



Associated Builders
and Contractors, Inc.

Wisconsin Chapter

2010

WISCONSIN

FALL

ELECTIONS

**ASSEMBLY
SENATE**

November 2, 2010 marks the next general partisan election in Wisconsin. Among others (see back page), citizens will be voting for Governor, all 99 members of the Wisconsin State Assembly and one-half of the Wisconsin State Senate. Those elected in November 2, 2010 will take their office in January of 2011.

Get into politics



2010 WISCONSIN FALL ELECTIONS

Why you should care -

Some Recent Regulations on Wisconsin Contractors

Prevailing Wage

- Prevailing Wage threshold lowered resulting in smaller projects being subject to prevailing wage.
- Some entirely privately funded projects may be covered by prevailing wage.
- Contractors are now required to submit electronic payroll reports.
- Certain Minor Service Work and Supply and Installation Contracts may not be covered.

Building Contractor Registration

- Effective July 1, 2009 businesses whose work is regulated under any of the Wisconsin Department of Commerce codes affecting commercial buildings, place of employment, one-and-two family dwellings, and public swimming pools need a Building Contractor Registration.
- Businesses that currently hold one of nine business credentials issued by the department do not need the Building Contractor Registration.
- Failure to obtain the credential could result in fines (\$1,000 - \$2,000) for the contractor and fines (\$1,500 - \$2,000) for those who subcontract with an unregistered contractor.

Dwelling Contractor Certification

- If you do any work on one-and-two family dwellings and are responsible for obtaining

a building permit you need to obtain a Dwelling Contractor Certification.

- You also need to employ someone who holds a Contractor Qualifier Certification.
- Failure to obtain the credential could result in fines (\$1,000 - \$2,000) for the contractor and fines (\$1,500 - \$2,000) for those who subcontract with an unregistered contractor.

Thermal Insulation Installers

- In May of 2009 the legislature passed 2009 Senate Bill 94. The Act establishes minimum licensing requirements for thermal system installation and mechanics.
- Thermal System Insulation “means a product that is used in a heating, ventilating, cooling, plumbing, or refrigeration system to insulate any hot or cold surface, including a pipe, duct, valve, boiler, flue, or tank, or equipment on or in a building.”
- Persons engaged in thermal systems installation will be required to be licensed (with exceptions) by June 2011.

Executive Order 108

- Requires the use of apprentices on certain state construction projects.
- Provides for certain waivers and exemptions for contractors who cannot comply.

Worker Misclassification

- \$25,000 fines for willful misclassification of employees as independent contractors.
- Stop work orders for contractors who misuse independent contractor status.

...or get out of business!

Race for Governor

Democrat Governor Jim Doyle is not running for re-election. This means there is no incumbent in the race for governor. This is important because incumbents enjoy a significant advantage when running for re-election. The leading Democrat candidate is Tom Barrett the current Mayor of Milwaukee. There are two prominent Republican candidates, Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker and former U.S. Congressman Mark Neumann. The final Democrat candidate and the Republican candidate for governor will be decided after the September 14, 2010 primary.

**ABC of Wisconsin
has endorsed
Milwaukee
County Executive
Scott Walker for
Governor.**



Scott Walker
BELIEVE IN WISCONSIN AGAIN

- **Wisconsin State Senate**
18 Democrats / 15 Republicans
- **Wisconsin State Assembly**
54 Democrats / 46 Republicans /
1 Independent

Safe Seats and Competitive Seats

Safe seats are those legislative districts where a majority of voters lean either Democrat or Republican, making it difficult for a candidate from the “other” party to win an election. Safe seats also include those represented by a popular incumbent who lacks a serious challenger.

Competitive seats are those districts that are more evenly split between Republican and Democrat voters. They also include seats where the incumbent has lost popularity, is not running for re-election (open seat) or where a well known challenger has entered the race.

Control of Legislature in Play

Currently Democrats hold slim majorities in both the Wisconsin State Assembly and Wisconsin State Senate.

Two Senate seats changing from Democrat to Republican would give Senate Republicans the majority

Four Assembly seats changing from Democrat to Republican would give Assembly Republicans the majority.

Which party is in the majority is important because it is the majority party that determines which legislative proposals go forward and which do not.

Key Races Will Determine Majority

While no election outcome is a given, particularly in this political climate, it is likely that a few legislative districts will draw the most attention.

Of the 99 Wisconsin Assembly seats up for election, only a handful are considered

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Ways to Get Involved

- Volunteer to be part of an ABC District Team to receive information from ABC District Managers. Contact John Mielke at jmielke@abcwi.org to sign up.
- Make sure you are receiving e-mail alerts from ABC. This will be our main communication tool for political matters. You can call ABC of Wisconsin to make sure you are on our lists.
- Contact Candidates in your area and volunteer to help on the campaign.
- Hold a “meet the candidate” event. Invite co-workers, friends and neighbors.
- Obtain a yard sign and put it in your yard. Distribute yard signs to your friends and neighbors.
- Offer to help distribute campaign literature in your neighborhood.
- Conduct a fundraiser in your home. Contact the campaign to coordinate.

“competitive”. Likewise only a few of the 17 Wisconsin State Senate races are considered competitive.

ABC’s Plan for Involvement

ABC of Wisconsin has identified some legislative contests that we feel will be more important in determining which party has the majority in November.

The ABC Legislative Committee’s goal is to mobilize ABC members in these key races so that we can have maximum impact on the outcome of those elections.

To accomplish this, the committee has recruited members in each district to serve as “District Managers”.

ABC District Managers will help coordinate activities at the district level in these important races.

Important Dates

- **July 13, 2010** Last day for statewide and legislative candidates to file nomination papers, declaration of candidacy, and campaign registration statements.
- **September 14, 2010** Partisan Primary for Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, United States Senator, Representatives in Congress, State Senators, Representatives to the Assembly, County Partisan offices.
- **November 2, 2010** General Election for Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, United States Senator, Representatives in Congress, State Senators, Representatives to the Assembly, County Partisan offices.

Up for Election in 2010

- Wisconsin Governor
- Wisconsin Lt. Governor (elected separately from Governor)
- 1 of 2 U.S. Senators (Senator Feingold)
- All 8 Wisconsin members of the U.S. House of Representatives
- 17 (odd number districts) members of the Wisconsin State Senate (Currently 6 held by Republicans, 11 seats held by Democrats)
- 99 members of Wisconsin State Assembly (Currently 52 seats held by Democrats, 46 seats held by Republicans, 1 seat held by an Independent)



Wisconsin Chapter

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KEY ELECTIONS

Currently Democrats hold slim majorities in both the Wisconsin State Assembly and Wisconsin State Senate. Which party is in the majority is important because it is the majority party that determines which legislative proposals go forward and which do not. Although candidates have until July 13, 2010 to officially declare their candidacy, a number of legislative contests are already drawing statewide attention. The outcomes of these elections could determine which party will have the majority in November.

Key Wisconsin State Senate Races: Wisconsin State Senate 18 Democrats / 15 Republicans -two Senate seats changing from Democrat to Republican would give Senate Republicans the majority.

SENATE RACES

Senate District 31 – Parts of Pierce, Pepin, Buffalo, Trempealeau, Jackson, and Monroe Counties

Kathleen Vinehout (D) – Incumbent Kathleen Vinehout was elected in 2006 and is running for reelection. The former university professor and healthcare manager lives in Alma Wisconsin.

Ed Thompson (R) – The challenger is former Mayor of Tomah Ed Thompson. Ed ran for Governor in 2002 and now runs the popular Mr. Ed's Tee Pee Supper club and lives in Tomah.

Senate District 23 – Parts of Dunn, Chippewa, and Clark Counties

Pat Kreitlow (D) – The incumbent is former television and radio news anchor, Pat Kreitlow elected to the Wisconsin State Senate in 2006 is running for reelection. Senator Kreitlow lives in Chippewa Falls

Terry Moulton (R) – The challenger is former State Representative Terry Moulton. Terry owns and operates Mouldy's Archery and Tackle in Chippewa Falls.

Senate District 5 – Parts of Brookfield, Elm Grove, Wauwatosa, West Allis and West Milwaukee

Jim Sullivan (D) – Incumbent Jim Sullivan was elected in 2006 and is seeking another term. Jim is an attorney and former advertising sales representative. Jim lives in Wauwatosa.

Leah Vukmir (R) – Current member of the Wisconsin State Assembly Leah Vukmir is looking to unseat Senator Sullivan. Leah was first elected to the Assembly in 2002 and reelected in 2004. Leah also lives in Wauwatosa.

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Key Wisconsin State Assembly Race: Wisconsin State Assembly 54 Democrats / 46 Republicans / 1 Independent. Four Assembly seats changing from Democrat to Republican would give Assembly Republicans the majority. Open seats are elections where there is no incumbent. This is important because incumbents enjoy a significant advantage when running for re-election. There are many "open" Assembly seats in this election cycle.

ASSEMBLY RACES

Assembly District 35 – Parts of Lincoln, Oneida, and Langlade Counties: Don Friske, R- Merrill is not running for re-election after serving 10 years in the Assembly. This district leaned Democrat in the last Presidential election.

Assembly District 67 – Parts of Dunn, Chippewa, and Barron Counties: Troubled incumbent Jeff Wood has announced that he will not run for reelection. So far just Republicans have decided to run in this swing district.

Assembly District 98 – Portions of Pewaukee and Brookfield: Incumbent Rich Zipperer is running for the State Senate. This is a very Republican district and should be a "hold" for Assembly Republicans.

Assembly District 32 – Southern Walworth County: Tom Lothian, R-Williams Bay is retiring after serving four terms. There are several declared candidates leading to a vigorous primary. The district is generally thought to be a Republican district.

Assembly District 80 – Mostly Green County with parts of Dane, Rock and Lafayette Counties: Incumbent Republican Brett Davis is leaving his seat to run for Lieutenant Governor. This Democrat leaning district will be tough for Republicans to hold.