

Wisconsin State Assembly Legislative Prayer 04 15 10

Representative Mike Sheridan, Assembly Speaker (D) Janesville – 44<sup>th</sup> District:

Ok. Members and visitors, please rise. The prayer today will be offered by the lady from the 58<sup>th</sup>, Representative Pat Strachota.

Representative Pat Strachota (R) West Bend – 58<sup>th</sup> District

Good morning, everyone. I had asked my pastors, Father Jeff Hines (sp?) and Father Nate Reisman (sp?), from Saint Francisca Berrini Parish (sp?) in West Bend to come today, but, unfortunately, they were not able to make it. And, so Father Nate sent me a prayer, based on chapter 9, the book of wisdom. This passage, as originally written, is based, is believed to be King Solomon's calling out to God for wisdom. While King Solomon was revered for being an extremely wise leader, he understood that man is fallible.

This prayer asks God for wisdom to guide us, as we vote on the many bills before us today. So, let us pray.

God of my Fathers, Lord of Mercy, who have made all things by your Word, and in your wisdom have established man to rule all other creatures produced by you, to govern the world in holiness and justice, and to render judgment in integrity of heart.

As we gather to create laws that affect the lives of men and women who have entrusted themselves to our care, give us wisdom. And, make us ever more into your sons and daughters in grace.

For we are your weak servants whose lives are short, and we are always lacking in right comprehension of justice and of law.

Indeed, even if we have been chosen from among others to govern, if wisdom, who comes only from you, is not with us, then we shall be held to no esteem.

With you Lord, is wisdom, who knows your works, and was present when you made the world, who understands that in pleasing in your eyes and what conforms to your commands, send her forth from your holy heavens, that she may be with us and work with us, so that we may know what you desire in all things.

For wisdom knows and understands all things, and she alone can guide us to the truth in every circumstance, and keep us safe in the light of her glory.

We have no power, honor, or authority apart from you, oh Lord. It is your truth that we seek in all things, as we gather in your presence.

May your wisdom guide us this day and all days.

Amen