



JOY GOEBEN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 5th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Immigration Reform Needed Now

Madison – Rep. Joy Goeben (*R-Hobart*) shared her support for legislation that would create a uniform, statewide policy for law enforcement to ensure dangerous criminals are kept off our streets.

“Currently, law enforcement across our state face ambiguity in the application of law when encountering individuals who are arrested for a felony. At the time of arrest there is not a statutory requirement for Sheriff’s departments to make an official inquiry as to immigration status. Nor are they required to proactively notify federal immigration authorities if they are unable to make that verification. This legislation would close that loophole and provide law enforcement with the tools they need to keep us safe,” shared Rep. Goeben.

Following arrest for a felony, LRB 0779/1735 will require all Sheriffs across Wisconsin to notify federal officials if an individual’s citizenship status cannot be verified and, if necessary, hold an individual pursuant to the federal detainer request. Additionally, the bill requires the Sheriff to keep a record of the number of individuals who are unlawfully present in the state and the crime committed.

“I believe the first step to ensuring our safety is to close the border, stopping dramatic influx of people coming into our country due to the criminal negligence that has taken place over the last 4 years under the previous administration. This legislation will provide law enforcement a way to combat crime in our state by removing all noncitizens who have subsequently committed violent crimes in our country. Additionally, it is important we call on the federal government to create a comprehensive immigration policy that includes a path for citizenship for individuals who have lived most of their lives in our country, becoming part of the fabric of our society. Just as we are creating uniformity in upholding our laws and preventing crime, we need uniformity in correcting a problem that has lingered too long without a solution,” concluded Rep. Goeben.

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Representative Goeben represents the 5th Assembly District, which includes the communities of Hobart, Kaukauna, Freedom, Lawrence, Seymour, and Little Chute, and portions of Outagamie and Brown Counties.