

# Alberta Darling



## State Senate

Friends of Alberta Darling, Treasurer David Fantle

Mailing Address:

Friends of Alberta Darling

P.O. Box 868

Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

Campaign Headquarters:

N112W15800 Mequon Rd

Germantown, WI 53022

(In Sendik's Village Center at  
Mequon/Pilgrim Roads)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: JOHN HOGAN 262-251-0333

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## THE WASSERMAN WAFFLE: HE MISLEADS PUBLIC ON TERMS OF TAXPAYER PLEDGE

*Exposes history of supporting tax increases prior to breaking 2007 pledge*

(GERMANTOWN)... Sheldon Wasserman forgot the first rule when you are in a hole: quit digging. Not only is he lying about breaking the 2007 Americans for Tax Reform Taxpayers Protection Pledge (ATR Pledge), but now Wasserman points to the 2002 ATR Pledge despite supporting multiple tax increases since 2002.

"Wasserman is trying to mislead voters, again, that he somehow is against increasing taxes," said Darling. "Wasserman has been scolded by ATR in the past for supporting tax increases, and he's at it again.

The terms of the ATR Taxpayer Protection Pledge are that the signer must vote against tax increases, and (publicly) oppose tax increases. Wasserman voted against extending the property tax freeze, which Alberta Darling supported. Furthermore, Wasserman publicly committed to supporting tax increases and in doing so, acknowledged that he was breaking his pledge

<http://blogs.jsonline.com/allpoliticswatch/archive/2007/10/01/27-assembly-members-signed-no-tax-pledges.aspx>.

Taxpayers received a mailer from Sheldon Wasserman stating that he "signed a no new taxes pledge – and kept his promise," but are now wondering which taxpayer pledge Wasserman is referring to, because he's broken the 2007 pledge and has supported other tax increases after signing other pledges.

### **Wasserman has an established pattern of voting for and supporting higher taxes prior to breaking the 2007 pledge:**

1. Wasserman voted AGAINST the property tax freeze in 2005 (2005 AB 58)
2. Wasserman voted against a bill (2001 AB 2) that would prevent local governments from sneaking tax hike referenda past taxpayers by scheduling votes on nontraditional voting dates.
3. Wasserman voted against the Taxpayer Protection Act (2005 AJR 77)
4. Wasserman even went so far as to sponsor a bill (2005 AB 451, SB 211) to raise the cigarette tax. ATR took Wasserman to task over this in April 2005. [http://www.atr.org/content/pdf/2005/mar/pr-wi-tobacco\\_medicaid04-04-05.pdf](http://www.atr.org/content/pdf/2005/mar/pr-wi-tobacco_medicaid04-04-05.pdf)

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5. Wasserman says he is open to a special North Shore sales tax if residents want it. Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, 3/25/05.

<http://www.highbeam.com/doc/1P2-6333811.html>

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