REPRESENTATIVE • 97<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release Contact: Rep. Scott Allen July 13, 2023 (608) 237-9197

## Rep. Allen Releases Absentee Ballot Integrity Bill

Today, State Representative Scott Allen (R-Waukesha) and State Senator Romaine Robert Quinn (R-Cameron) released LRB-0468, relating to requiring a watermark on mailed absentee ballots.

Absentee ballots, as allowed under current Wisconsin law, are extremely convenient, but they are vulnerable to fraud by their very nature.

"Our citizens need to have faith in the integrity of our election process," stated Rep. Allen.

This bill would add an extra layer of security for absentee ballots by requiring them to be printed with a watermark. Similar to what is done with U.S. currency, a watermark would make it harder to make copies.

"If we are going to continue using absentee ballots, then it is important to ensure that they are a safe and reliable method for voting," said Rep Allen. "To help curb public distrust in absentee ballots, it is certainly worth the additional cost to make our absentee ballots secure and restore trust in our election process."

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Rep. Scott Allen represents the City of Waukesha, the Villages of Dousman, North Prairie, Summit, and Waukesha, and the Towns of Genesee, Mukwonago, and Ottawa.