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For Immediate Release
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Ed Thompson Announces Candidacy for 31st Senate District

(Tomah, WI)... Expressing concern that state government is hampering job creation and failing to protect seniors in a down economy, Ed Thompson announced he will run as a Republican against incumbent Kathleen Vinehout for the 31st State Senate district. The 31st State Senate district includes all of Trempealeau, Buffalo, Jackson and Pepin counties and parts of Monroe, Pierce, Dunn, Eau Claire, and Clark Counties.

“I cannot sit idly by while Madison turns this state’s economy upside down. People are losing their jobs and struggling to get by, while the response from Madison has been to raise our taxes,” said Thompson. “The economy is already bad, but Madison is making things worse. The solution is clear; government must get out of the way of progress by reducing taxes on working families and the people who provide jobs.”

Wisconsin dropped five spots to become the third worst state in the nation in which to do business according to Forbes Magazine, demonstrating Wisconsin’s worsening job climate. Meanwhile the Wisconsin Taxpayers Alliance analysis shows that, due to recent tax increases, our state may rise to the sixth highest-taxed state in the nation, up from 11th highest. Wisconsin also has the ninth highest property taxes, making it difficult for struggling families and seniors on a fixed income to stay in their homes.

This year alone the Legislature passed over \$5 billion in new taxes and fees on families and businesses to pay for a 6.8% increase in government spending. Taxpayers will pay more for property taxes, phone taxes, garbage taxes, health care taxes, capital gains taxes, income taxes, and car insurance. Massive new taxes on Wisconsin employers are forcing them to cut costs and jobs. Companies like Briggs & Stratton and Harley Davidson are cutting jobs in Wisconsin while expanding jobs in other states.

“My priorities will be to make Wisconsin a welcoming place for job creation, to stop tax increases in their tracks, to improve our rural economy and to ensure seniors can retire without the fear of financial ruin,” said Thompson. “I pledge to be an independent, common-sense legislator who will fight for smaller, more responsible government that works for the people, not a big-spending government that taxes people out of their jobs, businesses, and homes.”

Ed Thompson is the mayor of Tomah and owner of Mr. Ed’s Tee-Pee Supper Club. In his first term as mayor, Thompson cut city expenses by 13%, eliminated a \$4 million debt without raising taxes and improved services to the community. Known for his fierce independence and maverick style, Thompson ran for Governor as a Libertarian in 2002. Thompson has four children, eight grandchildren, and is a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

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