



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 9, 2015

Contact: Melissa Sargent

608-266-0960

Rep. Sargent: Healthy Relationships Legislation Introduced

MADISON – This week, Rep. Melissa Sargent (D-Madison) and Rep. John Spiros (R-Marshfield) introduced LRB 3688/1 which requires schools to implement an educational program for grades 6 through 12 that teaches students about what constitutes a healthy relationship and includes instruction to identify teen dating violence.

“No one wants their child to end up in an unhealthy relationship. As a mother to four sons, I want them to understand what a healthy relationship entails and how to recognize the signs of unhealthy behavior,” Rep. Sargent stated. “Domestic abuse is a constant concern in our society. We must give our young people the skills and knowledge to understand the abuse cycle before it begins.”

“We all want to be loved. And even better than that is being able to find someone you can love, and being able to do that in a way that honors respect and safety.”

76% of high school student’s today report that they have experienced psychological or emotional abuse in a relationship and 1.5 million students report physical violence from a partner.

“I am proud to co-author this legislation with Rep. Spiros. I know that we can address teen dating violence and teach healthy relationships in a common sense, bi-partisan fashion. Students all over Wisconsin will have a brighter, safer future because of this bill.”

###