



JESSE KREMER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 59TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Assembly Passes Three Bills Authored by Rep. Kremer

Madison, WI – The State Assembly has passed three bills authored by Rep. Jesse Kremer (R-Kewaskum) to help restore local control under the state fire code, save state taxpayer dollars concerning the Milwaukee trolley and ensure that trolling privileges remain for visually impaired anglers.

Since March 2008, Wisconsin has adhered to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1 fire code. According to the code, the decision to allow or disallow combustible vegetation in places of assembly is left to the discretion of the authority having jurisdiction. However, many local fire chiefs have interpreted NFPA 1 to say that natural cut Christmas trees are strictly *prohibited*, thereby disallowing them in churches. AB 648 seeks to restore local control by creating a presumption that a tree is safe until proven otherwise - whether in a church or the Wisconsin Capitol rotunda. AB 648 was passed by the Assembly on February 9 and now awaits action by the Senate.

The 2015-17 state budget created a transit safety oversight program to ensure that Milwaukee County would not incur any non-reimbursed expenses relating to a rail fixed-guideway transportation system in Milwaukee (streetcar). AB 562 would protect county *and* state taxpayers from costs associated with the streetcar. AB 562 was passed by the Assembly on February 18 and awaits action by the Senate.

In July 2015, DNR rule 20.15(4) took effect allowing anglers to troll on all inland waters statewide. This rule was implemented to reduce confusion between trolling and position fishing and to eliminate the need for the disabled to apply for trolling permits. Once signed by the Governor, SB 298 will add blindness to the list of disabilities eligible for a trolling permit in the event that NR 20.15(4) is not renewed, ensuring that blind individuals and their assistants will be able to troll.

In response to the passage of these bills and the end of the Assembly session, Rep. Kremer issued the following remarks:

“I have enjoyed being personally involved in a number of issues this term, including protections for the unborn, digging into public benefit programs to root out fraud and abuse, addressing privacy concerns, tackling transportation funding reforms and pushing back on overregulation and the government machine. I am reminded that the best ideas come from the constituents that I represent. I encourage a continued dialogue on these and other issues that should be promoted and encouraged on behalf of the residents of the 59th Assembly District.”