Legislative Sportsmen’s Caucus; National Caucus of Environmental Legislators; Young Elected Officials Network; Council of State Governments Henry Toll Fellow, 2013; Major, Wisconsin Wing, Civil Air Patrol Legislative Squadron (official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force). • Elected to Assembly since 2012. Leadership positions: Assistant Minority Leader 2015.
 <p>Rep. Scott Krug - R District 72</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, September 16, 1975; married; 6 children. • Graduate Lincoln High School, 1993; attended University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point; Associate Degree, Mid-State Technical College, 1999; B.A.S. in Psychology, University of Wisconsin–Green Bay, 2008. • Realtor; Adams County Board of Supervisors District 18. Former Wood County Drug Court Coordinator, jail discharge planner; Juneau County Sheriff’s deputy. • Member: Wisconsin Rapids Elks Lodge #693 (exalted ruler); Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce; Wisconsin Rapids Rotary. • Recipient: Wisconsin Paper Council <i>Legislator of the Year</i>; Wisconsin Industrial Energy Group <i>Legislator of the Year Award</i>; Child Support Enforcement Association <i>Legislator of the Year</i>; League of Conservation Voters <i>Honor Roll</i>; Dairy Business Association <i>Legislative Excellence Award</i>; Wisconsin Troopers Association <i>Legislator of the Year</i>; Wisconsin Counties Association <i>Outstanding Legislator</i>; Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce <i>Working for Wisconsin Award</i>; Wisconsin Grocers Association <i>Friend of Grocers Award</i>; Third Congressional District <i>State Legislator of the Year</i>; Milwaukee Metropolitan Association of

	<p>Commerce <i>Champion of Commerce</i>; Wisconsin FORCE <i>Champion of the Second Amendment and the Rights of the People of Wisconsin</i>; Professional Firefighters of Wisconsin <i>Fire Safety Legislator of the Year</i>; Wisconsin Farmers Union <i>Friend of the Family Farm</i>; Wisconsin Building Association <i>Friend of Housing</i>; American Conservative Union Foundation <i>Defender of Liberty</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elected to Assembly since 2010.
 <p>Rep. Jodi Emerson – D District 91</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born Eau Claire, Wisconsin, August 3, 1972; married; 2 children. • Graduate Eau Claire Memorial High School, 1990; studied biotechnology, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, 1990–92. • Former anti-human trafficking advocate. • Member: Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Consortium; Wisconsin Women’s Council; Governor’s Council on Migrant Labor; Wisconsin Legislative Children’s Caucus; National Foundation for Women Legislators (state director). • Former member: Wisconsin Human Trafficking Advisory Council; Wisconsin Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force; Wisconsin Parent Teacher Association; Girl Scouts; Eastside Hill Neighborhood Association Steering Committee. • Elected to Assembly since 2018.
 <p>Rep. Treig Pronschinske - R District 92</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born Eau Claire, Wisconsin, July 7, 1978; married; 1 child. • Graduate Memorial High School, 1996; degree in Construction Management, Chippewa Valley Technical College, 1997. • Small business owner; general construction contractor. • Member: Mondovi Fire Department (volunteer firefighter); Gilmanton Community Club. • Former member: Mondovi Youth Baseball Association (president); Mondovi Ambulance Commission 2014–18; Big Brothers Big Sisters; Junior Achievement volunteer. • Elected mayor of Mondovi, 2014–18; to Assembly since 2016.



Rep. Warren Petryk – R
District 93

- Born Eau Claire, Wisconsin, January 24, 1955; married.
- Eagle Scout, November 1969; Badger Boys State, 1972; Graduate and valedictorian, Boyceville High School, 1973; attended University of Wisconsin-Stout; earned B.A. with highest honors University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, 1978.
- Worked 15 years in community relations for United Cerebral Palsy of West Central Wisconsin; cofounder of musical entertainment group “The Memories” (started 1972).
- Member: Eau Claire, Menomonie, Ellsworth, and Prescott Chambers of Commerce; National Rifle Association; Eau Galle-Rush River, Ellsworth, Durand, Rock Falls, and Arkansaw Sportsmen’s Clubs; Wisconsin Farm Bureau; Cleghorn Lions Club; Chippewa Valley Council of Boy Scouts of America (board of directors).
- Recipient: Wisconsin Veterans of Foreign Wars *Legislator of the Year* 2013; Wisconsin AMVETS *Veteran’s Advocate of the Year* 2014; Wisconsin Electrical Cooperative Association *Most Enlightened Legislator* 2016; Wisconsin School Nutrition Association *Legislator of the Year* 2018, 2016; Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce *Working for Wisconsin Award* (every term); Dairy Business Association *Legislative Excellence Award* (every term); Wisconsin Economic Development Association *Champion of Economic Development Award* 2018.
- Elected to Assembly since 2010.



Rep. Steve Doyle – D
District 94

- Born La Crosse, Wisconsin, May 21, 1958; married; 2 children.
- Graduate Aquinas High School, 1976; B.A., University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, 1980; J.D. , University of Wisconsin Law School, 1986.
- Attorney. Former instructor, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.
- Former member: Family Resource Center (board member); Family and Children’s Center (board member); Coulee Region Humane Society (board member, president).
- La Crosse County Board, 1986–present (chair, 2002–11).
- Elected to Assembly in May 2011 special election. Reelected since 2012. Leadership positions: Minority Caucus Vice Chair 2019, 2017.



Rep. Jill Billings – D
District 95

- Born Rochester, Minnesota; 2 children.
- Graduate Stewartville High School, 1980; B.A., Augsburg College (Minneapolis, MN), 1989; Council of State Governments: Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD) Fellow 2012, Toll Fellow 2014; National Conference of State Legislatures Early Learning Fellow.
- Full-time legislator. Former teacher of English and Citizenship to Hmong adults.
- Member: Council of State Governments (member of Health and Human Services Committee; National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, Mississippi River Caucus; Wisconsin Legislative Children’s Caucus (cochair); Wisconsin Family Impact Seminar Advisors Committee; Viterbo University Board of Advisors; University of Wisconsin–La Crosse Chancellor’s Community Council; American Association of University Women La Crosse Branch; Preservation Alliance of La Crosse; La Crosse Alliance to HEAL (Halting the Effects of Addiction Locally); Wisconsin Taiwan Friendship Caucus (cochair).
- Elected to La Crosse County Board, 2004–12; Assembly in November 2011 special election. Reelected since 2012.



Rep. Loren Oldenburg – R
District 96

- Born Viroqua, Wisconsin, September 8, 1965; married.
- Graduate Viroqua High School, 1984; attended University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, 1984–87.
- Dairy farmer.
- Member: Chaseburg Cenex Co-op (19 years, current president of the board); Viroqua Church of Christ (trustee).
- Former Harmony Town Board Supervisor; Harmony Town Board Chairman; Westby Co-op Creamery board member and president.
- Elected to the Assembly 2018.