



# SONDY POPE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
80TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



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## **REP. POPE CALLS ON LEGISLATURE TO IMPROVE PAID FAMILY LEAVE**

*Pope and other Democratic legislators unveil Wisconsin Family Medical Insurance Act*

MADISON – Thursday, Representative Sondy Pope, along with other Democratic legislators and the advocacy group, 9to5 Wisconsin, held a press conference to introduce the Wisconsin Family Medical Insurance Act which would improve Wisconsin’s family leave policy. Rep. Pope made the following statement regarding the bill:

“I find it unconscionable that today – in the United States, no less – a worker is forced to choose between their loved ones and their job,” said Rep. Pope. “The United States is the only developed nation in the world without a paid family leave policy. We in Wisconsin should take this opportunity to lead in supporting workers and their families.”

The bill introduced by Rep. Pope and Senator Janis Ringhand, LRB-2604, expands paid family leave to allow up to 12 weeks of paid leave for personal or family illness, or to care for a new child. It also creates a family and medical leave insurance program through *employee* contributions. Overall, the new legislation would cover 2.6 million Wisconsin workers at no cost to employers.

“By passing this bill we will empower our middle-class workers and give all workers the assurance that in Wisconsin, family and career are not at odds with each other,” said Rep. Pope. “The Wisconsin Family Medical Insurance Act gives workers the freedom and ability to care for loved ones or to start a family, without fears of financial hardship or loss of employment.”

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