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 **Advocacy Digest | May 20, 2020**

 **Brad Boycks, Executive Director**

**Contractor Certification Subcommittee Meets**

Over the past two months, the Contractor Certification Subcommittee has met twice to discuss possible changes to current laws and administrative rules regarding the certification of contractors in Wisconsin. These state statutes and administrative rules have changed very little since the enactment of 2005 Wisconsin Act 200.

The subcommittee is in the process of putting the final touches on a report that will contain suggested changes to current requirements that are required for contractors to get a business credential and those required to pull a building permit. Once this report is finalized, it will be on the agenda to further discuss during our upcoming Advocacy Group meeting that will take place using Zoom on Wednesday, June 24.

If you have any thoughts regarding the current contractor certification requirements, please feel free to send them to Brad Boycks for distribution to the members of the subcommittee.

**Tom Tiffany Goes to Washington**

With his win on May 12 in a special election to succeed Congressman Sean Duffy, former State Senator now Congressman, Tom Tiffany, took his seat as a member of the United States Congress recently. Before being sworn in, Tiffany resigned his seat as a member of the Wisconsin State Senate.

Tiffany handily bested Tricia Zunker in the special general election in Wisconsin’s 7th Congressional District, which over the course of the past 10 years, has moved from a solid district for former Congressman Dave Obey to a reliably republican district after Duffy’s election in 2010.

The NAHB BUILD PAC supported Tiffany in both his primary election and his general election.

Tiffany will be up for reelection again in November for another full 2-year term and will again face Democrat Tricia Zunker.

WBA and NAHB look forward to continuing to work with Tiffany in congress as he continues his past efforts a strong advocate for private property rights.

**More Turnover in the Wisconsin State Senate**

Recently, a member of the Wisconsin State Senate announced her immediate resignation and another announced his intention to not run for reelection in the fall.

State Senator Jennifer Shilling, a longtime member of the both the state assembly and state senate who served as senate minority leader, first announced weeks ago that she would not seek reelection. Last week, she announced that she was immediately stepping down from her seat. It is expected that an announcement will be made soon that Shilling stepped down from her seat so she could accept a private sector job. Prior to the announcement that Shilling was stepping down, members of the State Senate Democrat Caucus announced they had chosen Senator Janet Bewley (D-Mason) as their new minority leader.

State Senator David Craig (R-Big Bend) also recently announced that he would not seek reelection to his heavily republican state senate seat. Craig served first in the state assembly and has served as a member of the state senate since 2017.

In a press release announcing that he would not seek reelection, Craig stated, “It has been one of the greatest honors of my life serving the people of the 28th Senate District. My family has always been supportive and actively worked with me to advance the conservative movement in Wisconsin. After much prayerful consideration, and almost a decade in public office, Amy and I and have decided to not seek re-election to the 28th Senate District in November.”

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