



# DAVID STEFFEN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 4<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Rep. Steffen to Introduce “Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Act”** *Proposal allows candidates to exit the election process prior to printing ballots*

**Madison, WI**— State Representative David Steffen (R-Howard) announced his plans to introduce legislation that will allow independent presidential candidates, as well as state or federal candidates who have suspended their campaign to prevent their name from appearing on Wisconsin ballots.

“Like many Wisconsinites, I was shocked that independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. was prohibited from removing himself from the November election ballot, even though his request for removal was prior to the state’s candidate certification date. Even more concerning is that the two major political parties are given until September to certify their candidates, but independent candidates are not.

“Not only does our current law fail to recognize the real-world circumstances that may impact a candidate’s decision to continue through Election Day, it also creates unnecessary confusion for voters. We need a clear pathway for candidates to prevent their name from appearing on the ballot,” said Rep. Steffen.

The proposal will be introduced next session and creates a formal process for independent presidential candidates and other state or federal candidates to work with the Wisconsin Elections Commission to request that their name not appear on the ballot. Candidates wishing to have their name removed will have a clear set of requirements and deadlines, which will ensure the smooth administration of the election process. The proposal also creates parity between the timelines that govern major party presidential candidates and independent presidential candidates.

“Wisconsin ballots continue to list RFK Jr. as a candidate for president, despite the fact that he isn’t running for president. This proposal is in the best interest of democracy and is an obvious fix,” said Rep. Steffen.

Prior to introduction, Rep. Steffen is engaging various stakeholders to provide input, including the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

For more information please contact the office of Representative Steffen at (608)237-9104 or by email at [Rep.Steffen@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Steffen@legis.wisconsin.gov).

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