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March 6, 2007 ... Informational Hearing ... Milwaukee Initiative of the Exec. Budget

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

## WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

### 2007-08

(session year)

### Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

### Committee on ... Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs (SC-LEUA)

### COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

### INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
  - (**ab** = Assembly Bill)                      (**ar** = Assembly Resolution)                      (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
  - (**sb** = Senate Bill)                              (**sr** = Senate Resolution)                              (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

## **Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs**

### **Remarks on the Executive Budget and the “Milwaukee Initiative” Superintendent William Andrekopoulos Milwaukee Public Schools March 6, 2007**

Chairman Coggs, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak today and thank you for taking the time to visit us here to discuss some issues of particular importance to the people of Milwaukee.

Through his proposals in the Milwaukee Initiative, Governor Doyle acknowledges that to solve some of our more persistent problems, serious and meaningful action needs to be taken. His budget initiatives related to improving student health, closing the achievement gap and helping to create the intellectual foundation for economic development demonstrate a continued commitment to fund programs that will make a difference for MPS students and the citizens of Milwaukee.

There are a number of items in the governor’s budget that are designed to specifically benefit MPS students and a significant amount of time could be spent on each one. Funding is provided to support access to driver’s education, flexibility for school safety is increased, dollars essential to support twenty-four nurses for our health initiative are provided and the promise to increase support for SAGE is honored.

In addition, the Executive budget begins to address the funding flaw related to the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program funding flaw. By committing the state to paying 100 percent of the cost of each student above the 15,000 enrollment mark, the taxpayers of the City of Milwaukee begin to be relieved of the current unfair burden of funding the program.

#### Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership

The piece of the governor’s “Milwaukee Initiative” drawing perhaps the most attention as it relates to MPS, is the \$15 million dedicated to funding the Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership.

The Mathematics Partnership is designed to improve the quality of math teaching in order to increase proficiency in mathematics, close the achievement gap and ultimately improve graduation rates and readiness for post-secondary education.

We know that for students aspiring to higher education, proficiency in mathematics is the key. However, our data show that there is currently a larger achievement gap between MPS and the state in Math compared to Reading across all grades. A gap of thirty-nine percentage points exists in math between tenth grade MPS students and tenth grade students from across the state.

This gap in mathematics must obviously be closed. The good news is that over the last several years, with the support of the National Science Foundation, we have demonstrated success in moving students forward as we have piloted the Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership. The ultimate goal, as we expand the program, is to increase minority participation in post-secondary education by increasing proficiency in mathematics.

We know that educational attainment has a direct impact on an individual's future earnings and that that earnings potential has a direct impact on the broader economy. If you've heard Tim Sheehy of the MMAC speak about the importance of education in forming the foundation for a strong economy, you've likely heard him mention that if Milwaukee was at the national average in terms of people with high school degrees, we would be armed with \$178 million in additional earning power.

That is certainly an impressive figure and our job at MPS is to help more K-12 students to graduate. However, we also know that if our students are going to truly succeed they have to be prepared to make it all the way through the next level of education.

Chancellor Carlos Santiago recently pointed to research at UWM that reveals that African-American students in regular classes are more likely than white students in regular classes to go on to graduation. However, African-American students in remedial classes are less likely to graduate than white students in those same remedial classes.

The Journal Sentinel summarized it this way: "In other words, boosting math achievement at MPS, where most students are black, would funnel more black students into regular classes at UWM and narrow the black-white gap in college graduation rates."

This isn't simply an academic or an achievement gap issue. It is an issue that has very real economic implications for today's students, and for the economic livelihood of the city and the state. According to current economic data, the "earnings gap" continues to widen. In fact, the lifetime difference in earnings between having a high school diploma and a Bachelors degree is \$1,048,095.

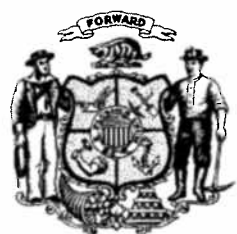
In other words, for every student we help to successfully move out of high school and prepare for a Bachelors Degree, we are contributing to a direct \$1 million difference in their lives. The economic benefits to the community of that success will necessarily follow.

The \$15 million set aside in the Executive Budget to support the Milwaukee Mathematics Partnership represents a serious and reasoned investment. "Investment" of course is the key word and given the success we've seen as we have piloted the program, we expect the return on that investment to be significant not only for the City of Milwaukee but for the state as a whole.

Thank you again for your time and for your interest in our efforts to improve to help improve the lives of students in Milwaukee Public Schools.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**Testimony in support of “The Milwaukee Initiative”**  
**SENATE LABOR AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE HEARING**  
**Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> – Milwaukee, WI**

Thank you Chairman Coggs and members of the committee for holding this important informational hearing and giving me the opportunity to testify before you today.

I’m Tom Petri, Director of Policy and Communications for the Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association. I appear today on behalf of the leaders of each our 4 Milwaukee Community Health Centers. I’ve attached a document that shows some relevant statistics about our Milwaukee Health Center’s patient base, as well as their insurance, demographic and income status.

Community Health Centers are asking for your vocal, public support for the portion of Governor Doyle’s “Milwaukee Initiative” that would allocate state funds to improve the health of children. The Governor’s proposal specifically targets Milwaukee’s Federally-Qualified Health Centers to purchase and implement electronic health record (EHR) programs as well as a regional health information exchange network.

This proposal comes at a time when the Milwaukee’s Health Centers and large hospital systems are engaged in ongoing, substantive discussions about how best to share patient information and increase our level of care to our underinsured and uninsured children and families. The relationship between the providers of care for Milwaukee’s Medicaid and uninsured patients has never been better. Proposals such as this are being welcomed, and once implemented, will strengthen the health care safety net and those we provide care for.

Statewide, our 16 member Health Centers continue to accelerate either their planning or their use of health information technology. Five, including Sixteenth Street, on the cities south side, can proudly report that electronic health records have been fully or partially implemented. As a group, our Milwaukee Health Centers are constantly seeking tools to improve the quality of care and patient safety. Having a coordinated, state-funded Health IT program can and will make a real difference for better and safer care.

Both locally and statewide, cost will always be the greatest barrier to greater adoption of Health IT, with larger hospital systems and teaching hospitals more likely to absorb the investment without feeling pain. The extensive prices involved with purchasing hardware and software, along with the licensing fees and time lost to implementation will continue to prohibit many of our Health Centers from moving forward in the near future. That is why state funding support is so critical. It will ensure our Health Centers won’t have to cut their budgets or pare down selected services in order to use fully-operational electronic health records.

At Sixteenth Street and at other Health Centers, they enter and utilize patient data in a patient registry and utilize that data to drive their quality improvement activities. However, the federal government recently announced that it would no longer be supporting the registry software, called the Patient Electronic Cares System (PECS). Though Health Centers may still utilize the PECS, many view this as yet another impetus to move in the direction of full-blown EHRs. Therefore, Sixteenth Street is currently searching for another EHR provider. The time has come for us to jump over those obstacles in order to help our physicians both access and use Health IT in a timely and productive fashion.

It is good to know that Governor Doyle recognizes the role Health Centers provide to help Milwaukee's larger health care community improve care coordination and reduce duplication of services. And, it is rewarding to know the Governor realizes how valuable our Health Centers are, and that they will continue to serve an integral role in the Milwaukee health care landscape before, during, and after our successful transition to electronic health records.

Finally, though concrete details of the Governor's proposal are not known yet, Secretary Kevin Hayden has voiced the Administration's strong commitment to seeing this idea through to a fruitful conclusion. I ask that you support his electronic health record proposal, as part of your support for the larger "Milwaukee Initiative". I also encourage you to contact your colleagues on the Joint Committee on Finance and ask that they approve of this particular idea when they begin voting on the budget in the coming weeks.

Thank you again. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

#### **MILWAUKEE'S COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS**

Milwaukee is currently home to four highly-effective urban Community Health Centers, serving over 63,000 total patients (including 43,000 medical and 9,800 dental) at 18 different delivery sites throughout the city:

**Milwaukee Health Services, Inc.** – 2555 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive  
C.C. Henderson – President & CEO, (414) 267-3610

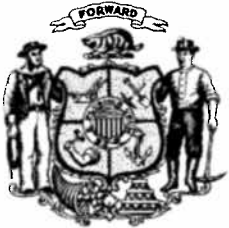
**Westside Healthcare Association, Inc.** – 3522 W. Lisbon Avenue  
Jenni Sevenich – Executive Director, (414) 935-8000

**Healthcare for the Homeless of Milwaukee** - 711 W. Capitol Drive  
Lee Carroll – Executive Director, (414) 374-2400

**Sixteenth Street Community Health Center** – 1337 S. Cesar E. Chavez Drive  
John Bartkowski, DrPH - President & CEO, (414) 672-6220



# WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



LEVA Cntr. on 3/6/07

SC opening comments

DOA Secy. Mike Morgan

- good to have hq. back in MKE
- cultural & economic capital of WI
- Gov highlighted by coming
- fiscally responsible budget
- achieved efficiencies
- state budget \$52b
  - \$26b from taxes
  - cut planes, cars + land
  - purchasing pods for drugs + office supplies
  - property tax relief
- education (invest in MPS) - \$5b/yr. statewide
- crime (\$4m)
- work w/MPS
  - higher graduation rates
  - educated workforce good for
- WI Covenant for H.S. students
  - guaranteeing college to UW, tech + privates
- health care coverage
  - pool buying for small businesses
  - \$500/person savings
- property tax relief
  - increase shared rev. by \$15m statewide
  - \$2.2m to MKE
- cover choice students past \$1b (up to 22.5k)
  - anticipating 200 new kids (\$21m)



## DOA Secy. cont.

- workforce dev. programs
- increase for job training to MARC
- Growth Agenda
- increase youth aids
- good for MKE - good for WI
- fiscally responsible budget
- SC comments (education)
- Grothman comments

~~Atk.~~

## Mayor Tom Barrett

- compliment Doyle + Morgan
- shared revenue
  - \$220m tax levy this yr. (MPD - \$214m)
- transit (increase by 2%)
  - KRM major component
- choice school funding
  - funding unfair to MKE taxpayers
  - \$1k extra per student to cover choice kids
- public safety
  - \$75k/yr. community policing
  - new DNA positions
    - 75% + of cases from MKE - put those people here
  - called SC a leader on gun bill
- workforce
  - summer youth jobs pgm.
  - work closely w/ MKE
  - MKE Housing Trust Fund
- School of Public Health

Mayor Barrett cont.

- more \$ going to prisons than SC comments

Lehman comments (DNA analysts)

Grothman comments

- depending out state taxpayers
- tell Dems not to go after GOPPER who help MKE
- why not combine city + county health depts?
  - Barrett open to that

Toles comments

will shared rev. increases go to MPD @ expense of other services

Superintendent Bill Andreopoulos

- closed schools + cut admin.
- grad. rate @ 65% now
- attendance up
- significant health care issues + deficits
  - leads to better attendance
- school safety
- SAGE
- MKE math partnership
  - over 30% gap between MPS + rest of WI
  - increase math proficiency
- over \$1m earning diff. lifetime between H.S. + Bach. degree

Grothman comments

Lehman comments

Robert Miranda

- happy to see support of MKE
- need resources in upcoming global campaign
- 58% unemployment in some AA neighborhoods
- make central city revenue source & stabilize tax base
- good MKE = good WE

SC comments

Sheila Cochran

- thank you for invitation
- 47k people / 135 affiliated unions
- middle class built by ~~AA~~ collective bargaining
- good MKE = good WE
- education good for workforce

\* Investment in a city of the first class is a first class investment.

- health care
  - need good coverage to support workforce
- budget offers job opportunities for AA
  - invest in workforce

SC comments

demise of organized labor correlates to increase in prison pop.

Ralph Hollman

- NUL founded to assist in transition of southern AA to the north
- need comprehensive strategy = more resources now
- need education & training

SC comments

John Kissinger

- business angle (engineer & design)
- need knowledge & creativity in business - starting to drop off
- invest heavily in training
- education system in midwest unparalleled
  - need to prepare early
  - work ethic
- transportation (KRM)

Grothman comments

Kit McNally

- strong partnerships on all levels of law enforcement
- community service
- don't need extra officers - finish deployment study <sup>1st</sup>
- community justice & TIP
  - investment from local communities

Derrick Martin

- in area for 40 yrs.
- 300 employees now
  - adding 300+ in next couple months
- job creation & workforce development
  - need trained employees
  - good work ethic
- health care
  - employees can't afford even w/ 50% off premiums

Grothman comments

Mike Goika (Heather Dummer - Combs)

- Housing Trust Fund
- supports lead abatement programs

Tom Cannon

- Legal Aid Society of MKE
- representing indigent people
- OH - \$4m IL - \$2m WI - \$500k
  - WI ranks 27<sup>th</sup> nationwide
- benefits lowest paid

\* Pt. Balentine, John (He will follow up)

- vet of 101<sup>st</sup> from Vietnam
- sued for religious tolerance in presence
- employees work w/ inmates
- began @ Waukesha Correctional
- has been a teacher + artist
- environment oriented
  - rec'd certificate from MMSD
- positiveness will trickle down to Vet owned businesses
- environmental cleaning business

Lyle Balistreri:

- Building Trades Council
- on workforce development board
- recidivism big problem
- thank Gov. + county for coming
- mTrans program
  - MIP numbers good

Lyle Balistreri cont.

- chair of Bradley Tech Comm.
  - ex Bradley Tech is an example of a good school
  - training important
  - not used to being supportive @ a committee
- SC comments on Miriam + Big Step  
Tokes asks about best way to get involved
- wants support for diversion programs

Tom Mueller - MICAH

~~from~~

- supports BadgerCare+
- 24 new nurses
- 1 nurse / 750 students - nationwide avg.
- MPS has 1/2300
- save through efficiencies
- expand BadgerCare
- keep efficiency + in health care
- will be @ JFC

Tom Petri

- WPMCA
- 4 health care ctrs. in MKE
- vocal, public support for kid health care
- EHR's - Elec. Health Networks
  - supports health care safety net
- Health Info. Tech.
- license fees +

Tom Petri cont.

- no info on total costs yet

Robert Baker

Jeanetta Robinson

- BMCW
- community based agencies left behind

SC comments

Mary Goode

- St. Marks CAN Cntr.
- congregation action network
- change statutes for TIF funding
- Housing Trust Fund
- homeless situation

Lehman comments (need increase)

Dennis O'Leahan

- SAGE funding
  - extra funding will preserve staff
- math initiative
  - Dr. Ogden's report
  - expand to other schools
  - testing 4x/yr.
- teachers trust teachers
- appreciate Gov's education \$
- members wait sit on their hands
- will need new school finance formula
- MKE kids needs are different from others in WI

SC comments / Lehman comments

## Joseph Moriarty

- have to look outside city if it hasn't done it
- need open forum to discuss challenges
- \$4 m to reduce crime
  - new cops won't make a difference
  - use that \$ to create jobs
  - Campaign Against Violence??
- left Seattle to come to MKE
  - MKE is a reflection of a larger problem in the country
  - look at lasting solutions rather than short term fixes

## SC comments

- FBI says \$200m in illegal drugs in MKE last year

## Paul Mackey

- SDC
- supports Gov's proposal
- education, crime, grow middle class
- poverty real drain on AA comm.

## Craig Stingley

- CG Innovations
- 70% AA male unemployment
- product of school to work program
- toolmaker & designer of automated equipment
- downsized in 2004
- confronted Grothman on his idea that racism doesn't exist
- started his own business
- needs programs for unemployment



Craig Stingley cont.

- PGA related products
- make sure that the new \$ doesn't go toward administrative costs
- needs \$ for jobs + training + marketing
- blah blah blah

SC cut him off + commented

SC said we will follow up - review case from before

Gary Whitley

- increased gov buy back
- increase economy
- child care something yelky

Abdullah Shabazz

- NAACP Prison Cante.
- not speaking on MKE Initiative
- Due Process Coalition
- investigating inmate complaints

SC said he would follow up

- volunteered me to take his info

REGISTERINGERS



LEUA - MARCH 6

Ralph Hallman (11224)  
Slbrien@uwm.edu  
sluke@ymcamke.org

Barrett needs  
to leave by  
10:45

Ruth Wittenbach, DOA

Sharon Cook

Ron Hermley

Pat Gasarasi

Tim Mahone

Terry Sommer - sommertm@  
milwaukee.wi.

Pat Henderson

US



**Plotkin, Adam**

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**From:** Christopher Thiel [thielcj@milwaukee.k12.wi.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 07, 2007 10:09 AM  
**To:** Rep.Toles; Rep.Wasserman; Rep.Grigsby; Rep.Staskunas; Rep.Sinicki; Rep.Cullen;  
Rep.Zepnick; Rep.Richards; Rep.Fields; Rep.Honadel; Sen.Taylor; Sen.Carpenter;  
Rep.Young; Rep.Kessler; Rep.Colon; Sen.Plale; Rep.Krusick; Sen.Darling; Sen.Coggs;  
Rep.WilliamsA  
**Subject:** MPS: Remarks to the Committee on Labor Elections and Urban Affairs/ GMC Editorial  
**Attachments:** MPS Talking Points Coggs committee 3-06-07 Final.doc; GMC Julia Taylor MMP Letter.doc

Members of the Milwaukee Delegation:

Yesterday, Superintendent Andreopoulos testified before the Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs on the importance of the Milwaukee education items included in the Executive Budget. His remarks are attached.

In Sunday's Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Julia Taylor, president of the Greater Milwaukee Committee, wrote about the importance of Governor Doyle's proposal to provide \$15 million to fund the Milwaukee Math Partnership. Her comments are attached as well.

Thank you,

Chris

Christopher J. Thiel  
Legislative/Fiscal Policy Analyst  
Milwaukee Public Schools  
414-475-8190  
414-475-8270 fax

## **Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs**

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Thank you again for your time and for your interest in our efforts to improve to help improve the lives of students in Milwaukee Public Schools.



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## **Do the math: Partnership program adds up for city**

By JULIA TAYLOR

*Posted: March 3, 2007*

A new, proven plan - the Math Partnership - designed to boost the quality of math teaching and help move Milwaukee Public Schools remedial math students to regular or advanced math classes earlier has been given a "thumbs up" by the Journal Sentinel Editorial Board ("Closing the math gap," Feb. 22, 2007).

The Greater Milwaukee Committee would also like to voice its support for this plan; we believe it provides a highly effective, measurable return on investment for our region.

Stronger math knowledge means opportunity. The earlier students achieve higher levels of math skills, the better for our region's future. The connection for students between staying in school and mastering crucial math skills links directly with the ability to land better jobs in growth sectors.

Over the next 10 years, the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council plans to certify 40% of all front-line production workers in Wisconsin as possessing the necessary levels of skill and knowledge for today's increasingly complex advanced manufacturing positions. This unique and portable certification will serve as a benchmark of qualification for many manufacturing firms across the country evaluating potential employees.

The national pilot for standards council certification is being rolled out here in Milwaukee through the efforts of the Milwaukee Area Technical College, Harley-Davidson Inc., the standards council itself and the State of Wisconsin.

The standards council plans to train the "industrial athlete of the future," who will require a higher set of math skills than most students graduate with today.

Too often, in testing the pilot, the standards council found fundamental deficiencies in necessary math skills to qualify for certification. Either a new round of remedial



education would be necessary to bring such students up to speed, or the students would be left unqualified and uncertified, limiting opportunities and holding them back.

Attacking this problem earlier saves money since it develops more knowledgeable students sooner while reducing the need to re-educate them later. And it opens doors for students who might otherwise settle, willingly or not, for something less.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Chancellor Carlos Santiago's observation is worth repeating: "Black students in regular classes are more likely than white students in such classes to go on to graduation at his campus. But black students in remedial classes are less likely than white students in such classes to do so."

This point illustrates how bringing all children up to grade level during their K-12 experience is the only real means to affect high school and college graduation rates and increase the number of college graduates in this region toward the national average.

Providing better-tooled math students for employers not only gives the students better opportunities to advance, it increases the area's appeal to employers, both those looking to expand within the area and those exploring a new location here.

The Milwaukee 7 region will soon receive a \$5 million second-generation Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development, or WIRED, grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The money will be used to create strategic alignment of education, economic and work force development - and the Math Partnership is a key part of that equation.

Given the successful track record of this plan and its balance of relatively low cost with the potential to close social and economic achievement gaps, the Greater Milwaukee Committee wishes to voice its support of the state's proposal to fund The Math Partnership.

*Julia Taylor is president of the Greater Milwaukee Committee.*



**Plotkin, Adam**

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**From:** pstengel@independencefirst.org  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 07, 2007 3:07 PM  
**To:** Sen.Coggs  
**Subject:** Please Support Gov. Doyle's Proposed Real Estate Transfer Fee Increase and the Creation of a \$4 Million State Housing Trust Fund

Dear Sen. Coggs,

I am writing to ask you to support the inclusion of both the proposed Real Estate Transfer Fee Increase and the Tax Incremental Finance District State Statute change in Gov. Doyle's proposed 2007-2008 state budget. Included is more information about these two initiatives and why they are so important to the city of Milwaukee.

### Tax Incremental Finance District State Statute Change Included in Gov. Doyle's Proposed 2007-08 Budget:

The Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund Coalition, along with the city of Milwaukee, advocated for the Governor to include in his proposed budget changes in the state statutes that would allow Milwaukee to use a portion of their TIF dollars outside the TIF district. The intention is that a portion of these dollars would be designated as a revenue source for the Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund. Here is what the governor included in his proposed budget:

*"This bill authorizes a first class city to extend the life of a TID created by the city for up to 12 months after all of the TID's project costs have been paid. Under the bill, DOR must continue to authorize the allocation of tax increments for the TID as if its project costs had not been paid off, even if the TID would otherwise be required to terminate. The city may use up to 75 percent of the increments received during the TID's extended life to benefit affordable housing in the city. The remainder of the increments must be used to improve the quality of the city's existing housing stock." P.42*

This will provide another dedicated source of revenue for the Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund. According to a staff person at the city of Milwaukee, the projected average annual tax increment collected is \$1.2 million.

### Proposed Real Estate Transfer Fee Increase and the Creation of a \$4 Million State Housing Trust Fund:

**Position:**

1. Support creation of a state-wide Housing Trust Fund in the state budget
2. Support the use of increased Real Estate Transfer Fee funds as one of several funding streams needed to capitalize the state-wide Housing Trust Fund.
3. Oppose the use of new state-wide Housing Trust Fund dollars to supplant existing housing & homeless programs currently funded by state General Purpose Revenue (GPR).

**Rationale:** The Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund Coalition has a long standing position in support of the creation of a state-wide housing trust fund and for using an increase in the Real Estate Transfer Fee as one of several revenue sources to capitalize the fund. A bedrock principle of most Housing Trust Funds found across the United States is that trust fund dollars must be new funding, used to supplement existing programs and should not be used to supplant existing efforts. There is a dire need for more affordable housing in Milwaukee and across the state, and that need can only be met by bringing new dollars to the effort.

**Background** - In his budget the governor proposed increasing the Real Estate Transfer Fee to \$6.00 per thousand of real estate sales from the current \$3.00 per thousand. The governor's budget document estimates that this will provide an additional \$143 Million to the state over the biennium. (In FY 2005-06 the Real Estate Transfer Fee generated approximately \$101 Million of which \$80.5 million accrued to the state.)

All but \$4 Million of the revenue generated by the increase in the Real Estate Transfer Fee will be used to create a "County Aid Fund" which will provide increased funding for county level circuit courts, youth aids and county shared revenue funds.

Four Million (\$4,000,000) of the funds from the increased Real Estate Transfer Fee will be used to create a state-wide Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Of this \$4 Million:

- \$2.85 Million will be used to replace state GPR dollars for existing housing & homeless programs
- \$1 Million will be used to increase funding for Homeless Transitional Housing Grants and

03/07/2007

- \$148,700 will remain in the Housing Trust Fund to be spent on housing programs through executive action.

Please consider supporting these two initiatives.

Sincerely,  
Patti Stengel

Patti Stengel, ILS Project Specialist

Independence *First*

600 W Virginia St  
Milwaukee, WI 53204  
Direct Phone: (414)226-8396  
[pstengel@independencefirst.org](mailto:pstengel@independencefirst.org)



Date ?

**Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund Coalition  
Position Paper  
On  
Tax Incremental Finance District State Statute Change Included in  
Gov. Doyle's Proposed 2007-08 Budget**

The Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund Coalition, along with the city of Milwaukee, advocated for the Governor to include in his proposed budget changes in the state statutes that would allow Milwaukee to use a portion of their TIF dollars outside the TIF district. The intention is that a portion of these dollars would be designated as a revenue source for the Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund. Here is what the governor included in his proposed budget:

*“This bill authorizes a first class city to extend the life of a TID created by the city for up to 12 months after all of the TID’s project costs have been paid. Under the bill, DOR must continue to authorize the allocation of tax increments for the TID as if its project costs had not been paid off, even if the TID would otherwise be required to terminate. The city may use up to 75 percent of the increments received during the TID’s extended life to benefit affordable housing in the city. The remainder of the increments must be used to improve the quality of the city’s existing housing stock.” P.42*

**What this means:**

This allows the city, through Common Council action, to extend the life of a TIF (or TID) by one year. The money collected during that additional year will go to support two things – 75 % of it will go to the Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund and 25% will support lead abatement efforts.

**Why we support this:**

This will provide another dedicated source of revenue for the Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund. According to a staff person at the city of Milwaukee, the projected average annual tax increment collected is \$1.2 million.

**Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund Coalition**  
**Position Paper**  
**On**  
**Gov. Doyle's Proposed Real Estate Transfer Fee Increase and the**  
**Creation of a \$4 Million State Housing Trust Fund**

**Position:**

1. Support creation of a state-wide Housing Trust Fund in the state budget
2. Support the use of increased Real Estate Transfer Fee funds as one of several funding streams needed to capitalize the state-wide Housing Trust Fund.
3. Oppose the use of new state-wide Housing Trust Fund dollars to supplant existing housing & homeless programs currently funded by state General Purpose Revenue (GPR).

**Rationale:** The Milwaukee Housing Trust Fund Coalition has a long standing position in support of the creation of a state-wide housing trust fund and for using an increase in the Real Estate Transfer Fee as one of several revenue sources to capitalize the fund. A bedrock principle of most Housing Trust Funds found across the United States is that trust fund dollars must be new funding, used to supplement existing programs and should not be used to supplant existing efforts. There is a dire need for more affordable housing in Milwaukee and across the state, and that need can only be met by bringing new dollars to the effort.

**Background** - In his budget the governor proposed increasing the Real Estate Transfer Fee to \$6.00 per thousand of real estate sales transaction from the current \$3.00 per thousand. The governor's budget document estimates that this will provide an additional \$143 Million to the state over the biennium. (In FY 2005-06 the Real Estate Transfer Fee generated approximately \$101 Million of which \$80.5 million accrued to the state.)

All but \$4 Million of the revenue generated by the increase in the Real Estate Transfer Fee will be used to create a "County Aid Fund" which will provide increased funding for county level circuit courts, youth aids and county shared revenue funds.

Four Million (\$4,000,000) of the funds from the increased Real Estate Transfer Fee will be used to create a state-wide Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Of this \$4 Million:

- \$2.85 Million will be used to replace state GPR dollars for existing housing & homeless programs
- \$1 Million will be used to increase funding for Homeless Transitional Housing Grants and
- \$148,700 will remain in the Housing Trust Fund to be spent on housing programs through executive action.





SC,

Date?

Please call Matt Moroney from the Metropolitan Builders Assn. regarding the hearing next Tuesday.

This is the guy that Sharon Cook wants you to personally invite.

262-436-1122

Let me know if you want him to be one of the invited speakers.

AJP