

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Goyke Commemorates Memorial Day 2016

MADISON – State Representative Evan Goyke (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement in commemoration of Memorial Day 2016:

"Today we remember the brave men and women who answered our nation's call to service and gave the ultimate sacrifice.

"Memorial day has a storied history going back to The Civil War. President Lyndon Johnson declared in 1966 that Waterloo, New York was the official birthplace of Memorial Day. In Waterloo, one hundred years earlier in 1866, businesses closed, flags were flown at half-staff, and a ceremony was held to honor the local Civil War veterans. Although roughly 25 other places claim to have been the origin of Memorial Day, the Waterloo event was the first formal, community-wide ceremony. By the end of the 1800's, formal Memorial Day ceremonies were being held nationwide on May 30th. However, it was not until after World War I that Memorial Day included all those who lost their lives during any American war. In 1971, Memorial Day was finally declared a national holiday by Congress.

"As we unite to honor our nation's fallen heroes let us not only remember the ultimate sacrifice they have given, but offer thanks and prayers for safety to those still in harm's way and the families who support them.

"On behalf of the State of Wisconsin, and the residents of the 18th Assembly District, I would like to thank all Wisconsin military personnel and veterans for their honorable service to our nation. We are forever grateful."

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