



JOEL KITCHENS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 1ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Rep. Kitchens Co-Authors ‘Back the Badge Bill’

Madison—Yesterday, State Representative Joel Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay) and Representative David Steffen (R-Howard) introduced the ‘Back the Badge’ legislation. This important piece of legislation would expand the definition of a crime to include law enforcement officers. Here in Wisconsin, if something is a hate crime, there are penalty enhancers which allow for additional fines or imprisonment. Wisconsin's Back the Badge proposal is a way for us to support our brave men and women of law enforcement and punish those who target them.

“As the son of a law enforcement official, I know firsthand the stress and turmoil that law enforcement officers and their families go through on a daily basis. Any way we can support those who put their lives on the line every single day to protect us is a step in the right direction. By proposing this bill, Wisconsin is letting criminals know that Wisconsin stands behind our men and women in law enforcement,” said Rep. Kitchens.

In light of increased targeted attacks against law enforcement officers, Wisconsin is joining several other states in proposing legislation that classifies targeted attacks against law enforcement officers as a hate crime.

“Our officers deserve all the protections possible. I thank Rep. Steffen for leading the way on this issue and I am honored to do my part to ‘back the badge,” said Rep. Kitchens.

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