



2020 State Senate Democratic Committee Candidate Booklet

Virtual Rollout: June 1st, 2020, 10:30 AM

Senate District 4 - Senator Lena Taylor

Bio: Senator Lena Taylor is serving her third term in the Wisconsin State Senate, representing the 4th Senate District, including all of Shorewood, parts of Milwaukee, Glendale, and Wauwatosa. First elected to political office in 2003 in the Wisconsin Assembly, Lena Taylor fights unrelentingly for her constituents' rights. Taylor won a special election for a seat in the State Assembly and soon after was elected to the State Senate. Senator Taylor is the thousandth senator in the state of Wisconsin, twentieth woman, fifth African American, and only the second African American woman to serve in the state senate.



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Senate District 6 - Senator LaTonya Johnson

Bio: Elected to the State Senate in 2016, LaTonya Johnson represents the 6th Senate District located on Milwaukee's northwest side. She was previously elected to the State Assembly in 2012 and re-elected in 2014 for a second term. Senator Johnson graduated from Bay View High School in 1990 and Tennessee State University in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. Prior to being elected to the State Legislature, Senator Johnson owned and operated an in-home family childcare center for over 10 years and helped to organize Milwaukee's first childcare union. She is also a former union president and Emerge Wisconsin graduate, class of 2012. Senator Johnson also serves on the Joint Committee on Finance.



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Senate District 8 - Neal Plotkin

Bio: Hello Neal Plotkin here – your Democratic candidate for Wisconsin Senate District 8. Born and raised on Milwaukee’s northwest side, and a 35-year homeowner/resident of the district, my wife, family and I have deep roots and connections in southeast Wisconsin. After graduating from UW-Milwaukee, I spent 40 years in the small business community – 26 as a sales-agency owner – followed by 3 years as a public school substitute teacher. As a long-time active Democratic Party of Wisconsin member, I could no longer remain silent while a 30-year incumbent, unchallenged in two consecutive elections, dictated policy as opposed to working with constituents. Time to flip the district and return Wisconsin to our “Forward” motto!



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Senate District 10 - Senator Patty Schachtner

Bio: Raised on a dairy farm just outside of Somerset, Senator Patty Schachtner is a lifelong Western Wisconsin resident.

Patty currently serves as the St. Croix County Medical Examiner and works with the county's emergency response team.

Patty is also an active community volunteer and serves on the board of her local food pantry and on the board of directors for "Turning Point Wisconsin," a center for victims of sexual and domestic violence. She has been representing the 10th State Senate District since a special election in January of 2018."



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Senate District 12 - Eduard Vocke

Bio: Ed Vocke is a born and bred Wisconsinite. Ecologically and civically minded, he's an advocate for small farmers and the transparency and integrity of our food supply chains. He's worked with some of the biggest names in the Midwest food industry and helped launch the Driftless Cafe with current Wisconsin Foodie Host and James Beard nominated chef Luke Zahm in 2013. He and his family live amidst 100 acres of boreal forest in the beautiful Northwoods destination of Minocqua, WI.



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Senate District 14 - Joni Anderson

Bio: Worked for 27 years as Machine Operator at FNGP/ NOK. UE Local 1107 member for 25. President, V.President, Steward, Union Safety Committee, Bargaining Committee. Member of Citizen Action of Wisconsin and Our Wisconsin Revolution.



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Senate District 16 - Representative Melissa Sargent

Bio: Melissa Sargent is a trusted public servant working to move Wisconsin forward. Born and raised in Dane County, Melissa served on the Dane County Board of Supervisors prior to being elected to represent the 48th Assembly District in the Wisconsin State Legislature. Before her start in politics, Melissa owned a small business and worked in the private sector. Concern for the greater community and a vision for a better Wisconsin brought her to public service and community activism. She is a proud single-mother of 4 boys, and lives on Madison's Northside.



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Senate District 18 - Aaron Wojciechowski

Bio: Aaron Wojciechowski, 23, is a 2-term local elected official, aftercare educator, and proud UW Oshkosh Graduate. If elected, Aaron would become the first Latinx person elected to the Wisconsin State Senate; one of the youngest members elected, and one of the few openly LGBTQ+ members. Aaron is focused on bringing honest forward-thinking leadership and ensuring every Wisconsinite has a seat at the decision making table. As the next State Senator for district 18, Aaron will fight to make health care more affordable and accessible, ensure our public schools are well-funded, pass meaningful criminal justice reform, and create a sustainable economy that works for everyone.



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Senate District 22 - Senator Bob Wirch



Senate District 24 - Paul Piotrowski

Bio: As a retired officer for the Stevens Point Police Department, Paul proudly served his hometown for close to 27 years. He is a veteran of the United States Navy, earning a Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and previously served as the Stevens Point City Clerk. As an officer for the Stevens Point Police Department, Paul served in various roles including Patrol Sergeant, Community Resource Sergeant, Patrol Officer, Supervisor and Community Resource Officer while also representing the department on different committees and commissions like Portage County Alliance for Youth, the Family Crisis Center Advisory Board, and Triad with the senior citizens. Paul and his wife Cindy live in Stevens Point. They have two grown children and three grandchildren.



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Senate District 26 - Kelda Roys

Bio: Kelda Helen Roys is a proven progressive leader who has spent two decades making real change for Wisconsin families as a legislative leader, small business owner, healthcare advocate, and attorney. In the State Assembly, Kelda served as Democratic Caucus Chair, helping lead the opposition to Act 10 and authoring laws on countless progressive issues, including the BPA Free Kids Act, expanding healthcare access to 80,000 Wisconsinites, and voting rights. As a small business owner and entrepreneur, Kelda built a company from the ground up, and knows the importance of economic opportunity and public infrastructure. Kelda is a longtime champion for women and girls -- as the mother and stepmother of four girls and the former executive director of NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin, she will fight for a more just, equitable society for all our children.



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Senate District 26 - Aisha Moe

Bio: Recent UW-Madison graduate, Aisha Moe, started in politics at age 17 in the 2016 Presidential campaign for the Democratic Party. After working as a field organizer in the 2018 to help get Sen. Tammy Baldwin and Gov. Tony Evers elected, Aisha has decided to run for office herself. Aisha hopes to accomplish four things as state senator: provide healthcare access for every citizen in Wisconsin, reduce the student debt crisis, protect the environment and legalize cannabis.



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Senate District 26 - Nada Elmikashfi

Bio: My name is Nada Elmikashfi and I'm running for Wisconsin State Senate District 26 as a long time resident of Madison.



My candidacy is about radical progressive change that picks up every member of our community and brings their interests to the forefront of our legislative agenda. I have worked for Gov. Tony Evers, Sen. Jennifer Shilling, NextGeneration America, and currently serve on the Sustainable Madison Committee and United Way of Dane County's Elementary Schools of Hope Delegation.

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Senate District 28 - Adam Murphy

Bio: Adam Murphy is an entrepreneur and business consultant in Franklin, and owns Big Bang, LLC, a software company he and his employees built from the ground up. As a small-business owner responsible for meeting a payroll every week, Adam knows what it takes to succeed in America. Adam supports access to quality, affordable healthcare for every American, a fair tax system that supports small business and rewards work, a stronger democracy, and civil rights for all. And Adam believes that government needs to do more to protect the environment and adapt our economy to fight climate change, and to ensure safer communities. Adam and his wife Tanya live in an 137 year old four-room schoolhouse in Franklin, with their dog and two cats. Adam was born and raised in South Milwaukee, graduated from Pius XI High School, and attended UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee. Adam plays poker around the country, and he's finished "in the money" at the World Series of Poker six times.



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Senate District 30 - Jonathon Hansen

Bio: Jonathon was born and raised in Northeast Wisconsin, and is a graduate of Green Bay West High School. He went on to receive a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and English from UW-Madison, and a Master's Degree in English from Marquette University. He interned in Sen. Dave Hansen's Capitol office in 2011 during the Act 10 protests. After completing graduate school, he managed Sen. Hansen's successful reelection campaign in 2016 in a district that Donald Trump won by 11 points. In April 2017, he was elected to the De Pere City Council as a write-in candidate, and was reelected in April 2019. He also currently works as a mortgage processor for a community bank.



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Senate District 32 - Brad Pfaff

Bio: Brad Pfaff is a proud son of the rolling hills, coulees, and valleys of northern La Crosse County where he was raised on his family's dairy farm. Through his work for Senator Herb Kohl, Congressman Ron Kind, with the USDA Farm Service



Agency, and as Designee of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, Brad has dedicated his career ensuring Wisconsin's farms, farmers, workers , small business owners, rural communities and families have the resources and support they need to succeed. Brad met his wife, Betty, a West Salem native, when he was a senior in high school at a 4-H leadership luncheon. They are the proud parents of two teenage children.

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