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Governor Signs Three Katsma Bills

Madison—Three bills authored by Representative Terry Katsma (R–Oostburg) were signed into law by Governor Scott Walker on Wednesday.

“These bills put Wisconsin taxpayers first and help real people in our state cut through unnecessary government red tape,” said Rep. Katsma.

[AB 602](#) adds Christian Schools International and the Association of Christian Schools International to the list of approved accrediting agencies that may qualify Wisconsin private schools to participate in the state’s parental choice and special needs scholarship programs. “AB 602 doesn’t expand school choice, but it does cut costs for some schools that already qualify to participate,” said Rep. Katsma.

[AB 721](#) enables the state to redeem abandoned U.S. savings bonds if their rightful owners fail to claim them. “Rightful owners are always able to claim their property at any time, but right now, the Department of Revenue is the custodian of hundreds of thousands of dollars in bonds that no one has claimed,” said Rep. Katsma. “This bill allows that money to be deposited in the common school fund and used to benefit our communities until the owners or their heirs come forward.”

[AB 760](#) helps the state recover legal costs from individuals convicted of violating consumer protection statutes. “Statute has not kept up with the times,” said Rep. Katsma. “I couldn’t believe it when I learned that people who violate relatively new regulations about entities such as rental vehicles, self-service storage facilities and timeshares cannot be ordered to pay the state’s investigative costs. It is much more appropriate for a court to have the authority to make a guilty person pay than it is to make honest taxpayers foot the bill.”

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Representative Terry Katsma represents the 26th Assembly District including the cities of Sheboygan and Sheboygan Falls; the villages of Adell, Oostburg, Random Lake and Cedar Grove; and the towns of Lima, Holland, Sherman and Wilson. He serves as the Vice-Chair of the Committee on Financial Institutions and as a member of the committees on Consumer Protection, Housing and Real Estate, Ways and Means and Workforce Development.