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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rep. Born Joins Colleagues to Release Law Enforcement Support Package

Assembly Republicans Introduce Legislation Supporting Law Enforcement Officers

Madison – Representative Mark Born (R-Beaver Dam) joined his colleagues today to release a new package of legislation that provides important support for law enforcement officers in Wisconsin. The package allocates \$25 million for recruitment and retention of officers, training initiatives and equipment costs.

“Law enforcement officers are the backbone of our communities, providing critical services to keep our neighborhoods safe. With law enforcement recently under attack by those trying to ‘defund the police’, it’s more important than ever to support our officers,” Rep. Born said.

The series of bills will provide hiring bonuses for law enforcement officers that relocate to Wisconsin; fund a police recruitment effort focused on communities that have attempted to defund their police departments; create a part-time training program to attract non-traditional students to the field; fully fund officer training; and assist small police departments with costs associated with hiring new officers such as onboarding, equipment and pre-employment medical exams.

“Wisconsin currently has the fewest law enforcement officers in at least a decade and officer training graduation rates are equally troubling. Meanwhile, violent crime has increased by nearly 9% in our state—substantially higher than the nationwide increase. We need to take action to strengthen our law enforcement agencies and these bills do that.”

In addition to introducing the package of bills, Rep. Born encouraged individuals to participate in Law Enforcement Appreciation Day (LEAD) on Sunday, January 9th. Ideas for participation include wearing blue clothing, send a card of support to local police departments, participate in Project Blue Light or thank a police officer.

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