

Who is a serious candidate in the Assembly District 77 race?

...the race to succeed retiring state Rep. Spencer Black will turn on state issues. And we are struck by the fact that another candidate, attorney Fred Wade, seems to be gathering some of his most significant endorsements from progressive leaders at the state level.

“As a former U.S. attorney, Wisconsin attorney general, and member of the state Assembly, I know the importance of having a person of Fred’s caliber in the Legislature,” says former Attorney General Peg Lautenschlager.

Former state Superintendent of Public Instruction Elizabeth Burmaster says: “Fred’s experience demonstrates that he has the capacity to become a leader on educational issues. He has worked as an attorney and senior executive

for the Securities and Exchange Commission....He has also served on the staff of the Wisconsin State Senate, taught corporation law and college-level courses in American government, and served his local government as a member of the Finance Committee since 2003. This experience demonstrates that he has the ability to deal with the kind of kind of complex issues that the legislature will face in dealing with school funding reform.”

We’re not making an endorsement. But we do think that Wade’s ability to attract support from the likes of Lautenschlager and Burmaster marks him as a contender which should be taken as seriously as Hulse and Hesselbein and the other candidates — John Imes and Douglas Zwank — in this exciting and important primary.