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## **Storm Damage Accelerates Legislative Proposal Disaster Claim Consumer Protection Act receiving increased attention after weekend of natural disasters**

**Madison**— Wisconsin has seen a string of natural disasters in the past year, including this weekend. Nine tornadoes and a hundred-mile long severe storm front ripped through Northeastern Wisconsin causing extensive, widespread property damage to thousands of property owners. After natural disasters, Wisconsinites face the challenge of navigating a complex insurance system in order to receive prompt reimbursement for claims and begin rebuilding their lives.

This month, Rep. Steffen (R-Howard) and Sen. Feyen (R-Fond du Lac) introduced the Disaster Claim Consumer Protection Act, which will assist and protect property owners during the difficult and vulnerable time following a natural disaster.

“This legislation prevents victims of a natural disaster from becoming victims of unscrupulous insurance adjusters,” said Rep. Steffen. “Under current law, insurance adjusters who are not affiliated with a Wisconsin license insurance company are operating with little state oversight and even less protection for the consumer. It is important that we create certain standards, limits and licensing requirements for anyone representing our impacted communities and families. This commonsense series of consumer protections is a big step forward in that direction.”

Rep. Steffen expects even greater support for the legislation with the impacts of this weekend. “This weekend was a wake-up call. Sometimes, it takes a significant incident like these storms for legislators to fully grasp the need.”

For more information please contact Representative Steffen. He can be reached at (608)266-5840 or by email at [Rep.Steffen@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Steffen@legis.wisconsin.gov).

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