



STATE OF WISCONSIN Senate Journal

One-Hundred and Fourth Regular Session

2:01 P.M.

MONDAY, January 7, 2019

The Senate met.

The Senate was called to order by Senate President Roth.

The Senate stood for the prayer which was offered by Reverend Brian R. Episcopo from the Appleton Alliance Church.

The Colors were presented by the VFW Day Post 7591 Color Guard Unit of Madison, WI.

The Senate remained standing and Senator Risser led the Senate in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

The National Anthem was performed by the Appleton North High School Orchestra.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 17 (6), the Chief Clerk made the following entries under the above date.

**State of Wisconsin
Wisconsin Elections Commission**

December 5, 2018

The Honorable, the Senate:

I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the official canvass of the November 6, 2018 General Election vote for state senator along with the determination by the Chairperson of the Wisconsin Elections Commission of the winners.

With this letter, I am delivering the Certificates of Election and transmittal letters for the winners to you for distribution.

If the Wisconsin Elections Commission can provide you with further information or assistance, please contact our office.

Sincerely,
MEAGAN WOLFE
Interim Administrator

**Statement of Canvass
for
State Senator**

GENERAL ELECTION, November 6, 2018

I, Commissioner Dean Knudson, chairperson of the Wisconsin Elections Commission, certify that the attached

tabular statements, as compiled from the certified returns made to the Wisconsin Elections Commission by the county clerks of the several counties of the state, contain a correct abstract of the total number of votes given for the election of candidates for State Senator, at a General Election held in the several towns, villages, cities, wards and election districts in said counties on the Eighth day of November 2018.

I DO, THEREFORE, DETERMINE AND CERTIFY that the following candidates, having each received the greatest number of votes in their respective senatorial districts, are duly elected State Senator:

Senate District

Elected

1 st District	André Jacque
3 rd District	Tim Carpenter
5 th District	Dale Kooyenga
7 th District	Chris Larson
9 th District	Devin LeMahieu
11 th District	Steve Nass
13 th District	Scott Fitzgerald
15 th District	Janis Ringhand
17 th District	Howard Marklein
19 th District	Roger Roth
21 st District	Van H. Wanggaard
23 rd District	Kathy Bernier
25 th District	Janet Bewley
27 th District	Jon B. Erpenbach
29 th District	Jerry Petrowski
31 st District	Jeff Smith
33 rd District	Chris Kapenga

Done in the City of Madison, this 3rd day of December, 2018.

DEAN KNUDSON
Commissioner, Chairperson
Wisconsin Elections Commission

With unanimous consent, the party leaders introduced their respective members as they came before the bar to be sworn in.

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Jacque

“Senator André Jacque was first elected to the Wisconsin State Senate in November 2018 after serving 4 terms as State Representative for the 2nd Assembly District in Brown and Manitowoc Counties.

Born in Beaver Dam in 1980, André moved to Northeast Wisconsin and graduated from Green Bay Southwest High School in 1999. He earned his Bachelor's Degree and a graduate certificate from UW-Madison in 2003, and returned to Northeast Wisconsin, where he served in a variety of positions in local government including Grantwriter and Communications Director.

André serves on the boards of Green Bay Area Crimestoppers, Family & Childcare Resources of Northeast Wisconsin and the Golden House Domestic Violence Shelter Community Leadership Council, and has received the top legislative awards from the Wisconsin Professional Police Association, Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association, Greater Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, Wisconsin Family Council, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Wisconsin Towns Association, Wisconsin Counties Association, and the Wisconsin Independent Living Network among many others.

André and his wife Renée have five children and live in De Pere."

Senator Shilling Introduced Senator Carpenter

"Senator Tim Carpenter represents the 3rd Senate District which covers the Southside of Milwaukee, West Milwaukee, and portions of West Allis and Greenfield. The district contains Miller Park, the Harley-Davidson Museum, St. Josaphat's Basilica, the Mitchell Park Domes, Zablocki Veterans Hospital and also includes the Latino population of any senate district in the state.

Senator Carpenter is entering his fourth term having run unopposed for the past two elections to the State Senate and is a lifelong resident of his district. He graduated from the Milwaukee Public School system and earned a Bachelor's degree from UW - Milwaukee in Political Science & History and a Master's degree from UW-Madison's La Follette School of Public Administration and Public Policy.

Senator Carpenter was first elected to the State Assembly in 1984 where he served nine terms. Counting years served in both the Assembly and Senate, Senator Carpenter is now the 3rd longest serving Wisconsin State Legislator in the Senate with 34 years, following Senator Rob Cowles – who was first elected to the Assembly in 1982 – and Senator Fred Risser – who was first elected to the Assembly in 1956. Senator Carpenter wants to thank Senator Risser for 62 years of public service and for his mentorship.

Senator Carpenter serves as ranking Democratic member of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Veterans Affairs and returns as a member of the Committee on Health and Human Services, a committee which he previously chaired. Senator Carpenter has enjoyed working in a bipartisan manner with committee chair, Sen. Petrowski, on the Transportation and Veterans Affairs committee. He's also once again a member of the WEDC Board of Directors and looks forward to making sure Wisconsin tax dollars are wisely spent."

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Kooyenga

"Dale was born in Oak Lawn, Illinois. He is a Certified Public Account (CPA) who received his B.A. from Lakeland College and his M.B.A from Marquette University. In 2005, Dale enlisted in the United States Army alongside his two brothers and was later called up to service in Iraq. He was awarded a Bronze Star for his service. Dale remains a member of the United States Army Reserve where he serves as a Major. Dale served in the State Assembly from 2011-2019. In 2018, Dale ran for the State Senate and was elected to represent the 5th Senate District. Dale lives in Brookfield with his wife Jennifer and their four children."

Senator Shilling Introduced Senator Larson

"Senator Chris Larson represents the 7th Senate District which includes communities on the eastern edge of Milwaukee County. This is an area that embodies Wisconsin's greatest values and traditions, including: higher education with UW-Milwaukee, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and the Milwaukee School of Engineering; commerce and economic development with our state's premier airport, the Port of Milwaukee, and Downtown Milwaukee; artistic expression with the Milwaukee Art Museum; natural resources with the county park system near Lake Michigan; and cultural diversity with ethnic festivals at the Summerfest Grounds.

Senator Larson won his 3rd term to the State Senate this past November. In his first eight years of service, Senator Larson focused on strengthening and increasing access to quality public education across Wisconsin.

Previously, Senator Larson served as a County Supervisor with the Milwaukee County Board. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a degree in Finance. Senator Larson has experience as a business manager for a local running store and is a dedicated marathon runner. He has run 37 marathons in 23 states on his way to the goal of running a marathon in each state. He has lived in Milwaukee County all of his life and resides with his wife and two children in the Bay View neighborhood of Milwaukee."

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator LeMahieu

"Senator Devin LeMahieu was first elected to the Wisconsin State Senate in 2014. He will Chair the Senate Committee on Utilities and Housing and will be serving his first term as a Member of the Joint Committee on Finance.

Born and raised in the Village of Oostburg, Devin graduated Sheboygan County Christian High School in 1991. He earned degrees in Business Administration and Political Science from Dordt College in 1995.

Since 2002, Devin has been the owner and operator of the Lakeshore Weekly, a shopper and print shop serving southeast Sheboygan County.

In 2005, Devin was elected to his first term on the Sheboygan County Board. He served as a County Board Supervisor for nine years."

In his free time, Devin trains for endurance sports. He is a six-time Ironman, conquering the courses in Madison, Panama City and Houston.

Devin resides in Oostburg where he continues to serve his community as a member of the Oostburg Chamber of Commerce and member of Bethel Orthodox Presbyterian Church.”

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Nass

“Senator Steve Nass was first elected to the Wisconsin State Senate in 2014 and will be serving his second term. Prior to joining the Senate, he had a long career in the Assembly where he served from 1991 to 2014. A Whitewater native and veteran of the Wisconsin Air National Guard, Senator Nass served in the Middle East in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Senator Nass has won a reputation for his work on higher education issues and legislative oversight and will continue those efforts in the new term.

He will serve as Chair of the Committee on Labor and Government Reform, Co-chair of the Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules, and Vice Chair of the Committee on Universities and Technical Colleges.

Senator Nass would like to welcome his daughter Ashleigh and her husband Steve Nordin, as well as Sheila Reiff, Clerk of the Wisconsin Supreme Court and he is also joined by several other constituents in attendance today.”

Senator Shilling Introduced Senator Ringhand

“Senator Janis Ringhand is a lifelong resident of Rock County and represents the 15th Senate District which includes parts of Rock, Green, Dane, Walworth and Jefferson Counties. Senator Ringhand is entering her second term in the Wisconsin State Senate and previously served two terms in the Wisconsin State Assembly. Prior to that, she was the Mayor of Evansville and an Alderwoman.

Senator Ringhand is a successful entrepreneur and owns a business where she makes and sells her own homemade beer mustard. In addition, she helped run the family business, Ringhand Meat and Beverage in Evansville, for over 17 years prior to focusing on a career in public service. Having earned her degree in Finance from Madison Area Technical College, returning to school after raising her two children, she also has several years of experience in small business accounting.

Senator Ringhand is the Vice Chair of the Senate Democratic Caucus and will be serving on the Wisconsin State Building Commission; the Committee on Economic Development, Commerce and Trade; the Committee on Agriculture, Revenue, and Financial Institutions; and the Committee on Labor and Regulatory Reform in the upcoming legislative session. She looks forward to being the voice of the residents of the 15th Senate District in the State Senate and focusing on workforce training, education and economic development issues to help create a Wisconsin that works for everyone.

Joining Senator Ringhand today are her daughter, Shawn Dunphy, her grandchildren Haley and Jayden Dunphy,

Makenna and Logan Ringhand, her great granddaughter Finley Dunphy and family friend Lindsey Oberdorf.”

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Marklein

“Senator Howard Marklein was raised on a dairy farm in rural Spring Green and is the oldest of five children. He graduated from River Valley High School in Spring Green in 1972 and from UW-Whitewater in 1976 with a BBA in accounting. After graduation from college, Howard worked for First Wisconsin National Bank of Milwaukee (now US Bank) and in 1978, he was recruited by Virchow Krause (now Baker Tilly) and began his public accounting career in the Dodgeville office.

Howard accepted a promotion and transfer to the Whitewater and Fort Atkinson offices of Virchow Krause in 1980. He was promoted to partner in the firm in 1984. In recent years, his practice focused on the forensic accounting area and white collar crime investigations. He is also credentialed as a Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE).

Howard was first elected to the State Assembly in 2010. He was then elected to the State Senate in 2014. Howard is proud to represent the 17th Senate District and his home community of Spring Green where he lives less than a mile from the dairy farm where he grew up.

Howard is married to Peggy, a registered nurse and is the father of Nicole and William, as well as three stepchildren and four grandchildren.”

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Roth

“Senator Roth was born in Appleton, February 5, 1978 and is a graduate of St. Mary Central High School (Menasha, 1996). He later attended UW-Oshkosh where he graduated with a B.S. in history in 2001.

He was elected to Assembly in 2006-08; elected to Senate in 2014, 2018; became Senate President in 2017 and was unanimously re-elected as Senate President for the 2019-2020 legislative session.

Roger is a self-employed home builder, 1st Lt. Wis. Air National Guard, and an Iraq War veteran serving four tours in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He is a member of: Valley Homebuilders Assn.; American Legion; AMVETS; VFW.

Roger currently resides in Appleton with his wife Rebecca and four young children: Roger Jr, Oliver, Theodore, and Winston.”

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Wanggaard

“Senator Van Wanggaard was first elected to serve the 21st Senate District, in 2010, and is beginning his third term in the state senate. Van is first three-term senator from the 21st district in 28 years.

Growing up in Racine, Van Wanggaard is a lifelong public servant. For nearly 30 years, he served as a police officer and traffic investigator for the Racine Police Department. In addition, he owned and operated several small businesses during this time. His law enforcement career was cut short and he was forced to retire when he was

seriously injured in a car accident by a federal fugitive fleeing custody. Still dedicated to community service, Van successfully ran for four terms on the Racine County Board of Supervisors, where he served prior to his election to the state Senate in 2010.

Van is married to his high school sweetheart, Mary Jo. Together they have 2 grown children and 3 granddaughters.”

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Bernier

“Senator Kathy Bernier is a lifelong resident of the Chippewa Valley. She obtained a bachelors degree from UW-Eau Claire, later in life, as a working mother of three. Kathy has served on the board of directors for the National Foundation for Women Legislators and the board of Wisconsin Women in Government among many other public service organizations. She served as Chippewa County Clerk and a trustee for the Village of Lake Hallie. Kathy was first elected to the State Assembly in 2010. She has been a devoted public servant her entire life. She is a proud mother of three children and six grandchildren.”

Senator Shilling Introduced Senator Bewley

“Senator Janet Bewley represents the 25th Senate District, the largest of the 33 Senate Districts. The 25th district borders both Michigan and Minnesota, includes all of Wisconsin's Lake Superior shoreline, four tribal nations, state and national parks, large cities and small towns; farms, forests, and factories - sea caves and snowmobile trails.

Senator Bewley is starting her second term in the State Senate. Prior to her election to the Senate, she served two terms in the State Assembly after serving on the Ashland City Council.

Senator Bewley was born in Cleveland, Ohio, the second of four children. Her father was a truck driver, and her mom ran the house. She was the first member of her family to graduate from college. After a few years working in the ocean freight business, Janet went on to graduate school and earned a Master's in Academic Administration from the University of Maine in 1977. And then she moved to Ashland and found her home.

During her varied professional career Janet served as the Dean of Students at Northland College, Executive Director of the Mary H. Rice Foundation and Senior Community Development Officer/ State Tribal Liaison at the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority. Janet was one of the original cast members at Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua and continues to perform as part of the Rittenhouse Chamber Singers.

Joining Senator Bewley today are her husband, David Saetre and a number of friends from Northern Wisconsin.”

Senator Shilling Introduced Senator Erpenbach

“Senator Jon Erpenbach, representing the 27th Senate District, is entering his sixth term in the Senate. The 27th District touches five counties; Columbia, Dane, Green Iowa and Sauk with a rich tapestry of diverse communities and geographical destinations, including Devils Lake State Park - the most visited in the state.

Senator Erpenbach will continue his work on the Joint Committee on Finance this session and has also served his caucus as Senate Minority Leader in the 2003 session. Priorities of his Legislative work include advancing policies to improve access to affordable quality health care for all, consumer rights and protections, and high quality education and higher education.

Joining Senator Erpenbach today is his wife Christine Bellport-Erpenbach. Also here today supporting their dad are Joey Erpenbach and his friend Katie Sauer, and Amy Erpenbach.”

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Petrowski

“State Senator Jerry Petrowski was born in Wausau and has lived in the area ever since. He served in the U.S. Army Reserve for 6 years in the 213th S&S Battalion. Jerry has over 30 years of experience as a small business owner, a machinist, and farmer of ginseng, dairy, and beef. Jerry has been married to his wife Ellen for over 40 years, and together they have 4 children and 3 grandchildren.

He was elected to the State Assembly in 1998 and later elected to the State Senate in 2012. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Veteran Affairs and Vice-Chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Revenue & Financial Institutions.

Senator Shilling Introduced Senator Smith

“Senator Jeff Smith is beginning his first term in the State Senate after serving as one of Eau Claire’s most prolific and respected activists. Senator Smith has worked tirelessly in his community on public education opportunities, health care access and affordability, redistricting reform, protections for water and helping people run for elected office.

I met Senator Smith when we served together in the State Assembly during the 2007 and 2009 legislative sessions. Senator Smith was a leader in the State Assembly on consumer protections, elections, and rural issues.

Before we served together in the State Assembly, Senator Smith served on the Brunswick Town Board as Chair for 6 years. He was active with the Governor’s Task Force for Educational Excellence, the Wisconsin Parent Teacher Association Board, the Department of Public Instruction’s Parent Leadership Corps and the Wisconsin Alliance for Excellent Schools.

Senator Smith served the Eau Claire region as a small business owner. He operated a window cleaning business for 30 years. Senator Smith’s community involvement runs deep, and his passion for Western Wisconsin will be a welcomed addition to our Senate body.

Today, Senator Jeff Smith and his wife Sue live on their farm in the Town of Brunswick caring for horses, chickens, dogs, cats, a llama and their land. Emily, their oldest daughter, lives in Tennessee working with horses and their owners. Their youngest daughter Sarah works in politics and most recently helped Sarah Godlewski become our new State Treasurer.”

Senator Fitzgerald Introduced Senator Kapenga

“Senator Chris Kapenga was first elected to the Wisconsin State Senate in a special election in July 2015 after serving in the Wisconsin State Assembly for two and a half terms.

Born in Michigan in 1972, Chris graduated from Calvin College in 1994 with a Bachelor’s of Science in Accounting. A CPA by trade, he later moved to Wisconsin to put his accounting skills to work for Arthur Andersen and GE Healthcare.

A citizen legislator at heart, Chris represents the constituents of the 33rd Senate District while also running a software company based in Downtown Milwaukee.

Chris and his wife Cari have two daughters and live in the Town of Delafield in Waukesha County.”

Senator Feyen Introduced Senator Fitzgerald

“Senator Scott Fitzgerald was first elected to the Wisconsin State Senate in 1994 and is currently serving as the Senate Majority Leader: he has been selected by his peers to lead the Republican caucus eight times.

Born in Chicago in 1963, Scott later moved to Wisconsin and graduated from Hustisford High School in 1981. He earned his Bachelor of Science from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in 1985.

In 1990, Scott purchased and ran the Dodge County Independent News in Juneau, WI until its sale in 1996 to the Watertown Daily Times where he then worked as an associate publisher.

Scott is a veteran of the US Army Reserve: he joined in 1981 and was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Armor Branch in 1985. In 2009, he retired from service at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Scott and his wife Lisa have three adult sons and live outside of Juneau in Dodge County.”

OATH OF OFFICE

Upon the calling of the newly elected Senators on Monday, January 7, 2019 the following appeared before the Senate, took and subscribed the oath of office which was administered by the Honorable Patience Drake Roggensack, Chief Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| André Jacque | Tim Carpenter |
| Dale Kooyenga | Chris Larson |
| Devin LeMahieu | Steve Nass |
| Scott Fitzgerald | Janis Ringhand |
| Howard Marklein | Roger Roth |
| Van H. Wanggaard | Kathy Bernier |
| Janet Bewley | Jon B. Erpenbach |
| Jerry Petrowski | Jeff Smith |
| Chris Kapenga | |

OATH OF OFFICE

On Friday, December 14, 2018, Dale Kooyenga took and subscribed the oath of office in Brookfield, which was administered by the Honorable Mark Gundrum, Court of Appeals – District 2 Judge.

CALL OF ROLL

The roll was called, disclosing the presence of a quorum.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 15, the official attendance for session was:

Senators Bernier, Bewley, Carpenter, Cowles, Craig, Darling, Erpenbach, Feyen, Fitzgerald, Hansen, Jacque, Johnson, Kapenga, Larson, LeMahieu, Marklein, Miller, Nass, Olsen, Petrowski, Ringhand, Risser, Roth, Schachtner, Shilling, Smith, Stroebel, L. Taylor, Testin, Tiffany, Wanggaard and Wirch - 32.

Absent with leave - Senator Kooyenga - 1.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Senator Fitzgerald, with unanimous consent, asked that Senator Kooyenga be granted a leave of absence for today's session.

**CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS,
RESOLUTIONS, AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS
NOT REQUIRING A THIRD READING**

Considered as privileged and taken up.

Senate Resolution 1

Relating to: notifying the assembly and the governor that the 2019-2020 senate is organized.

By Senators Fitzgerald, Roth, Feyen, Shilling and Bewley.

Read.

IN THE CHAIR

Pursuant to Senate Rule 2 (1), Senator Fitzgerald in the chair.

2:44 P.M.

The question was: Adoption of **Senate Resolution 1**?

The ayes and noes were required and the vote was: ayes, 32; noes, 0; absent or not voting, 1; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Bernier, Bewley, Carpenter, Cowles, Craig, Darling, Erpenbach, Feyen, Fitzgerald, Hansen, Jacque, Johnson, Kapenga, Larson, LeMahieu, Marklein, Miller, Nass, Olsen, Petrowski, Ringhand, Risser, Roth, Schachtner, Shilling, Smith, Stroebel, L. Taylor, Testin, Tiffany, Wanggaard and Wirch - 32.

Noes – None - 0.

Absent or not voting - Senator Kooyenga - 1.

Adopted.

SENATE OFFICERS OATH OF OFFICE

The President, Roger Roth, the President Pro Tempore, Howard Marklein, the Chief Clerk, Jeffery Renk, and the Sergeant at Arms, Edward A. Blazel, having been duly elected by the adoption of **Senate Resolution 1**, appeared together before the bar of the Senate, took and subscribed the oath of office which was administered by the Honorable Patience Drake Roggensack, Chief Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

IN THE CHAIR

Senate President Roth in the chair.

2:48 P.M.

Remarks of President Roth

"I'd like to begin by thanking a few people whose presence here today has greatly added to the spirit of this celebration. Reverend Brian Episcopo, I deeply appreciated your opening prayer and thank you for being with us today.

Thank you also to Wisconsin Supreme Court Chief Justice Patience Roggensack, for administering the oath of office today and for your service on our state's highest court.

I'd also like to thank the Appleton North High School Orchestra and Director Craig Kellenberger. I had the privilege of hearing them give an unbelievable performance at a Veterans Day celebration this past November. Your performances today during the reception and this ceremony were outstanding – thank you for sharing your talents with us.

Next, I'd like to recognize the members of the Chief Clerk's office, particularly those seated before us today: Chief Clerk Jeff Renk, Erin Gillitzer, Sarah Burhop, Jeffrey Beighley and John Gibson. Together with the Sergeant at Arms Ted Blazel and the Sergeant's staff – you make our lives as Senators easier in immeasurable ways. We thank you for all you do for us.

I'd like to thank all the parents, spouses, and siblings here today who are the unsung heroes in any legislator's life. I think I speak for every Senator here when I say to each of you that we couldn't do our jobs without you.

That brings me to my life's inspiration, motivation and love – the mother of our four amazing little boys – my beautiful wife Rebecca. She's watching now on Wisconsin Eye and I thank you for all your love and support.

Senate members, I am honored to continue serving you this session as your Senate President – the sixth president of this body since the position was created in 1979.

We have been well served by our past Senate presidents beginning with Senator Fred Risser, who has served as both the longest senate president in Wisconsin history, as well as the longest serving legislator in our nation. Former Senator Brian Rude from Coon Valley served at various points in the

1990s; former Senator Alan Lasee from De Pere who served in the early 2000s, and my predecessor in this position, former Senator Mary Lazich from New Berlin, has the distinction of being the first woman to serve as president.

And then of course there is my district predecessor and mentor, former Senator Mike Ellis. Mike passed away this past summer at the age of 77. He was called a legend in Wisconsin politics, for his unmatched personality and dedication to his constituents. His fight to put his district first and politics second, earned him much respect among his peers.

Mike was a respected colleague to many of us here today, and more personally, he was a good friend.

He spent 44 years in the Legislature — 12 in the Assembly beginning in 1970 and 32 in the Senate beginning in 1982, and has left a lasting impression on this state. He was a former high school teacher at my Alma Mater, St. Mary Central in Menasha, which may have been the reason for his love of chalkboards. He ended his legislative career while serving as Senate president – a job I am honored to hold as I stand in his footsteps.

After announcing his retirement Mike said, "If you can look in the mirror at the end of the day and say to yourself and your conscience, you've done what you knew and what you thought was right, that's all you got." I shall miss him.

Finally, it is my aim to continue to enforce the rules of this body in equal measure on all members to ensure the minority has an opportunity to be heard while at the same time not infringing on the right of the majority to govern. I look forward to working with each of you toward continued success in our great state.

Thank you."

President Roth introduced the Senators returning from the 103rd Session: Senators Cowles, Taylor, Johnson, Darling, Schachtner, Tiffany, Olsen, Miller, Feyen, Stroebel, Wirch, Testin, Risser, Craig, Hansen and Shilling.

With unanimous consent, Senator Fitzgerald addressed the members from the rostrum.

Remarks of Majority Leader Fitzgerald

"As we begin the important duty of conducting the work of the people of Wisconsin, I would like to welcome and congratulate the Senators whose oaths were renewed today, and the four members who have taken for the oath for first time today. As elected officials, our constituents have entrusted us with the great privilege and responsibility of representing their interests here in the Wisconsin State Senate, and I look forward to working with each and every member of this body, new and returning.

And to the family members who have travelled from all across Wisconsin to this swearing-in, welcome.

I am particularly excited to get back to the work of the Legislature with our state enjoying tremendous successes. Thanks to our reforms, over the last two years Wisconsin hit

record-low unemployment, saw more people working than ever before, saw our economy undergo further expansion – and all the while, this body was able to continue to further invest in our state’s priorities through items like educational funding and tax relief.

In this new session, we must build upon all of the achievements of the last eight years. While Wisconsin’s voters once again cast a vote of confidence in our responsible stewardship, in this session we must renew our commitment to moving Wisconsin Forward. Over the next two years, this body will continue to improve our business climate and ensure accountability and efficiency at every level of government. Just as every Wisconsin family must budget for their needs each year, our government must continue to operate within its means, eliminating waste and checking abuse to ensure that our taxpayers’ dollars are well spent.

As we embark on the process of crafting the next biennial budget, we will ensure that the best interests of Wisconsin’s residents remain a priority. Under Republican control, Wisconsin has returned power to taxpayers with over \$8 billion in tax relief. We still believe that individuals should ultimately decide how to spend their hard-earned paychecks—not the government. Despite our already significant efforts to lower the tax burden, Wisconsin remains a high-tax state due to the exceptional quantity and quality of services that the state provides. We must continue to fight for hard-working taxpayers and make sure that the system is simple and streamlined while easing the overall burden on hard-working families.

Last session I began the year by reminding this body not only of all that we have been able to accomplish, but how much we have achieved with a spirit of bipartisanship and cooperation.

Now more than ever, we must continue to work in a bipartisan fashion to address the concerns of Wisconsin residents. We’ve demonstrated this ability before on issues like the Milwaukee Arena and the HOPE legislation to address the Opioid Crisis – we must continue to work on behalf of our constituents who sent us here.

Once again, I call on all of my colleagues gathered here today to enter into this legislative session with that renewed spirit of cooperation.

Too often, our Legislature is characterized by the division and debate within this hall. Today, let us be united by our shared vision of making Wisconsin a better place to work, live, and raise a family. With this, I welcome all of you – new members and those returning – to the 104th Session of the Wisconsin State Senate.”

With unanimous consent, Senator Shilling addressed the members from the rostrum.

Remarks of Minority Leader Shilling

“Mr. President, friends and colleagues. I am honored to join you here today as we begin a new legislative session and address the challenges facing our state.

I would like to welcome our new and returning members as well as their families. I especially want to recognize my husband Chris and our two boys Nathan and Zachary who are watching from home today. Thank you for your unconditional love, support and encouragement.

I also want to welcome everyone watching from home on WisconsinEye as well as our guests here in the Senate chamber.

Today marks the start of a new session, with new Representatives, new Senators, a new State Treasurer, a new Attorney General, a new Lt. Governor and a new Governor. We have been given a clean slate and the opportunity to chart a new course for our state.

We all know that Wisconsin is a unique, vibrant and hardworking state full of amazing people and unparalleled potential, and it is time that we come together and restore the integrity of this institution. We know what leadership looks like and now we need to practice it – with civility, respect, character, and patience.

My Senate Democratic colleagues and I are committed to working with Gov. Tony Evers and focusing on the important issues at hand. We will deliver on Gov. Evers’ plan to improve health care, strengthen schools, fix our roads and invest in pro-growth policies to build up the middle class.

We recognize that these aren’t Democratic or Republican issues. They’re Wisconsin issues and we must find ways to work together on these key priorities. These are complex, challenging issues, and we must commit to working through the messiness.

We also recognize that our government has a responsibility to strengthen communities and private enterprise by maintaining a strong public infrastructure. From repairing aging roads and bridges to encouraging broadband access in urban and rural areas, we need to ensure that our infrastructure is an asset, not a liability, to businesses growth and expansion.

Each of the members in this chamber represents a unique district and geographic area of our state, but at the end of the day, we are all co-workers united in our responsibility to serve our communities and do what’s best for the state of Wisconsin.

Rather than focusing on divide and conquer tactics, I hope that we will seize this opportunity to set a new tone and find commonsense solutions to the challenges we face.

As the Senate Democratic Leader, I look forward to working with, my legislative colleagues, community leaders and local advocates to strengthen relationships and move Wisconsin forward. By working together, I know that we can provide greater economic opportunity, prosperity and freedom for all to enjoy.

Thank you.”

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The joint committee on **Legislative Organization** reported and recommended:

Senate Joint Resolution 1

Relating to: the session schedule for the 2019–2020 biennial session period.

Introduction.

Ayes: 10 – Senator Roth, Representative Vos, Senators Fitzgerald, Feyen, Shilling and Bewley, Representatives Steineke, Felzkowski, Hintz and Hesselbein.

Noes: 0 – None.

ROGER ROTH

Senate Chairperson

Considered as privileged and taken up.

Senate Joint Resolution 1

Relating to: the session schedule for the 2019-2020 biennial session period.

By the joint committee on **Legislative Organization**.

The question was: Adoption of **Senate Joint Resolution 1**?

The ayes and noes were required and the vote was: ayes, 27; noes, 5; absent or not voting, 1; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Bernier, Bewley, Cowles, Craig, Darling, Erpenbach, Feyen, Fitzgerald, Jacque, Johnson, Kapenga, Larson, LeMahieu, Marklein, Miller, Nass, Olsen, Petrowski, Ringhand, Roth, Schachtner, Shilling, Smith, Stroebel, Testin, Tiffany and Wanggaard - 27.

Noes - Senators Carpenter, Hansen, Risser, L. Taylor and Wirch - 5.

Absent or not voting - Senator Kooyenga - 1.

Adopted.

Senator Fitzgerald, with unanimous consent, asked that all action be immediately messaged to the Assembly:

Senate Joint Resolution 1

Messaged.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADJOURNMENT HONORS AND REMARKS UNDER SPECIAL PRIVILEGE

Senator Bernier, with unanimous consent, introduced her guests attending the 2019 inaugural; Eric Bernier, Isla Bernier, Kylie Bernier, Jeannie Webb, April Jansky, Conner Jansky and Eastyn Jansky.

Senator Bewley, with unanimous consent, introduced her guests attending the 2019 inaugural; her husband, David Saetre, and friends Lois Albrecht, Nan Fey, Susan Larsen, and Barbara McCann.

Senator Erpenbach, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate adjourn in honor of his parents Bill and Liz Erpenbach.

Senator Jacque, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2019 inaugural; his parents, Jim & Mary Jo Jacque of Green Bay, WI; George & Angel Mueller of Mishicot, WI; Ruth Elmer of Combined Locks, WI; Ann Ostrowski of De Pere, WI.

Senator Jacque, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate adjourn in memory of Wendy Li Lux of Washington Island, WI, who passed away on January 2, 2019 at the age of 17 after a courageous battle against cancer.

Senator Kapenga, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2019 inaugural; his wife Cari Kapenga and his mother in law Cheryl Meenk-Maglio.

Senator Marklein, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2019 inaugural; Peggy Marklein, Jeanne Bohl, Nicole Marklein Bacher and Bill Marklein.

Senator Nass, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2019 inaugural; Sheila Reiff – Clerk of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, Ashleigh Nordin, Steve Nordin, Tom Wales, Ken Babcock, Ray Baur, Elizabeth Oberle, Brian Oberle, Becky Merwin, Denise Schultz and Carl Bergersen.

Senator Smith, with unanimous consent, introduced his guests attending the 2019 inaugural; Sue Smith, Sarah Smith, Ann and Justin Francis, Bill and Amy Ellingson, Tammy Tellefson, Naomi Silver, Sarah Ferber, Phil Swanhorst and Florian Skwierczynski.

Senator Wanggaard, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate adjourn in honor of his beautiful wife, Mary Jo Wanggaard. He would also like to adjourn in honor of his wonderful children, Kathleen and John Jensen, and Joshua and Amy Wanggaard, and his adorable granddaughters, Hattie, Elouise and Daphne Wanggaard. He would also like to adjourn in honor of his sister, Gail Wanggaard and Dan Organ.

Senator Wanggaard, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate adjourn in honor of his parents, the late Dr. Herluf and Hattie Wanggaard.

Senate Sergeant at Arms Ted Blazel, with unanimous consent, asked that Senate adjourn in honor of his wife Hanna and his sons Ben and Will.

ADJOURNMENT

Senator Fitzgerald, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate stand adjourned until Tuesday, January 15, 2019.

Adjourned.

3:07 P.M