



# STATE OF WISCONSIN Senate Journal

## One-Hundred and First Regular Session

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2:00 P.M.

MONDAY, January 7, 2013

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The Senate met.

The Senate was called to order by Senate President Risser.

The Senate stood for the prayer which was offered by Reverend Monseigneur Joseph Diermeier of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Marathon.

"Holy God, on the occasion of this Inauguration ceremony, we praise our name just as women, men and children have praised you from the dawn of creation.

Those who have faith in you also believe that their lives are under your providential care.

May all among us that are guided by the gift of faith, acknowledge your eternal presence with us here in this very moment.

We thank you, Almighty God, for being the source of life, of liberty, and the source of the pursuit of happiness, which the founders of this nation sought to protect.

May the women and men who have been elected to lead our state and its government, carry on the work of safe guarding these same principles.

Under your providential care, we ask that our nation, and specifically, that our state, will continue to prosper in ways that are pleasing to you.

May we work for justice and for a moral order that discerns right from wrong, based on the natural law, which you have planted in our hearts.

Lord, you know that we are a people comprised of various races and creeds. We pray that we may work together and unite our efforts to build a culture that promotes the obligation to love, and advances the obliteration of discrimination and prejudice.

Help us, Lord, to build a culture of life, through ways that are truly life giving.

We believe that with your guidance and under your inspiration that this goal can be achieved.

Lord, this land has a great history where the works of mercy and charity have abounded. May they continue to flourish in this present age, so that current and future generations can experience the magnitude of goodness that surrounds us.

On this Inauguration Day, we ask for your blessing and guidance upon all who have accepted a call to serve their communities and our state as state senators.

Guide their minds and hearts in all that they do; may their efforts be a reflection of your truth.

We ask these things, Almighty God, through your bountiful goodness.  
Amen."

The Colors were presented by the VFW Day Post 7591 Color Guard Unit, the Black Knights of Madison, WI.

The National Anthem was performed by the Brodhead Cardinal High School Band.

The Senate remained standing and said the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

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### State of Wisconsin Government Accountability Board

December 7, 2012

The Honorable, the Senate:

I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the official canvass of the November 6, 2012 General Election vote for State Senator along with the determination by the designee of the Chairperson of the Government Accountability Board of the winners.

With this letter, I am delivering the Certificates of Election and transmittal letters for the winners to you for distribution.

If the Government Accountability Board can provide you with further information or assistance, please contact our office.

Sincerely,  
*KEVIN J. KENNEDY*  
Director and General Counsel

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### Statement of Canvass for State Senator

GENERAL ELECTION, November 6, 2012

I, David G. Deininger, Chairperson of the Government Accountability Board, certify that the attached tabular statements, as compiled from the certified returns made to the Government Accountability Board by the county clerks of the several counties of the state, contain a correct abstract of the total number of votes given for the election of

candidates for State Senator, at a General Election held in the several towns, wards, villages and election districts in said counties on the Sixth day of November, 2012.

I DO, THEREFORE, DETERMINE AND CERTIFY that the following candidates, having each received the greatest number of votes in their respective senatorial districts, are duly elected State Senator:

<u>Senate District</u>	<u>Elected</u>
2nd District	Robert L. Cowles
4th District	Lena C. Taylor
6th District	Nikiya Harris
8th District	Alberta Darling
10th District	Sheila Harsdorf
12th District	Tom Tiffany
14th District	Luther S. Olsen
16th District	Mark Miller
18th District	Rick Gudex
20th District	Glenn Grothman
22nd District	Robert W. Wirsch
24th District	Julie Lassa
26th District	Fred A. Risser
28th District	Mary Lazich
30th District	Dave Hansen
32nd District	Jennifer Shilling

Done in the City of Madison, this 29th day of November, 2012.

*DAVID G. DEININGER*  
 Chairperson  
 Government Accountability Board

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**IN THE CHAIR**

Pursuant to Senate Rule 2 (1), Senate President Pro Tempore Carpenter in the chair.

With unanimous consent, the party leaders introduced their respective members as they came before the bar to be sworn in.

**Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Cowles**

“Senator Cowles represents the people of the 2nd Senate District, and lives in the Village of Allouez just south of the City of Green Bay.

Senator Cowles will be the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy and the Co-Chairman of the Joint Committee on Audit.

When Senator Cowles previously held the position of Co-Chairman of the Joint Audit Committee, he was a key player in numerous state audits, such as the audit of Medicaid, the fleet audit, and the IT audit. Along with Senator Cowles’ invested interest in his committees, he has a long standing history of being a strict fiscal conservative. He has always been willing to take a stand against government spending.

With that said, I would like to welcome Senator Cowles back to the Wisconsin Senate for the 2013-2014 Legislative Session.”

**Senator Larson Introduced Senator Taylor**

“Senator Lena Taylor is beginning her third term in the State Senate representing the 4th Senate District. Senator Taylor serves the north side of Milwaukee, including the historic Riverwest, Harambee, and Rufus King neighborhoods, as well as the communities of Shorewood, Glendale, and Wauwatosa.

Senator Taylor served her district and the Senate in her first two terms on the Joint Committee on Finance and on the Committee on Judiciary. The Senator has fought hard to secure funding for Milwaukee and the priorities of education accountability, transit systems, health care access and affordability, and improved capital opportunity for minority and local business. Senator Taylor has been an outspoken advocate for the civil liberties of all people, including working to maintain the right to vote unimpeded and reforming the corrections system.

Senator Taylor previously served in the State Assembly and continues her private law practice outside the Senate. She lives in the Rufus King neighborhood on the block on which she grew up, with her son, Isaiah.”

**Senator Larson Introduced Senator Harris**

“The newly elected Senator Nikiya Harris represents our neighbors in the 6th Senate District, which is comprised of the City of Milwaukee. This thriving metropolis plays a vital role in the success of our state and our economy. Born and raised in Milwaukee, Senator Harris is deeply connected to her community.

Prior to being elected to the Legislature, Senator Harris helped support our quality universities as a pre-college coordinator for UWM’s College of Health Services. She also strived to continue Wisconsin’s tradition of environmental stewardship by working at Milwaukee’s Urban Ecology Center as a special events coordinator and membership manager. In May 2010, Senator Harris was elected to the Milwaukee County Board as a supervisor, where she served until her election to the State Senate.

Senator Harris also understands the challenges of raising a family in Milwaukee County, as she took guardianship over her three younger siblings while still very young after the passing of her mother. This personal experience has helped her to truly understand what her community values so she can better represent them. It has also shaped Senator Harris’ priorities on the County Board and now as a senator. Senator Harris has been a strong voice for her neighbors by advocating for quality education statewide, increasing access to public transit, and protecting some of our most sacred rights, such as the right to vote.

Joining Senator Nikiya Harris today is her grandmother Josephine Montgomery, her sister Kenya Johnson, her aunt and uncle George and Karen Harris, her aunt Nicole Buckley, and her cousins Brittany Cullen, LaTisha Terry, and Tamara Walker.”

### **Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Darling**

"Senator Alberta Darling was elected to the State Senate in 1992 after previously serving in the State Assembly. The 8th Senate District includes portions of Milwaukee, Waukesha, Washington and Ozaukee Counties.

Alberta has served on the Joint Committee on Finance since 1999 and will be co-chairing it this session for the third time. She is the first woman to co-chair the state's budget writing committee.

Last session, she was instrumental in fixing a \$3.6 billion budget deficit without raising taxes. Alberta authored legislation to save taxpayers millions by ending raids on segregated funds and paying our bills on time. She has continued her efforts to reform government and protect taxpayers by fighting welfare fraud.

Senator Darling authored Jessica's Law, which protects Wisconsin's children from sexual predators, the Sex Offender Registry and Internet Predator law. She also authored Wisconsin's law to protect children from abusive clergy. These landmark laws, along with her work on behalf of victims' rights, have earned her a reputation as a reformer.

A former teacher, Senator Darling entered public service with a commitment to protecting, educating and improving the lives of children. She helped create Wisconsin's landmark school choice and charter school laws. Last session, she authored the Sidelined for Safety Act which will help protect student athletes from concussions.

Senator Darling has been married to Dr. William Darling for more than 45 years. They are the parents of two children, Liza and Will, and proud grandparents of two grandsons Charlie and Liam and one granddaughter Andie.

Joining Senator Darling today are some of her constituents."

### **Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Harsdorf**

"Sheila was re-elected last fall by the voters of the 10th Senate District, which includes parts of Burnett, Dunn, Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix Counties.

Sheila has been a tireless advocate for western Wisconsin and has long fought for issues affecting our small communities and rural areas in the State Legislature. As a former dairy farmer, Sheila knows firsthand the challenges facing agricultural producers and the importance of agriculture to our state's economy. In representing a district that borders Minnesota, Sheila understands the critical need for Wisconsin to remain competitive with other states as we seek to attract jobs and grow our economy.

Sheila is today joined by her son, Ryan, her sisters and their spouses, Roxy and Wade Carlson and Sue and Steve Josephson, and her brother, Jim Harsdorf. Also joining Sheila are many friends that made the drive from western Wisconsin."

### **Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Tiffany**

"Senator-Elect Tom Tiffany was elected in November to represent the 12th Senate District. Tom just completed

his first term in the State Assembly serving as State Representative of the 35th Assembly District. In the Assembly, Tom was known for his hard work on issues related to natural resources, tourism, and economic development.

Tom and his wife Chris own and operate Wisconsin River Cruises, which they started in 1991, and Tom is the dam man, better known as the damtender, on the Willow Flowage. In addition, Tom serves as Town Supervisor for the Town of Little Rice, a position held since 2009.

Today, Senator-Elect Tiffany is joined by his wife Chris and their three daughters Karlyn, Lexie, and Katherine. In addition, Tom is also joined by family members including his mother Virgal Tiffany, his sister and brother-in-law Lou and Jim Welter, his brother Richard, and his brother Charles with his son Tanner."

### **Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Olsen**

"Senator Luther Olsen representing the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District is from Ripon, Wisconsin, a graduate of Berlin High School and the University of Wisconsin Madison. Today marks the start of his third term in the Senate, after having served in the State Assembly since 1995. Prior to being elected to the Legislature, Senator Olsen served his hometown for 20 years as a member of the Berlin Area School Board – 9 of those as school board president.

Senator Olsen will be returning as the Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Finance and the Chairman of the Education Committee where his leadership on K-12 education is recognized not just in the Capitol but nationwide. In 2012 he was selected to serve as the Education Committee Co-Chair for the National Conference of State Legislatures. Several family members, including his wife Joan Wade, join Senator Olsen today."

### **Senator Larson Introduced Senator Miller**

"Senator Mark Miller, representing the 16th Senate District, is entering his third term in the State Senate. His district spans a large portion of Dane County. Prior to being elected to the Senate, he served six years in the State Assembly and four years on the Dane County Board. This past session, Senator Miller served as Senate Democratic Leader and as Senate Majority Leader for the second half of 2012.

Senator Miller is a former small business owner and served our country for 30 years as a fighter pilot in the Air National Guard, retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1995.

Senator Miller is a leading advocate for smart environmental policy and conservation. He will continue to work for a more energy efficient Wisconsin this session as the ranking member of the Senate Natural Resources Committee.

Joining Senator Mark Miller today is his wife Jo Oyama Miller, his brother and sister-in-law Jeff and Karen, his brother Randy Miller, his daughter Chandra Miller Fienen, and his sister-in-law Debi Leeper."

### **Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Gudex**

“Rick Gudex was elected on November 6 to serve the people of the 18th Senate District. Rick grew up in Eden, Wisconsin where he learned the value of hard work by doing chores on the family farm and working at construction sites. After graduating high school, Rick began a successful career in the manufacturing industry at Gehl Company in West Bend. He is now employed as a production manager of the Aluminum Division at Brenner Tank in Fond du Lac.

Rick began his distinguished career in public service in 1998, when he became the mayor of Mayville at the age of 29. In addition, Rick has served on the Eden Village Board, and in 2009, Rick was elected to the Fond du Lac City Council where he served as its president for the past three years.

The Gudex family is proud to call Fond du Lac “home.”

Rick is joined today by his wife Kim; their children Jayce and Alexana; Rick’s mother and father Diane and Don; Rick’s brother and sister-in-law Joel and Nancy; Rick’s sister and brother-in-law Breyn and Joe; family friends; Brenner Tank co-workers; and City of Fond du Lac administrators.”

### **Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Grothman**

“Senator Glenn Grothman represents the 20th Senate District which includes parts of Washington, Ozaukee, Fond du Lac, Sheboygan and Calumet counties. Senator Grothman was elected to the State Assembly in a special election in 1993 and eleven years later he began serving in the Senate. He attended UW-Madison for his undergraduate degree and received his law degree from the UW-Madison Law School.

Before Senator Grothman was elected to the Assembly, he was a lawyer in West Bend for ten years. Senator Grothman is known for being a fiscal and policy watchdog, and is well known for working across the aisle on commonsense solutions for the citizens of Wisconsin. He also was the author of, at the time, the most pro-life waiting period bill in the country.

Senator Grothman is particularly proud of the reforms he helped spearhead in the 2011-2012 session, especially on tax law and regulatory reform. Senator Grothman is honored to be the Chair of the Judiciary and Labor Committee as well as a member of the Joint Finance Committee.

Joining him today are his parents, Harold and Joan Grothman.”

### **Senator Larson Introduced Senator Wirch**

“Senator Bob Wirch was re-elected this November to his fifth term in the Wisconsin State Senate. He proudly serves the 22nd Senate District, which includes the City of Kenosha, the City of Racine, the Village of Mount Pleasant and the Village of Elmwood Park. Throughout his tenure in public service, Senator Wirch has been steadfast in his commitment to speaking with constituents and responding to their concerns.

A third-generation Kenosha native, Senator Wirch followed in his father and grandfather’s footsteps working at the American Brass Company for over two decades. While working at American Brass, he attended night classes at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, earning a Bachelor’s degree. He also served in the Army Reserve from 1965 until 1971. Senator Wirch was elected to the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors in 1986 where he served for eight years and worked to help establish the Shalom Center. He was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 1992 and served until his election to the State Senate in 1996.

Senator Wirch has been a strong advocate for Wisconsin’s environment and is a long serving member on the Senate Natural Resources Committee. This Legislative session, Senator Wirch has been appointed to the Joint Committee on Finance, the Senate Committee on Government Operations, and the Committee on Public Works and Telecommunications.

Senator Wirch is supported by his loving family. He is the oldest of six children born to Walter and Dorothy Wirch. Senator Wirch and his wife Mary have two grown children, David and Julia.

Today Senator Wirch is joined by his wife Mary and his children David and Julia, his brother Gary and his daughter Anne, his sister Pat, his brother Rick and his children Katie and Michael, and his sister Lori and her daughters Holly and Lindsey.”

### **Senator Larson Introduced Senator Lassa**

“This past November, Senator Julie Lassa was re-elected to her third term as a state senator in Wisconsin. She will be representing communities in the counties of Portage, Waushara, Wood, Adams, Monroe, and Jackson. Having grown up on her parents’ farm in northern Portage County, Senator Lassa is familiar with the priorities and values of those she serves.

Before her election to the Wisconsin State Senate in 2003, Senator Lassa served her community as an Executive Director for the Plover Area Business Association, a Supervisor on the Town of Dewey Board, and a Representative in the State Assembly.

Senator Lassa has made a reputation for herself of being able to work across party lines to find common sense solutions. She is passionate about making our state a better place for all Wisconsinites to live. While in the Legislature, she has focused on enhancing private-sector job creation, promoting small business growth, making government more accountable to taxpayers, and protecting our children.

Joining Senator Julie Lassa today is her husband John and her youngest daughter Lily.”

### **Senator Larson Introduced Senator Risser**

“Senator Fred Risser was re-elected to represent the 26th Senate District—home of the State Capitol and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The district includes much of the City of Madison and the Village of Shorewood Hills. A native Madisonian, Senator Risser is the fourth generation of his family to represent this area in the

Wisconsin Legislature. He was elected to the Assembly in 1956 and to the Senate in 1962. Senator Risser's lifelong dedication to public service gives him the distinct honor of being the longest serving state legislator in the United States. He is also regarded as an expert on the rules and procedures of the Wisconsin Senate.

During his tenure in the Wisconsin Legislature, Senator Risser has left a mark on countless areas of policy. His most notable achievement has been enactment of the SmokeFree Wisconsin Act, which has cleared the air in businesses and public spaces throughout the state. Senator Risser is a tireless advocate for maintaining the University of Wisconsin as a world-class teaching and research institution by providing appropriate resources and facilities to draw top students and faculty. He is passionate about preserving Wisconsin's natural resources through stewardship, the protection of state parks, and expansion of Wisconsin's vast network of recreational trails.

Joining Senator Risser today is his wife, Nancy Risser, his daughter Lisa White and her husband, Randy, his son-in-law Doug Falck, and his good friend Kara Sailing."

**Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Lazich**

"State Senator Mary Lazich was re-elected to represent the taxpayers and families of Wisconsin's 28th Senate District in November with a margin of over 63 percent. Senator Lazich has served in the State Senate since winning a special election in April of 1998, following three terms in the State Assembly.

During her years in the state legislature, Mary has earned recognition for her tenacity in helping her constituents work through government red tape. Senator Lazich continues to be a strong advocate for smaller government and fewer regulations. Throughout her career in elected office, Mary has earned recognition from numerous pro-life, pro-business and pro-taxpayer organizations.

As a loving wife, mother and grandmother, Mary knows the importance of providing families in Wisconsin a safe and stable environment, so they can raise and educate their children to have a prosperous future. Mary is joined here today by her husband Glenn Lazich."

**Senator Larson Introduced Senator Hansen**

"Re-elected to serve the 30th Senate District, Senator Dave Hansen will once again represent communities in Brown, Oconto, and Marinette Counties. He was first elected to the district in November 2000, making this his fourth term in the Legislature. Senator Hansen will also be a strong voice for the Senate Democratic Caucus as Assistant Democratic Leader once again.

Senator Hansen's roots in the Green Bay area run deep. Not only is he a third-generation resident, but he also worked as a teacher for eight years at Annunciation Grade School, a truck driver for nearly 20 years at Green Bay's Department of Public Works, and a Supervisor for six years in Brown County.

Through years of dedicated service to his neighbors, Senator Hansen has been a proponent of middle class

workers, like himself, and their families. This session, he will be fighting to protect Wisconsin's shared values as a member of the following committees: Agriculture, Small Business, and Tourism, Energy, Consumer Protection, and Government Reform, Transportation, Public Safety, and Veterans and Military Affairs, and Survey of Retirement Systems.

Joining Senator Hansen today is his wife Jane Hansen, his brother and sister-in-law Dennis and Mary Jo Hansen, and his brother Donald Hansen."

**Senator Larson Introduced Senator Shilling**

"Senator Jennifer Shilling was elected to her first full term in the State Senate in November, after serving five terms in the Wisconsin State Assembly. The 32nd Senate District is comprised of communities in Monroe, La Crosse, Vernon, and Crawford counties in western Wisconsin.

Prior to being elected to the Wisconsin Legislature, Senator Shilling worked as a legislative aide to State Representative Mark Meyer and Congressman Ron Kind. In addition to representing her community as a state senator, Senator Shilling also served as a La Crosse County Supervisor and the state representative for the 95th Assembly District, in La Crosse. This will be Senator Shilling's 13th year serving the people of western Wisconsin in the State Legislature.

Senator Shilling has been a strong voice for the values and priorities of her neighbors and constituents. She has been a strong advocate for higher education, including our Technical Colleges and University System, fostering economic development, and creating family-supporting jobs. She is also committed to helping Wisconsin's veterans and their families. Senator Shilling will again further her efforts to move Wisconsin forward by continuing to serve on the powerful Joint Committee on Finance.

Joining Senator Jennifer Shilling today is her husband Chris, their sons Nate and Zach, and several family members, including Jim and Kathy Shilling of Sparta, Bill and Marge Babcock of Oconomowoc, Ann Ehlenfeldt of Columbus, and Barbara Wiese of Waupaca. Jennifer thanks her family for their love, support and good humor!"

**Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Farrow**

"Senator Paul Farrow joined the State Senate on December 14, 2012 after serving the citizens of the 98th Assembly District since 2010.

A champion of small business, Paul has owned and operated two successful startup companies since the 1990s. Prior to serving in state politics, Paul was a school board member for the Richmond School in the Town of Lisbon and a former state director of the Youth in Government program for the YMCA of Metro Milwaukee.

Paul is proud to bring the 33rd Senate District's representation back into the Farrow family, where his mother, former Lieutenant Governor Margaret Farrow, served as its senator from 1989 until 2001.

Paul is joined today by his wife of 25 years Amy, their two sons, Andrew and Jarod, his mother and father, former

Lt. Governor Margaret Farrow and John Farrow, and in-laws Bill and Barb Vaitl.”

Absent or not voting - None.

Adopted.

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## OATH OF OFFICE

Upon the calling of the newly elected Senators on Monday, January 7, 2013, the following appeared before the Senate, took and subscribed the oath of office which was administered by the Honorable Pat Roggensack, Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Robert Cowles	Lena C. Taylor
Nikiya Harris	Alberta Darling
Sheila Harsdorf	Tom Tiffany
Luther Olsen	Mark Miller
Rick Gudex	Glenn Grothman
Robert W. Wirch	Julie Lassa
Fred Risser	Mary Lazich
Dave Hansen	Jennifer Shilling

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## IN THE CHAIR

Senate President Risser in the Chair.

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## CALL OF ROLL

The roll was called, disclosing the presence of a quorum.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 15, the official attendance for session was:

Senators Carpenter, Cowles, T. Cullen, Darling, Ellis, Erpenbach, Farrow, S. Fitzgerald, Grothman, Gudex, Hansen, Harris, Harsdorf, Jauch, Kedzie, C. Larson, Lasee, Lassa, Lazich, Lehman, Leibham, Miller, Moulton, Olsen, Petrowski, Risser, Schultz, Shilling, Taylor, Tiffany, Vinehout, Vukmir and Wirch - 33.

Absent - None.

Absent or not voting - None.

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Considered as priveleged and taken up.

### Senate Resolution 1

Relating to: notifying the assembly and the governor that the 2013-2014 senate is organized.

By Senators S. Fitzgerald, Ellis, Grothman, C. Larson and Hansen.

Read.

The question was: Adoption of **Senate Resolution 1**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 33; noes, 0; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Carpenter, Cowles, T. Cullen, Darling, Ellis, Erpenbach, Farrow, S. Fitzgerald, Grothman, Gudex, Hansen, Harris, Harsdorf, Jauch, Kedzie, C. Larson, Lasee, Lassa, Lazich, Lehman, Leibham, Miller, Moulton, Olsen, Petrowski, Risser, Schultz, Shilling, Taylor, Tiffany, Vinehout, Vukmir and Wirch - 33.

Noes - None.

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## Remarks of President Risser

“In a few moments, I will ask the new officers of the Senate come before the bar to take the oath of office. Before I do that, however, I would like to say a few words.

As we begin the 101st Session of the Wisconsin Legislature, I am hopeful that the members of this body - regardless of party or personal philosophy - can maintain the tradition of order and decorum that give the Wisconsin State Senate a reputation as a model legislative body. There are many challenges ahead of us this session, and I expect that we will handle them with dignity as guardians of the public interest.

I would like to thank my fellow Senators for allowing me to serve as Senate President. I find that it is always a great honor to serve as President and I enjoy the opportunity immensely.

For those new to this body, I will share a little history. The Wisconsin State Senate did not always select its presiding officer. The Lieutenant Governor acted as President of the Senate until 1979 when the state constitution was changed to provide that the Senate select its own president. I was the first Senator selected for that position in 1979 and have served on and off as president for approximately 24 of the past 34 years since that time.

Senator Mike Ellis, to whom I return the gavel today, is the fourth member of the Senate to be elected President from within; joining myself, Senator Brian Rude and Senator Alan Lasee. Senator Ellis also has the distinction of being the second longest serving member of the Wisconsin Legislature.

In fact, if you add that Senator Ellis is starting his 43rd year of legislative service to my starting my 57th year of service, the two of us log in a total of 100 years of service to Wisconsin.

This session we welcome a new Senate Chief Clerk, Jeff Renk. Jeff served in the Office of the Assembly Chief Clerk for 11 years before coming to the Senate as Assistant Chief Clerk in 2004. Thank you, Jeff, for your continued service to the Senate.

We also welcome back Senate Sergeant at Arms Ted Blazel for another session. Ted and his staff helped to keep order during a number of contentious debates last session. His experience and professionalism is a credit to the body.

Finally, I would like to recognize my wife, Nancy, who is here today. Without her help and support, I would not be standing before you now.

With that, I would like to call Senators Mike Ellis and Joe Leibham, as well as Chief Clerk Jeff Renk and Sergeant at Arms Ted Blazel before the bar to take the oath of office.”

## SENATE OFFICERS OATH OF OFFICE

The President, Michael G. Ellis, the President Pro Tempore, Joe Leibham, the Chief Clerk, Jeffery Renk, and the Sergeant at Arms, Edward A. Blazel, having been duly elected by the adoption of **Senate Resolution 1**, appeared together before the bar of the Senate, took and subscribed the oath of office which was administered by the Honorable Pat Roggensack, Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

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### IN THE CHAIR

Senate President Ellis in the chair.

President Ellis and President Pro Tempore Leibham introduced the Senators returning from the 100<sup>th</sup> Session: Senators Lasee, Carpenter, Vukmir, Larson, Leibham, Kedzie, Fitzgerald, Cullen, Schultz, Ellis, Lehman, Moulton, Jauch, Erpenbach, Petrowski and Vinehout.

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With unanimous consent, Senator Fitzgerald addressed the members from the rostrum.

### Remarks of Majority Leader Fitzgerald

“Mr. President, Justice Roggensack, Minority Leader Larson, fellow colleagues, and distinguished guests:

It is with a great sense of humility and honor that I stand before you today as Majority Leader. I thank my colleagues in the outer ring for conferring their trust in me, and I thank Minority Leader Larson and the members of his caucus for their efforts in the transition process.

As we begin the important duty of conducting the people’s business, I welcome and congratulate the 17 Senators whose oaths were renewed or taken for the first time today. Your constituents gave you the privilege and deep responsibility of representing their interests, and I look forward to working with you and each member of this body on the productive session ahead of us.

We began the difficult work of repairing our state in the last session, and we accomplished a great deal. We balanced the budget, eliminated the deficit, and created a surplus. We deposited an historic amount of money into the rainy day fund and passed a host of bipartisan jobs bills aimed at making our state a better place for employers to stay and create jobs in Wisconsin. There’s no doubt that our state is in better shape than it was just two years ago.

Getting those things done for the benefit of the people was not an easy task, and it came at a price for some of our members who refused to put their jobs ahead of what they thought was best for our state. But those days are behind us, and my hope for this session is to transcend the bitterness of the recalls and move forward together with a renewing spirit of bipartisanship and cooperation.

In this new session, we must build upon the proven reforms of the last. Our duty as senators is not to shirk the challenges we face but to confront them head on. We were elected to make the tough calls; not to run away from them.

We were sent to this chamber to make Wisconsin better and more prosperous for all.

This is why one of our top priorities will be passing legislation that opens the door for safe and environmentally sound mining in an area of our state in need of revitalization. We have the opportunity to allow for the creation of thousands of good paying, family supporting jobs right here in Wisconsin, and I know that is something we can all support.

In addition to making our state a friendlier place for jobs, we’ll focus on balancing our state budget and keeping spending in line with the taxpayers’ ability to pay. We’re here to be good stewards of the taxpayers’ hard earned money, and it’s our job to ensure it’s used wisely and more efficiently.

As members, we may be defined by districts and party affiliation, but we are united by the desire to make our state a better place. It is in this spirit that I welcome you to the 101<sup>st</sup> Session of the Wisconsin State Senate. Let’s roll up our sleeves and get to work.”

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With unanimous consent, Senator Larson addressed the members from the rostrum.

### Remarks of Minority Leader Larson

“Hello and welcome to Wisconsin’s 101st legislative session. It’s an honor to join my Senate colleagues, their family and friends, and our Wisconsin neighbors at this momentous event.

As we embark on another journey together, we must acknowledge that Wisconsin faces a number of steep mountains we must scale in the new legislative session. From disappointing job creation and economic development efforts, devaluation of our education system, to a lack of accountability and transparency measures for our tax dollars, Wisconsin’s middle class families are counting on us to summit these high ranges.

Starting today, we have a choice between more extreme ideology or real bipartisan solutions. Extremism has cost Wisconsin dearly. Despite jobs numbers growing nationally over the past 34 months, Wisconsin has stumbled; adding only 38,000 jobs during 2011 and 2012. Just last month, Forbes Magazine dropped its ranking of Wisconsin to 42nd out of 50 on its list of best states for business. We have had a costly reminder that putting up “Open for Business” signs is not enough to create real jobs. Wisconsin needs honest change, not just talk and political gimmicks.

By working together, we can reverse the failed policies that led to projections showing Wisconsin’s job growth will be second worst in the country through 2016. Without bipartisan efforts to move Wisconsin forward for all, working families from Menasha to Altoona, Beloit to Superior, will continue to go underemployed or unemployed. As we all know, Wisconsin’s working, middle class families are the key to creating a robust economy, and that is why they are our first priority this session.

Wisconsin also faces the challenge of a growing values deficit. I challenge each legislator to again go out and visit their community schools. See what we have seen. During my recent visits, I saw educators struggling to teach kids in overcrowded classrooms, with up to 44 students in each one. I visited schools that no longer teach art and music. By continuing to steal from our children's piggy bank, we're robbing them of their opportunity to live up to their full potential. It's our challenge to fully restore the devastating cuts to education and reclaim a promising future for our next generation.

If Wisconsin's going to be a pro-jobs state, it must be pro-education. Statistics show there is a direct correlation between education and one's ability to obtain a family supporting job. The 2011-2012 budget cut over \$1 billion from K-12 and higher education--the largest cut to education in Wisconsin's history. As a result, Wisconsin has ranked in the top five for cutting education spending per pupil while ranking 23rd on unemployment. On the other hand, states such as North Dakota, Wyoming, and Vermont that chose to increase investments in education have fared much better with unemployment, as they are all ranked in the top 10.

We have another challenge this session. With real bipartisanship we can rip away the curtain of secrecy and let the light of accountability and transparency shine on our state programs.

We recently saw what can happen when accountability and transparency are sacrificed by state agencies, like the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation. Tasked with creating much needed jobs, this hastily-created agency was handed \$85 million in taxpayer dollars, but never given a rule book. As a result, we saw WEDC circumvent our fair and competitive bidding process, ignore federal and state laws when giving out grants, and lose track of \$50 million in loans, including about \$12 million overdue.

With Wisconsin still struggling economically, it is unacceptable to allow our job creation corporation to continue to play fast and loose with our tax dollars. Wisconsin citizens will not allow us to double down after finding out that the deck is stacked against them.

Wisconsin voters spoke with one voice this fall. They voted for more jobs. They voted for a strong education system. They voted for more transparency. But most importantly, they voted for bipartisanship over the continuation of extremism. Neither political party has a monopoly on good, common sense ideas. My colleagues and I encourage members of the Legislature to heed the calls of those we represent and work together as Wisconsinites. We look forward to tackling these difficult but important issues with our Republican colleagues, as well as the governor, to move Wisconsin forward again."

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## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The joint committee on **Legislative Organization** reports and recommends:

### **Senate Joint Resolution 1**

Relating to: the session schedule for the 2031-2014 biennial session period.

Introduction.

Ayes: 10 – Senators Ellis, S. Fitzgerald, Grothman, Larson and Hansen. Representatives Vos, Suder, Steineke, Barca and Pasch.

Noes: 0 – None.

*MICHAEL ELLIS*

Senate Chairperson

Considered as priveleged and taken up.

### **Senate Joint Resolution 1**

Relating to: the session schedule for the 2013-2014 biennial session period.

By joint committee on Legislative Organization.

Read.

The question was: Adoption of **Senate Joint Resolution 1**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 33; noes, 0; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Carpenter, Cowles, T. Cullen, Darling, Ellis, Erpenbach, Farrow, S. Fitzgerald, Grothman, Gudex, Hansen, Harris, Harsdorf, Jauch, Kedzie, C. Larson, Lasee, Lassa, Lazich, Lehman, Leibham, Miller, Moulton, Olsen, Petrowski, Risser, Schultz, Shilling, Taylor, Tiffany, Vinehout, Vukmir and Wirch - 33.

Noes - None.

Absent or not voting - None.

Adopted.

Senator Fitzgerald, with unanimous consent, asked that all action be immediately messaged to the Assembly:

### **Senate Joint Resolution 1**

Messaged.

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## PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

State of Wisconsin  
Office of the Secretary of State

December 14, 2012

The Honorable, the Senate:

I, DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the following proposed amendments to the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin have been approved by the regular session of the 2011-2012 legislature and duly published as required by Section 1 of Article XII of the Constitution:

Enrolled Joint Resolution 4 (first consideration)



Sincerely,  
*DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE*  
Secretary of State

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADJOURNMENT  
HONORS AND REMARKS UNDER SPECIAL  
PRIVILEGE**

Senator Lasee, with unanimous consent, introduced his guest attending the 2013 inaugural; his wife, Amy Joy Lasee.

Senator Harris, with unanimous consent, introduced her guests attending the 2013 inaugural; Josephine Montgomery, George Harris, Jr., Karen Thomas-Harris, Nicole Buckley, Tamara Walker, LaTisha Terry, Anthony Dodd, Marina Dimitrijevic, Theodore Lipscomb, Lincoln Russell, Connie Russell, Sarah Noble, LG Shanklin-Flowers, Eyon Biddle, Cory Joe Biddle, Virginia Duiven, Annie Woodard, Wesley Landry, Kenya Johnson and Mark Sanders.

Senator Darling, with unanimous consent, introduced her guests attending the 2013 inaugural; Penny Krist, Carly Nusser, Jennie Frederick, Kathy Kiernan, and Peter Sorce.

Senator Harsdorf, with unanimous consent, introduced her guests attending the 2013 inaugural; her son, Ryan, her sisters and their spouses, Roxy and Wade Carlson and Sue and Steve Josephson, and her brother, Jim Harsdorf.

Senator Harsdorf, with unanimous consent, asks that when the Senate adjourn, it do so in honor of her mother, who was not able to attend today's inauguration, but who is in our thoughts and with us in spirit.

Senator Harsdorf, with unanimous consent, asks that when the Senate adjourn, it do so in honor of her staff for their hard work and commitment to serving our constituents, and for their help in enabling her to serve.

Senator Harsdorf, with unanimous consent, asks that when the Senate adjourn, it do so in honor of the over 30 friends that made the trip to Madison from western Wisconsin for the inauguration ceremony. She is grateful for their support and friendship.

Senator Tiffany, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2013 inaugural; his wife Chris and their three daughters Karlyn, Lexie, and Katherine. In addition, Senator Tiffany is also joined by family members including his mother Virgal Tiffany, his sister and brother-in-law Lou and Jim Welter, his sister Sally and brother-in-law Don Weisenbeck, his brother Richard, and his brother Charles with his son Tanner.

Senator Miller, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2013 inaugural; Jo Oyama Miller, Chandra Miller Fienen, Jeff Miller, Karen Miller, Randy Miller, Debi Leeper, Kabir Moss, and Tyler Verana, and Mia Kuhn.

Senator Lehman, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2013 inaugural; Meg Andrietsch and Kelley Albrecht in the Senate gallery, from the district.

Senator Risser, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2013 inaugural; his wife, Nancy Risser, his daughter, Lisa White and her husband Randy, his son-in-law Doug Falck, and his good friend Kara Sailing.

Senator Risser, with unanimous consent, asks that when the Senate adjourn, it do so in honor of a member of his staff, Dianne Cieslewicz, who will be retiring from state service this month. Dianne has worked for the Wisconsin Legislature for 33 years. In her first 17 years, she worked for 7 different legislators (on both sides of the aisle, we might note): Former Representatives Gary Dilweg, Dave Prosser, Vern Holschbach, and Rosemary Potter, and Former Senators Mordecai Lee, Bill TeWinkle, and John Plewa. Dianne has been on his staff for 16 years, serving as Chief of Staff for the past 8 years. She is a trusted advisor and good friend. Senator Risser wishes her the best as she moves on to her next adventure.

Senator Lazich, with unanimous consent, introduced her guests attending the 2013 inaugural; Sandy Hammel and Mary Kusz, from the 28th Senate District.

Senator Hansen, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2013 inaugural; his wife Jane Hansen, his brother and sister-in-law Dennis and Mary Jo Hansen, his brother Donald Hansen, and his staff members Ashley Viste and Katie Rhodes.

Senator Shilling, with unanimous consent, introduced her guests attending the 2013 inaugural; her husband Chris Shilling, her sons Nate and Zach Shilling, her mother and father-in-law Kathy and Jim Shilling, her uncle Bill Babcock, her aunt Marge Babcock, her aunt Ann Ehlenfeldt and her aunt Barbara Wise.

Senate Sergeant at Arms Ted Blazel, asked that when the Senate adjourn, it do so in honor of his wife, Hanna Blazel, his sons Benjamin and William Blazel, and his parents Robert and Mary Kay Blazel.

Senate Chief Clerk Jeffrey Renk, asked that when the Senate adjourn, it do so in honor of his wife Paula Renk, his son Matt Renk, and his brothers Thomas and John Renk.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Fitzgerald, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate stand adjourned pursuant to **Senate Joint Resolution 1**.

Adjourned.

3:14 P.M.