



---

# HOWARD MARKLEIN

STATE SENATOR • 17<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**September 16, 2015**

**CONTACT: SEN. MARKLEIN**  
**(608) 266-0703**

## **SENATOR MARKLEIN APPLAUDS UNANIMOUS PASSAGE OF WINE WALKS LEGISLATION**

*Senate Bill 236 passes unanimously out of the State Senate*

**MADISON**— State Senator Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green) applauded the passage of Senate Bill 236 out of the State Senate today.

“I am pleased to see such swift action on Senate Bill 236, and the continuation of our Wine Walks. These events will continue to help our downtown communities thrive. I am hopeful that the State Assembly will take action on this soon and it will be to the Governor’s desk for his signature,” Marklein commented.

Over the past decade, communities in Southwest and South Central Wisconsin have promoted businesses in their area by sponsoring events called Wine Walks or Beer Walks. During these events, the hosting organization will purchase the wine or beer to be used at the participating businesses. Patrons of legal drinking age purchase a ticket from the hosting organization and are given a wine or beer glass. The patron can then walk to each business involved in the event and sample wine or beer while they are inside the business premises.

The Department of Revenue recently clarified in their publication that Wine Walks have always been illegal. The events do not abide by the rules of the current temporary Class B alcohol license. This bill would allow for establishments and businesses who do not serve alcohol to obtain a temporary license as long as someone in the establishment is properly trained to serve alcohol.

“I would like to thank Representative Ripp for working with us on this legislation. This legislation makes common sense reforms within the current temporary Class B alcohol license structure that will allow our communities to have these Wine Walks, which have been so successful in the past,” Marklein stated.

After today, Senate Bill 236 awaits passage on the floor of the State Assembly and a signature by Governor Walker.

###

