



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Rep. Deb Andraca
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Partisan Bills Without Long-Term Funding Wrong Way to Keep Communities Safe

Rep. Deb Andraca (D-Whitefish Bay) released the following statement on Tuesday's floor session:

"The dramatic increase in violent crime in Wisconsin demands thoughtful, bi-partisan solutions to keep our communities safe. Instead, today Republicans passed partisan, punitive measures that do not address our state's urgent public safety priorities.

"I voted against a series of politically-motivated bills that would spend federal funds instead of state revenue because the federal funding is a) temporary and b) already allocated for COVID relief as intended. My Democratic colleagues offered amendments to these bills to replace the funding source with existing, surplus state revenue – but every amendment was rejected.

Instead, I joined my colleagues in introducing long-term, sustainable measures in the "Smart Justice Package" with measures such as:

LRB 5749: Increases shared revenue program to local governments by 2%, which will provide municipalities resources for essential services for police, fire, and emergency dispatch

LRB 5696: Funds the "Safe at Home" program to provide a personal safety plan for victims of abuse

LRB 5701: Creates neighborhood crime reduction grant programs for target areas with higher crime rates

LRB 5702: Provides grants to implement evidence-based programs to monitor and support individuals released from custody before their trial

LRB 5694: Requires the Clerk of Court to send court order prohibiting individual from possessing a firearm to the relevant law enforcement agency within one business day of the individual being released on bail or bond and for law enforcement agency to enter the order within 24 hours of receipt





WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Deb Andraca

23RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

BAYSIDE FOX POINT GRAFTON MEQUON THIENSVILLE WHITEFISH BAY

The “Smart Justice Package” plus the “Safer Wisconsin” package proposed earlier by Attorney General Josh Kaul are long-term, sustainable proposals that address the root causes of crime. The way to make our communities safer is not through short-term federal funds but through reversing a decade of starving our local governments of the funds they need.

At a time of record state budget surpluses there is no excuse to ignore our public safety needs. I call on my colleagues to put aside politics to work together on evidence-based proposals to reduce crime and keep our communities safe.”

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