



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882

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For more information contact:

Speaker Robin Vos (608) 266-3387

Rep. Dale Kooyenga (608) 266-9180

Rep. Joe Sanfelippo (608) 266-0620

Rep. Kathy Bernier (608) 266-9172

Assembly Republicans Join the Fight against Unfunded Federal Mandates

Madison...A group of Assembly Republicans led by Speaker Robin Vos (R-Rochester) has officially joined the efforts to combat unfunded federal mandates. The Republican legislators recently submitted a letter and examples of overly burdensome mandates to Congressman Jason Chaffetz, Chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, who is overseeing the review

“Our goal is to plainly illustrate that these widespread mandates run up a huge tab on local governments and the private sector,” said Speaker Vos. “Unfortunately, taxpayers end up footing the bill.”

The legislators’ communication to Congress included a small sampling of the extensive problem. The focus was primarily in the areas of health care, the environment and education.

“An overwhelmingly large number of mandates are on our schools and many stand in the way of educating our children,” said Rep. Dale Kooyenga (R-Brookfield). “We need to free up our schools so teachers can teach and students can succeed.”

“Wisconsin Assembly Republicans have set an example for Congress to follow with our Red Tape Review initiative, aimed at helping improving Wisconsin’s business climate and removing burdensome regulations from our everyday lives,” Rep. Joe Sanfelippo (R-New Berlin) said. “It’s an encouraging sign that Congress is following the direction given by President Trump and looking for ways to send power back to the states and the American people as our founding fathers envisioned from the start.”

In anticipation of the additional responsibilities for state government, Speaker Vos created the Assembly Committee on Federalism and Interstate Relations, led by chair, Representative Tyler Vorpapel (R-Plymouth) and vice-chair, Rep. Michael Schraa (R-Oshkosh).

“I am eager for the opportunity to work with the Trump administration and Congress on reducing these extraordinary mandates that sometimes have no rhyme or reason,” said Rep. Kathy Bernier (R-Lake Hallie).

The letter to Chairman Chaffetz was received late Friday via e-mail. Assembly Republicans look forward to working with the Republican-led Congress and the new Administration on these important initiatives.

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