



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Senators David Craig & Chris Kapenga Send Letter to Congress on Federalism Request Regulatory and Unfunded Mandate Relief for Wisconsin

Madison, Wis. – On Friday, Senator David Craig (R-Town of Vernon) and Senator Chris Kapenga (R-Delafield) sent a letter to Congressman Jason Chaffetz (UT-03), Chairman – Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to request relief from Federal Regulations and Unfunded Mandates.

“Since 2011, we have continued to reform Wisconsin to the extent federal roadblocks would allow, and the citizens of our state are seeing the benefits. Our economy is strong, unemployment is down, real wages are up, and state government is more efficient - but we can do more,” said Senator Craig. “I look forward to working with our federal partners to give power and flexibility back to the states as intended in the Constitution.”

The attached letter cites many of the larger federal programs which spawn increasingly burdensome regulations and unfunded mandates which hamper Wisconsin’s economy and stifle the ability of individuals to make better lives for themselves and their families.

In conjunction with the release of the Governor’s “Wisconsin Works for Everyone” welfare reform package, the Legislators are seeking relief from requirements surrounding our administration of public assistance programs.

“Fifty years of fighting poverty demonstrates that the one-size fits all approach the federal government takes to reduce poverty does not work. As those struggling to make ends meet face unique hurdles, they need innovative and tailored solutions. Underprivileged families will be best served under a federalist approach, in which states are given the latitude to test new ideas and learn from one another how to best address poverty,” said Senator Kapenga.

This letter was set in response to Congressman Chaffetz’s request of state leaders across the country to provide areas the federal government which could be improved to provide states the freedoms which have been continually ceded to an ever-expanding federal government.

“In many ways our hands have been tied by the Feds. We now have an opportunity to see real reforms come out of Washington which would give us the freedom and flexibility to continue Wisconsin’s march FORWARD,” said the Senators.

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