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Contact: Aaron Collins – 608-266-2254

Leg. Council Memo Confirms GOP Amendment Would Not Close Gun Show Loophole

Memo Highlights Ineffective Republican Proposal

MADISON – Today, Assembly Democratic Leader Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh) released a memo from the non-partisan Legislative Council comparing two different background check proposals: [AB 65](#), authored by Representative Terese Berceau (D-Madison) and [Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 to AB 1031](#) authored by Representative Lee Nerison (R-Westby). The memo concludes the Republican background check bill “does not...alter the circumstances under which a firearms restriction search must be conducted.” Rep. Hintz released the following statement on the memo:

“If a proposal to strengthen background checks does not close the ‘gun show loophole’, you are not stopping guns from getting into the wrong hands Democrats have been calling for universal background checks so these individuals cannot sidestep the system and go online or through a private seller to purchase a firearm.”

AB 65 closes the so-called ‘gun show loophole’. With few exceptions, the bill requires a background check on all gun purchases including private sales, online sales, gun show purchases, and firearms purchased at a pawn shop. ASA 1 to AB 1031 would only apply to transactions through federally licensed firearms dealers, which already require background checks. In other words, background checks would not be required for sales mentioned above. 81% of Wisconsinites support background checks on all gun purchases.

“At some point Wisconsin Republicans have to decide which is more important – keeping our communities safe or allowing violent criminals to purchase AR-15’s with bump stocks. This memo shows the Republican amendment was nothing more than window dressing over their terrible track record on gun safety.”

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