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**Rep. Travis Tranel Supports Speaker’s Task Force on Adoption Legislation**

Madison...State Representative Travis Tranel (R-Cuba City) voted to make improvements to the adoption process in Wisconsin this week. A package of eight bills from the Speaker’s Task Force on Adoption were passed by the Wisconsin State Assembly on January 15th. The bills will help to address some of the obstacles facing adoption process in our state.

“We need to do our best to make sure that every child has a loving and safe home,” said Tranel. “The goal of this legislative package is to eliminate some of the barriers negatively impacting Wisconsin adoptions and try to expedite getting children into a good family situation faster.”

The Speaker’s Task Force on Adoption held seven hearings around Wisconsin. The bipartisan committee heard from experts, parents, and families about ways to improve the system. The task force searched for ways to lower the costs associated with adoption as well as reduce the time it takes for adoption.

“I was very proud to support this bipartisan adoption bill package,” said Tranel. “It’s very important that we do what we can to make sure children grow up in a safe loving environment, so that they can become productive members of our communities.”

According to the Department of Children and Families, there were 754 children adopted in Wisconsin in FY 2018; more than one-third of the public adoptions in Wisconsin are in Milwaukee County. Hundreds of children are waiting to be adopted.

The idea for this committee came out of the work from the Speaker’s Task Force on Foster Care during the 2017-18 legislative session, as a large number of adoptions come from the foster care system.

To view the bipartisan bills that passed the Wisconsin State Assembly as part of the adoption package please visit https://legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/committees/assembly/adoption/proposed-bills/

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