



DAVID CRAIG

STATE SENATOR

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Weekly Republican Radio Address:

Problem Solving through Zero-based Budgeting

Listen to the address here: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/eupdates/sen28/Sen.Craig.Radio.Address.mp3>

When Republicans gained legislative majorities in 2011, there was a commitment to fundamental reforms of government to fix what was broken and get our fiscal house back in order. Now, Wisconsin is gaining jobs, our reforms have saved taxpayers over \$8 billion, and our economy is booming. Despite those successes, Republicans remain hard at work delivering new solutions to move Wisconsin Forward.

Hi, I'm State Senator Dave Craig from Waukesha County to talk with you about the new Zero-based budgeting law which fixes a broken budgeting process, provides a critical foundation for curbing wasteful government spending, and increases accountability with your tax dollars.

Wisconsin families and businesses put all their bills and receipts on the table when making their budgets – they start from zero, evaluate all income and expenses, and set priorities based on the money available. I believe government should function the same way – by starting from zero.

Until our reform passed, the legislature used “Madison Math” which automatically increases the base budget and conceals waste, inefficiencies, and antiquated programs that continue to hide in state agencies. Zero-based budgeting fixes this broken process by requiring each state agency to justify every dollar they spend against the mission of the department.

This reform will shine a light on every tax dollar, empowering the legislature with more information, which means more transparency, more oversight, and ultimately better representation.

As President Ronald Reagan once said, “...a government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we'll ever see on this earth!”

Republicans passed Zero-based budgeting reform to solve a problem – find hidden spending in state agencies and fix a broken budget process. These are the reforms Republican are committed to delivering and the problems we're committed to solving for you - the hardworking taxpayers – to provide you a better, smaller government and to keep more of your money where it ought to be... in your pocket.

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