



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Deb Andraca

23RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

BAYSIDE FOX POINT GRAFTON MEQUON THIENSVILLE WHITEFISH BAY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 15, 2022

Contact: Rep. Deb Andraca
608-266-0486

Representative Deb Andraca Urges Support for Attorney General Kaul's "Safer Wisconsin" Proposals

Madison – With crime and gun homicides at record levels Representative Deb Andraca (D-Whitefish Bay) joined Attorney General Josh Kaul in urging support for the "Safer Wisconsin" legislative package to strengthen our communities by investing in data-driven solutions.

On Tuesday the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's headline read "No Winter Relief from Gun Violence" and "Surge in homicides coincides with record gun sales." Despite soaring crime, legislative Republicans refuse to hold public hearings on substance abuse or gun safety measures supported by a majority of Wisconsin voters.

"Today there are more guns involved in more crimes, yet Republicans refuse to even hold hearings on the Attorney General's Safer Wisconsin package," said Andraca. "If we can't talk about it, we can't stop it. The people of Wisconsin are demanding we take action to reduce crime in our neighborhoods, and Safer Wisconsin is the plan to get it done."

AG Kaul is calling on the Wisconsin state legislature to take significant steps toward safer communities across Wisconsin by investing \$115 million—a small portion of the state's record surplus—in public safety and making new and previously introduced statutory changes.

Andraca continued, "Until we ensure we have background checks on every gun sale, until we have extreme risk protection orders that take guns away from those intent on harming themselves or others, until we ensure domestic abusers can't access firearms, and until we can have honest, non-political conversations about data-driven solutions to gun violence, more people will die and more families will face the trauma gun violence brings to our communities. Thank you to the Attorney General for putting forth these proven, affordable, common-sense proposals that will keep Wisconsinites safe at home, at school, and in our neighborhoods."



STATE CAPITOL P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708 TELEPHONE (608) 266-0486 TOLL FREE (888) 534-0023
EMAIL rep.andraca@legis.wisconsin.gov WEBSITE <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/23/andraca>
FACEBOOK @RepAndraca TWITTER @RepAndraca



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Deb Andraca

23RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

BAYSIDE FOX POINT GRAFTON MEQUON THIENSVILLE WHITEFISH BAY

Safer Wisconsin would strengthen community trust and prevent crime, help keep guns out of the hands of people who've been shown to be dangerous, address substance use disorder and mental health crises, and help hold offenders accountable.

- **Strengthening community trust and preventing crime.** Safer Wisconsin proposes significant investments in community policing and prosecution, violence prevention programs, victim services, and re-entry programs that reduce recidivism. It also would provide additional funding for law enforcement training and ongoing state funding for the Office of School Safety and the Safe at Home program, which assists people in staying safe through address confidentiality.
- **Keeping guns out of the hands of people who've been shown to be dangerous.** Gun violence has been the primary driver of the spike in homicides in Wisconsin during the pandemic. Safer Wisconsin would expand background checks, prohibit ghost guns, increase the felony classification for repeat felon-in-possession and straw purchasing offenses, and authorize judges to issue extreme risk protection orders.
- **Addressing Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health Crises.** Safer Wisconsin would expand treatment and diversion programs, by facilitating the creation of mental health and veterans courts, expanding substance use disorder treatment in prisons and jails, providing ongoing funding for regional drug prosecutors, and investing in crisis response teams to enable communities to respond more effectively when people are experiencing mental health crises.
- **Holding offenders accountable.** Safer Wisconsin includes several proposals that would help in holding offenders accountable, including reforms that would ensure that sexual assault kits are submitted to the state crime labs, update state law regarding



STATE CAPITOL P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708 TELEPHONE (608) 266-0486 TOLL FREE (888) 534-0023
EMAIL rep.andraca@legis.wisconsin.gov WEBSITE <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/23/andraca>
FACEBOOK @RepAndraca TWITTER @RepAndraca



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Deb Andraca

23RD ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

BAYSIDE FOX POINT GRAFTON MEQUON THIENSVILLE WHITEFISH BAY

obstruction of justice, create a hate crime hotline, invest in violent crime investigators and prosecutors at DOJ, and create a grant program to support officer recruitment and retention programs.

For more information visit

<https://www.doj.state.wi.us/news-releases/ag-kaul-announces-115-million-safer-wisconsin-legislative-package>

###



STATE CAPITOL P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708 TELEPHONE (608) 266-0486 TOLL FREE (888) 534-0023
EMAIL rep.andraca@legis.wisconsin.gov WEBSITE <https://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/23/andraca>
FACEBOOK @RepAndraca TWITTER @RepAndraca