

Andre Jacque

Wisconsin Assembly District 2



Summary

[Official Legislative Biography.](#)

Born in Beaver Dam, WI October 13, 1980; Married with 5 children. Graduate of Green Bay Southwest 1999; B.S. UW-Madison 2003; Graduate certificate from UW-Madison La Follette Inst. of Public Affairs. Full-time legislator.

Former transit planning coordinator, communications dir., grant-writing consultant. Member: Wis. Council on Domestic Abuse; Wis. Small Business Environmental Council; Green Bay Area Crimestoppers (bd. mbr.); Golden House Domestic Abuse Shelter Community Leadership Council; Brown Co. Taxpayers Assn; Knights of Columbus; Civil Air Patrol. Former member: Brown Co. Teen Leadership (bd. mbr.); Brown Co. United Way (marketing and communications com.); Higher Educ. Aids Bd. 2001-03. Recipient: Wis. Coalition Against Domestic Violence Legislative Champion Award; Wis. Counties Assn. Outstanding Legislator Award; Pro-Life Wis. Legislator of the Year; NFIB Guardian of Small Business Award; Wisconsin Family Council William Wilberforce Freedom Award; Brown County Crime Prevention Foundation Crimefighter Award; Manitowoc County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition IMPACT recognition; American Wis. Coalition of Virtual Schools Families Shining Star of Education Reform; Dairy Business Assn. Legislative Excellence Award; Phillips Foundation Distinguished Young Conservative Leader of the Year;

Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Legislator of the Year; Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Legislator of the Year; Wis. Towns Assn. Friend of Towns; Wis. Professional Police Assn. Law Enforcement Honor Roll; U.S. Chamber of Commerce Inst. for Legal Reform State Legislative Achievement Award; Volunteers for Agriculture Friend of Agriculture

ALEC membership/ties

- [Civil Justice Task Force Membership Directory, December 2010](#)
- [International Relations Task Force Membership Directory, August 2011](#)

ALEC model legislation authored/sponsored

Bill Title/Number	ALEC Model Bill	Sponsored/Authorred
Act 9 (2011)	Super-Majority Act	Voted Yea
Act 23 (2011)	Voter ID Act	Cosponsored and voted Yea
AB 69 (2011-2012)	Castle Doctrine Act	Cosponsored and voted Yea
Act 2 (2011)	Joint and Several Liability Act; Punitive Standards Act; Product Liability Act	Cosponsored and voted Yea
SJR 23 (2011)	Constitutional Amendment Restricting the Use of Vehicle Fees and Taxes for Highway Purposes	Cosponsored and voted Yea
SB 13 (2011)	Drug Liability Act	Cosponsored
Act 10 (2011)	Public Employer Payroll Deduction Act	Voted Yea
SB 2 (2011)	Health Savings Account Act	Cosponsored
AB 110 (2011)	Special Needs Scholarship Program Act	Cosponsored
AJR 81 (2013)	Balanced Budget Amendment	Cosponsored and voted Yea
Act 1 (2015)	Right to Work Act	Voted Yea
AB 190 (2017)	Fair and Legal Employment Act	Cosponsored
SB 3 (2017)	Open Contracting Act	Cosponsored and voted Yea

- **Representative Andre Jacque voted to allow legislative minorities to block majority-supported changes to Wisconsin’s tax code.** Representative Andre Jacque voted in 2011 for Act 9, which requires a two-thirds majority in each legislative chamber to pass any bill that increases sales, income, or franchise taxes in Wisconsin. This bill closely resembled the ALEC model “Super-Majority Act”, and was supported strongly in Wisconsin by right-wing activist Grover Norquist and his (ALEC member) group Americans for Tax Reform. The legislation is functionally undemocratic as it “[allows] a future minority of legislators to thwart majority will on certain tax increases” according to Brendan Fischer, former general counsel for the Center for Media and Democracy. The law is also “a dangerous restriction on legislative action in the long run” according to tax commentator and Forbes columnist Lee Sheppard. [[CMD](#); [PR Watch](#),

[3/10/2014](#); [Forbes, 2/15/2011](#); then-AB 5 passed the Assembly 57-36, [1/25/2011](#), the Senate, [2/8/2011](#), and was signed into law [2/22/2011](#)]

- **Representative Andre Jacque cosponsored discriminatory and suppressive Voter ID legislation.** Similar to ALEC model Voter ID legislation, Wisconsin's Act 23 (2011) requires registered voters to obtain and to present photo ID in order to cast a ballot. Though proponents claimed publicly that Voter ID legislation aimed at eliminating voter fraud, sworn testimony from a former Republican staffer in Wisconsin indicates otherwise. Todd Allbaugh testified under oath in 2016 that in a Republican caucus meeting planning passage of the bill, proponents fully acknowledged the political and discriminatory intent of the legislation. In responding to concerns that the bill would suppress votes, bill co-sponsor Glenn Grothman responded, "What I'm concerned about here is winning [elections], and that's what really matters here." In the same meeting, State Senator and bill co-sponsor Mary Lazich stated, "we've got to think about what this would mean for the neighborhoods around Milwaukee and the college campuses". The intent of the bill, to its cosponsors, was to help Republicans win elections by suppressing votes in student-and-minority heavy areas. [[PR Watch 9/26/2017](#); [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, May 16,2016](#); [AB 7 Passed Assembly 59-36 5/11/2011, the Senate 19-14 on 5/19/2011](#)]
- **In 2011, Representative Andre Jacque cosponsored the Castle Doctrine Bill, ALEC's most infamous model bill.** Andre Jacque voted for Wisconsin's version of the Castle Doctrine bill, which grants presumption of immunity for a homeowner using a gun against an intruder. According to the Milwaukee-Wisconsin Journal-Sentinel, AB 69 gives homeowners who shoot intruders will have new legal protections. Under this bill, courts in most criminal and civil matters would presume that people using deadly force had acted reasonably against anyone unlawfully inside their residence, business or vehicle, whether the trespasser was armed or not. A group within the State Bar of Wisconsin representing more than 600 criminal defense lawyers, prosecutors, judges and academics opposed the castle doctrine bill because "malevolent, reckless, or paranoid people who shoot trick-or-treaters or repairmen on their porch will be presumed to be acting in self-defense." Members of that group say they can't come up with a single case where a homeowner was charged with a crime for defending himself or herself against an intruder. [[Milwaukee-Wisconsin Journal-Sentinel, 12/7/2011](#); [AB 69](#), Bill passed in Wisconsin House, 71-24, [11/1/2011](#); [AB 69](#), Bill Passed in Wisconsin Senate 26-7, [11/3/2011](#)]
- **In 2011, Representative Andre Jacque cosponsored a bill, Act 2 that makes it harder for Wisconsin families to hold corporations accountable for products that injure or kill their parent, spouse, or child.** Representative Andre Jacque voted in 2011 for Act 2, which is considered a "tort reform bill". This bill closely resembles several ALEC model bills like the Joint and Several Liability Act, Punitive Standards Act and the Product Liability Act. According to The Hamilton Consulting Group, the bill requires the claimant to prove that the manufacturer made the specific product responsible for the injury. Act 2 further provides that if a claimant cannot identify the manufacturer of the specific product, and no other method of recovery is available, the court may apportion the liability to more than one manufacturer of the specific product liable for the injury. [[The Hamilton Consulting Group, 4/28/2014](#); [Act 2](#), Bill Passed Wisconsin House, 57-36, [1/20/2011](#); [Act 2](#), Bill Passed Wisconsin Senate, 19-14, [1/18/2011](#)]

- **In 2011, Representative Andre Jacque cosponsored a bill that restricts funding generated from gas taxes and vehicle registration fees for use only on roads, and not for any other needs.** Representative Andre Jacque voted for SJR 23, which, according to ALEC Exposed, , closely reflects ALEC's "Constitutional Amendment Restricting the Use of Vehicle Fees and Taxes for Highway Purposes" and would lock in by constitutional amendment a restriction of gasoline and other vehicle-related revenues to spending on highway-related purposes. Also, note that "vehicle fees and taxes" currently pay for only about half the direct costs of highways. So the effect of this restrictive subsidy to them has a multiplier in draining the funds from other, potentially more worthy, transportation projects. Essentially distorting the price calculation on highways, it encourages politicians to continue to fixate on them, counter to everything we know about what's needed to local equity and wealth creation, much less our environment. [[ALEC Exposed](#); [SJR 23](#), Bill Passed Wisconsin House, 82-11, [5/17/2011](#); [SJR 23](#), Bill Passed Wisconsin Senate, 26-6, [5/17/2011](#)]
- **In 2011, Representative Andre Jacque cosponsored a bill that grants drug and medical device manufacturers immunity from lawsuits if the FDA approved the product at issue.** Representative Andre Jacque voted for SB13, which immunized medical device manufacturers from lawsuits if the FDA approved the device. According to Wisconsin Public Radio, SB 13 proposes to make it harder for people who get injured by certain drugs to sue manufacturers. Opponents of the proposed new law assert that it will hurt people injured by flawed drugs and medical devices. "The plan would shield drug makers and medical device manufacturers from lawsuits if their products were [U.S. Food & Drug Administration]-approved," WPR reported. "The trouble, critics say, is that there's a long list of drugs that got the FDA's OK even though it turns out they were actually harmful or even deadly." Also according to the Center for Justice and Democracy's Associate Director, Jocelyn Bogdan, "This legislation would be devastating to Wisconsin residents. It would prevent them from seeking compensation for real injuries, no matter how severe, caused by dangerous drugs and devices. And it would leave drug and device companies completely off the hook for marketing products that harm or even kill, once the under-resourced FDA has approved them." [Wisconsin Public Radio, [10/17/2011](#); Center for Justice and Democracy, [10/24/2011](#); [SB 13](#), Bill failed to pass to special session, [12/13/2011](#)]
- **In 2011, Representative Andre Jacque voted in favor of Act 10 that imposes strict limits on collective bargaining and union rights for public employees.** Representative Andre Jacque voted for Act 10 that imposes strict limits on collective bargaining and union rights for public employees. Act 10 was introduced by Governor Scott Walker and had the goal to fix state finances by cutting benefits for union workers and wiping away their ability to negotiate over anything but their wages. According to the Journal Sentinel, Walker's bill also would allow public employees to avoid making payments to unions if they don't join those unions. Now, workers can choose not to join unions, but they must make "fair share" payments similar to dues - a requirement that unions say is needed because all workers benefit from their work at the bargaining table. Democrats denounced the plan and said the Republican governor was "declaring war" on unions before attempting to bargain with them. "These are dedicated public servants who work really hard at what they do," Sen. Jon Erpenbach (D-Middleton) said. "You

can't just take all that experience and flush it down the toilet. [Journal Sentinel, [2/10/2011](#); [Act 10](#), Bill passed in Wisconsin House, 53-42, [3/10/2011](#); Act 10, Bill passed in Wisconsin Senate, 18-1, [3/9/2011](#)]

- **In 2011, Andre Jacque cosponsored Act 1, which allows residents to take a tax deduction for any contribution into a health savings account.** Representative Andre Jacque voted for SB 2 that allowed for tax deduction for contributions to Health Savings Accounts. “The proposed legislation would provide additional tax benefits for those who purchase health insurance policies for those who purchase policies which incorporate health savings accounts. These types of policies undermine the affordability of comprehensive health insurance plans in the group market and can be used by the wealthy as a tax shelter.” Health Savings Accounts overlook the needs of the poor. Individuals with these plans are responsible for a significant amount of costs before their insurance benefits kick in [Salon, [7/21/2017](#); [Center for Media and Democracy](#); [Act 1, Passed Senate 21-12, 1/20/2011](#)]
- **Representative Andre Jacque cosponsored a bill that would subsidize private school attendance by special needs students.** In 2011, Warren Petryk cosponsored AB110The bill would, according to the Center for Media and Democracy, “subsidize private school attendance by students with disabilities, including learning disabilities or autism. This is a voucher program for a specific subset of students who are Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) eligible. This has been proposed in 2011 in some states, including Wisconsin. Most private schools are not able to provide IDEA students with appropriate special education services - so in voucher programs, the schools have very few special education students.” Most disability organizations strongly oppose special education vouchers—and decades of evidence suggest that such students are better off receiving additional support in public schools. Jeff Spitzer-Resnick, managing attorney for Disability Rights Wisconsin, states, “Disabled students who take advantage of special education vouchers forfeit their rights under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. That means they no longer have a right to a free, appropriate public education or the specific services that come along with that.” [Parents United for Public Schools, [7/26/2011](#); Center for Media and Democracy: [Special Needs Scholarship Program Act](#); The Nation, [7/12/2011](#); [AB110, Failed in Senate, 3/23/2012](#)]
- **In 2014, Representative Andre Jacque cosponsored and offered an amendment to Wisconsin’s constitution calling for a national constitutional convention to add a “balanced budget” amendment to the U.S. Constitution.** In 2014 Representative Warren Petryk cosponsored AJR 81, the Resolution for a Limited Constitutional Convention on Unfunded Mandates, an ALEC model resolution, is listed under ALEC’s Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force and was included in the 1995 Sourcebook of American State Legislation. AJR 81, which reflects the ALEC model resolution, represents a mostly conservative movement to hold a national convention that aims to limit the federal government’s ability to operate on a deficit. If successful, one result could be a fundamental shift of power to the states and permanent loss of many federal programs. A broad range of Wisconsin organizations sent a letter to state senators in opposition to the resolution, arguing, “It would deepen and lengthen recessions by making it extremely difficult for federal lawmakers to increase spending when it is most needed for countercyclical safety net

programs, such as food stamps, unemployment insurance, and Medicaid. It might also make it very difficult for Congress to respond to national disasters and other emergencies, and is likely to require deep cuts to Social Security benefits and/or substantial increases in Social Security taxes” [Center for Media and Democracy: [Resolution for a Limited Constitutional Convention on Unfunded Mandates Exposed](#); Wisconsin Budget Project, [2/25/2014](#); [AJR 81, Adopted 58-38, 2/18/2014](#)]

- **In 2017, Representative Andre Jacque cosponsored a bill that would punish so-called sanctuary cities, counties and school districts by encouraging police, clerks and teachers to ask people for their immigration status.** Representative Andre Jacque voted for SB 275 that would undermine local government’s ability to pass and implement ordinances, resolutions, or policies that define when and if law enforcement officers may inquire about an individual’s immigration status. In regard to the bill, Representative Lisa Subeck (D-Madison) released the following statement: “With this bill, Republicans would undo years of work by local law enforcement to build the trust that ensures future and aspiring citizens who are victims or witnesses can report crimes without fear of deportation.” Christine Neumann-Ortiz, Executive Director of the advocacy group Voces de la Frontera stated, “This bill will increase racial profiling and discrimination, waste taxpayer dollars and disrupt the economy, and make everyone less safe by making community members afraid to report crimes.[Wisconsin Gazette, [6/16/2017](#); Wisconsin Press Releases, [10/12/2017](#); Voces de la Frontera, [5/26/2017](#); [SB 275, Passage recommended, 11/3/2017](#)]
- **In 2017, Representative Andre Jacque cosponsored a bill that would prevent local governments from requiring contractors to work with unions on taxpayer-funded building projects.** Representative Andre Jacque voted for SB 3 is which bans that bans project labor agreements, “a prehire collective bargaining agreement with one or more labor organizations that establishes the terms and conditions of employment for a specific construction project.” Wisconsin Democrats said the proposal will interfere with the ability of local governments to get the best value for projects in their area. Rep. Peter Barca (D), minority leader of the Assembly, railed against the various requirements bearing down on organized labor: “Both of these moves will drive down wages for many workers in Wisconsin,” Barca said in a statement Feb. 9. “This is exactly the wrong direction for our state. With one of the most diminished middle classes in the entire country, Democrats believe we should prioritize investing in worker training to close the skills gap and raise the minimum wage. Republicans seem to prioritize limiting local control and paying Wisconsin workers less.” Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett agreed, “Our building and construction trades are critical partners in Milwaukee’s renaissance, which is why I support their contributions. They visibly strengthen our economy” [Journal Sentinel, [2/8/17](#); Bloomberg [2/13/2017](#); [SB 3, Passed House 64-35, Passed Senate 19-13, 2/8/2017](#)]

Other Hits

Representative Andre Jacque sponsored a bill to make English the official language of Wisconsin.

According to the Milwaukee-Wisconsin Journal Sentinel, in 2013, Representative Jacque reintroduced a bill, AB 340 that would make English the official language in Wisconsin, saying it will encourage

immigrants to learn the language and improve their prospects in the state. Representative Jacque's proposal also would require state and local government officials to write all their documents in English. "Despite a broad spectrum of viewpoints on U.S. education or immigration policy, there is widespread agreement that English proficiency is critical to societal integration, future success and achieving the American Dream," Jacque wrote in a memo to his fellow lawmakers soliciting co-sponsors. Christine Neumann-Ortiz, executive director of immigrant advocacy group Voces de la Frontera, called the bill "an embarrassment" in an email. "As a nation of immigrants," she wrote, "different generations from all over the world have relied on multiple languages and bilingual education to successfully integrate into the fabric of this country. [Milwaukee-Wisconsin Journal Sentinel, [8/26/13](#); AB [340](#), Bill failed to become a Senate Joint resolution, [4/8/2014](#)]

Representative Andre Jacque sponsored a bill to block abortion training at UW-Madison According to Journal Sentinel, in 2017, Representative Jacque introduced a bill, AB 206 that would block University of Wisconsin-Madison faculty from training resident physicians in abortions would worsen a shortage of obstetrics/gynecological providers in the state, school officials say. UW-Madison must provide abortion training to maintain its national accreditation for OB-GYN training, "This simple act will clearly lead to the loss of accreditation but the damage will go far beyond the residency program," Robert Golden, dean of the university's medical school, said. The measure's author, Representative Jacque, stated that UW-Madison's fears are overblown. He said he doubts they would lose accreditation. "I'm trying to get UW out of the abortion business," Jacque said. "I'm on pretty firm ground here. [Journal Sentinel, [7/16/17](#); AB [206](#), Bill sent to committee, [10/12/2017](#)]

Representative Andre Jacque sponsored a bill blocking health insurance plans from covering abortions for Wisconsin state employees. Jacque wants to prevent tax dollars from funding abortions, except in cases of rape, incest, or to preserve the mother's life. The bill was signed into law now joining, according to Cap Times, "Twenty-one other states have laws restricting abortion coverage under public employees' insurance plans." [Cap Times, [4/3/2018](#); AB 128, signed into law, [4/3/2018](#)]