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Rep. Conley Supports Criminal Justice Reform

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MADISON – Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly met in regular session and took up criminal justice-related legislation. Representative Sue Conley (D-Janesville) issued the following statement in response:

"Today we passed several positive, bipartisan pieces of legislation. Assembly Bill 976 and 979 came out of the Speaker's Task Force on Human Trafficking, which I had the opportunity to serve on. I formerly served as the executive director of the YWCA Rock County, and saw first-hand the need to limit victim re-traumatization. AB 976 expands Wisconsin's current law to allow any child under the age of 18 to testify via video in a human trafficking case. While we can't take away the crimes that have happened to victims, we can take steps to alleviate their suffering. To do this, we also need to provide additional support to advocacy centers that do much of the work to help victims through life-altering events. AB 979 provides impactful grants to these organizations.

"We also believe in second chances, and those who have paid their debt to society should be able to return to our communities and have the opportunity to get a good job, stable housing, and support their family. Assembly Bill 37 reforms Wisconsin's expungement law. Thank you to Rep. Evan Goyke for his years of work on this much-needed legislation.

"I was also happy to vote for Assembly Bills 965, 966, 967, which increase judicial security. Our judges are public servants who deserve to feel safe in their homes. Threats to public officials have increased in recent years, and these bills provide judges and court officials some additional protections.

"I am glad we were able to work together to pass meaningful legislation today."

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