



ROB SWEARINGEN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 34th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Office: (608) 266-7141
Toll-Free: (888) 534-0034
Rep.Swearingen@legis.wi.gov

Room 19 North
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

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CONTACT: STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROB SWEARINGEN

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(608) 266-7141

Rep. Swearingen Supportive of Budget Motion for Florence County

Madison, WI – Today, Rep. Rob Swearingen (R - Rhinelander) released the following statement after the Joint Finance Committee (JFC) supported a budget motion to grant Florence County a full-time District Attorney (DA) position.

Florence County is one of three counties in the state that did not have a full-time DA. Currently, the part-time district attorney is responsible for all tasks that a full-time district attorney position entails. This measure will change it to a full-time position beginning January 2, 2017.

“My office was contacted last year by the current District Attorney in Florence County to help expand the position to full-time. Senator Tiffany and I worked together on a budget motion to promote public safety in Florence County.

“Considering that Florence County had a part-time District Attorney, the state paid private attorneys to help with the workload when the county was overburden with cases. By making the position full-time, the state would no longer need to hire a special prosecutor to assist the county. I was proud to submit a motion to assist the Florence County District Attorney,” said Rep. Swearingen.

The motion received unanimous, bipartisan support on Tuesday, May 5. The budget deliberations will continue throughout May and June. Final passage will occur before the start of the next fiscal year, July 1, 2015.

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