



44<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Representative Ann Roe Calls Out Assembly Republicans' Inaction**

Madison, Wis: Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly held a floor session for the first time in a month. The Republican Assembly Leadership brought forward ten crime bills. Representative Ann Roe (D-Janesville) called out the Republican led legislature for yet again producing performative, reactive, and poorly written bills that attempt to demonize marginalized populations.

Before the session, Rep. Roe stated "Penalizing reckless driving and those who hurt K-9 units are bipartisan issues. However, most of these bills offer no real or substantive safety measures for our communities. My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have decided they do not want any input or amendments to strengthen their bills. Wisconsinites deserve to be fully represented and feel safe."

"Assembly Bill 87, for instance, would prevent people with felony convictions from regaining their constitutional right to vote until they have paid all fines and restitution imposed in connection with a crime. Republicans want to award the right to vote based on wealth – a clear violation our constitution."

After the floor session, Rep. Roe said "The G.O.P. is using procedural games to circumvent government rulemaking and agency expertise. Republicans are deliberately kicking rules back to committees when they could actually provide clarity in election law. Voters demand progress not inaction."

"According to seasoned legislators from both sides of the aisle, this has been the slowest start to a legislative session in recent memory. Not only has the Republican legislature limited and gerrymandered committee membership, the Republican leadership for the Committee on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder has yet to schedule a single meeting." Rep. Roe continued.

"I want to be clear on today's voice votes since it may appear there was unanimous agreement. Let me assure you, there was not."

**In contrast to the Republican legislature's inaction on priorities for Wisconsinites, Governor Tony Evers' 2025-2027 Budget makes real and significant investments into making Wisconsin safer including:**

- **A \$300 million investment for school-based mental health services.**
- **Providing \$12 million to the newly created Office of Violence Prevention.**
- **Establishing "Red Flag" gun laws and universal background checks in Wisconsin.**

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