

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: All Legislators

FROM: Representative Jesse Kremer and Senator Devin LeMahieu

DATE: October 12, 2015

RE: Co-sponsorship of the Campus Carry Act

DEADLINE: Friday, October 16

Current Wisconsin law (2011 WI Act 35) allows public colleges and universities to prohibit concealed weapons in campus buildings. In order to comply with the law, students must disarm prior to leaving home or a vehicle. The unfortunate reality is that campus gun-free zones merely serve to concentrate populations of vulnerable targets on campus and surrounding areas. Students attending our taxpayer-funded colleges and universities should not be denied their Second Amendment right to carry a weapon for self-defense.

You may recall the story of Amanda Collins, a University of Nevada-Reno student who was raped at gun-point in a parking garage near campus in October 2007. As a law-abiding concealed carry permit holder, she was not allowed to carry her weapon on campus; thus, she was unarmed and defenseless at the time of her attack. Amanda was not the only victim that night – her attacker went on to rape two more women and kill another before he was apprehended. Had Amanda been able to carry her weapon, she likely would have saved someone's life. These types of crimes are only made easier when students are unable to adequately protect themselves. It is time that we realize this fact before a similar tragedy strikes here in Wisconsin.

The Campus Carry Act simply revokes the current exception for UW System and technical colleges, allowing students and faculty to carry a concealed weapon on campus.

To be added as a co-sponsor, please contact Rep. Kremer's office at 6-9175, Sen. LeMahieu's office at 6-2056 or reply to this email by Friday, October 16 **at 4:00 p.m.**

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill exempts any college or university in the University of Wisconsin System and any technical college from the law that allows a university or college to prohibit a person from carrying a firearm in any building on its grounds if the person holds a license to carry a concealed weapon. This bill also repeals the provision in the administrative code in which the University of Wisconsin System generally prohibits persons from carrying, possessing, or using any dangerous weapon on university lands or in university buildings or facilities.