

THE SOAP OPERA



Date: July 27, 2005 ^{319 State Street Madison, Wisconsin 53703 (608) 251-4051}

To: Members of the Common Council Organizational Committee

Re: City of Madison Lobbying Ordinance

Dear Committee Members:

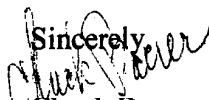
Madison's current Lobbying Ordinance must be repealed because, among other things, it is an insult to all of us who own businesses and who have worked so hard for so many years by giving so freely of our own time to try to make Madison a better place for all.

The assumption implied by this chilling Lobbying Ordinance (and its overall approach to free public discourse) is simply that no one ever does anything except for greedy, personal, and individual gain, or advantage. While such a nasty implication may not be the Lobbying Ordinance intention it is certainly how it is perceived and THAT is what is so galling, and what makes us so angry.

No one likes to be insulted by having it implied that they have a hidden agenda whenever they approach and speak freely to those they have elected. Further, if those elected are so dense and so unsophisticated that they cannot tell when they are being lobbied, and when they are being approached in good faith by thoughtful individuals, then they ought to resign as incompetent. So as a matter of principle, I will no longer accept any positions as long as this current set of regulations, or anything like them, remains in place.

In summary, some have tried to solve a problem that does not exist and have now make a terrific mess that should be settled by complete abandonment as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

 Chuck Bauer

Owner/The Soap Opera