

*Dear Neighbors,*

*It has been an honor and a privilege to represent you in the state legislature for the past two years. I have worked hard on your behalf, making it a priority to advance legislation that will benefit not only our district's specific needs, but also the needs of our children, seniors and hard-working families.*

*With our state facing a budget deficit, the challenge this year was to balance the budget and at the same time protect the things that make Minnesota a great place to live. While cuts are never completely painless, we were able to make important investments in key areas such as nursing homes, education, property tax relief and health care. We also expanded services for active service members and veterans.*

*I look forward to visiting with you over the coming weeks now that I am back in the district. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.*

*John E. Ward*



State Representative  
**JOHN WARD**

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# State Rep. John Ward • 2007-2008 Legislative Accomplishments

- \$800 million in new funding for K-12 Education in 2007
- \$51 per pupil increase allocated for 2009
- Restored 2003 cuts to ECFE, Head Start and School Readiness
- Provided direct property tax relief to hard-working Minnesotans
- Secured a 4% increase for nursing homes in both 07/08
- Passed the Health Care Reform bill that expands coverage and lowers costs
- \$17.4 million for regional roads and bridges over next 10 years
- Created thousands of jobs for Minnesotans
- Gave Minnesota voters a choice to protect our environment, natural resources and cultural legacy projects
- Funding for Central Lakes College for renovations\*
- \$200,000 for Crosby well and water tower infrastructure \*
- \$1.85 million for Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area for trails and mine pit development\*
- Authored Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board bill to improve emergency services\*
- Teen Challenge treatment center funded, starting up June 1st, 2008 \*
- Saved area campgrounds/resorts money with new legislation \*
- Authored and fought for legislation to (1) repeal the tax exemption on seasonal properties and (2) prevent the state from closing state facilities such as the Brainerd CABHS program without legislative approval\*

*\*Legislation authored by Rep. Ward*

