Gov. Walker Promotes Staff

Hot on the campaign trail, Gov. Walker has been seen traveling across the country addressing crowds of Republicans in hopes of landing the 2016 Republican bid for president. Though currently out of state, Walker has been working on rearranging his staff, and announced today the newest positions within his office.

Recently, Walker lost his Chief of Staff Eric Shutt who left to pursue other opportunities. Walker had the following to say about his former staff member, “He is highly-respected, solution-oriented, and a great example of what it means to be an exceptional leader. We were lucky to have him on our team since I was first elected Governor.”

Rich Zipperer, Walker’s current Deputy Chief of Staff, will fill Shutt’s role as Chief of Staff come September 4th. Zipperer has worked in the office since 2012 and was previously a private practice attorney as well as Deputy Chief of Staff of U.S. Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner. Zipper also spent some as a legislator, serving as a Representative for the 98th Assembly District and Senator of the 33rd Senate District.

In addition to a new Chief of Staff, Walker has appointed former Communications Director Jocelyn Webster to serve as his newest Deputy Chief of Staff. Cindy Polzin will leave her current position as Senior Director of Legislative and Local Government Affairs to become Deputy Chief of Staff for Budget, Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs. Matt Moroney, prior Senior Advisor in the Office of Governor Walker, will serve as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Katie Ignatowski will leave her role as Deputy Legal Counsel to become Chief Legal Counsel to the Governor.

Walker included the following statement in his announcement, “As we enter a new chapter in my administration, I am confident the experience and commitment of these key staff members will lead to a seamless transition as we continue our work to reform government, cut taxes, and build a better Wisconsin.”

Planned Parenthood Scandal Sparks New Legislation

Over the past few weeks, the nation has been buzzing as video after video was released depicting alleged fetal body part sales by Planned Parenthood. The videos have driven
up the demand for discussion on the organization’s ethics and abortion laws throughout the country. In Wisconsin, two legislators have jumped into the discussion by releasing a bill to prohibit the sale and experimentation of fetal tissue and body parts.

Rep. Jacque (R-DePere) and Sen. Stroebel( R-Saukville) introduced Assembly Bill 305 with the support of over 50 members of their combined houses. The bill itself would prohibit any person from knowingly and for a valuable amount, acquire, receive, or transfer fetal body parts within Wisconsin. In addition, it would prohibit a person from providing, receiving, or using body parts for experimentation.

Though the bill has received much support from Republican legislators and pro-life groups, there are a few medical organizations concerned with the effects the bills language could have on current research. Currently, scientists use a cell lines that were collected and cloned since the 1960s to conduct experiments for use in the medical field. These lines have produced numerous medical advancements including vaccines, the prevention of infection diseases, and advancements in cancer research.

The bill has received a public hearing in the Assembly Committee on Health, during which a possibility for an amendment exempting previous cell lines was discussed. As of now, there is no amendment and the bill is awaiting its next hearing where the committee will vote on passage.

Walker Announces Health Plan for the Nation

As the race for President heats up, candidates from either side of the aisle are stepping up their political game. This past week in Iowa, Governor Walker took a stand against the country’s current health care policies, introducing his own plan should he be elected President in 2016.

Standing on the infamous Iowa County Fair Soapbox, Walker addresses the crowd of fans and protesters saying he is not intimidated by anyone and will not back down. Referencing the Wisconsin protests of 2011, Walker continued stating he will do what is necessary to defend the American people, including a change in the nation’s health care.

Walker’s plan, also known as The Day One Patient Freedom Plan, would see the Governor repeal Obamacare on his first day in office and replace it with a system that he says would put patients and their families back in charge of their health care.

Highlights from his plan include the following:

1. Repeal Obamacare on day one
2. Allow health plans to be purchased across state lines
3. 1,000 refundable tax credit for anyone who signs up for a health savings account
4. Refundable tax credits to those who do not have employer-based health insurance
5. Make health care more efficient, effective and accountable by empowering states

Walker has continued to drop in the polls, now placing fourth behind Donald Trump, Jeb Bush, and Ben Carson while some polls have him falling even lower. The numbers are not getting the Governor down though, as he was last seen addressing a crowd in New Hampshire earlier in the week. You can read the Governor’s full health care plan at his website by clicking here.

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