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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 85th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Rep. Snyder Votes to Provide Resources in Special Session on School Safety *Assembly Republicans allocate \$100 million in grants for school safety improvements*

MADISON – During an Extraordinary Session of the Wisconsin State Assembly, Representative Patrick Snyder (R-Schofield) voted in favor of a package of bills that will increase security and safety for schools throughout the state. The Assembly took up the legislation after Governor Walker last week called for a Special Session of the Legislature on School Safety and proposed seven key ideas to be considered. Following the passage of the School Safety Package, Representative Snyder made the following statement:

“Our kids are among our top priorities. They spend half of their waking hours at school and it is our responsibility to make sure that they feel safe and secure in their classrooms. This package of bills will devote the resources needed to make sure that happens.”

The final package of bills passed by the Assembly includes legislation that will provide \$100 million in grants for school districts for the purpose of school safety improvements; expands mandatory reporting to include threats to schools; creates an Office of School Safety within the Department of Justice; and expands school safety plan requirements, including requiring the input of local law enforcement.

Additionally, the bills included provisions to strengthen background checks by improving firearm background check data and requiring that long gun purchases go through a Wisconsin background check, as is required for a handgun purchase.

“These bills, in combination with the resources that we have already provided for armed resource officers; mental health; and bullying prevention, will give schools the tools that they need to provide peace of mind to students, teachers and parents,” Rep. Snyder added.

The package of bills now heads back to the Senate for concurrence on the amendments.

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