P.O. Box 8953 Madison, WI 53708-8953

For Immediate Release Contact: Representative Jerry L. O'Connor March 23, 2023 (608) 237-9152

I am always looking for win-win legislation. The bills described below carry out a fundamental government responsibility: to provide public safety for our citizens and consequences for lawbreakers. We had that on Wednesday and I voted to support a number of law and order bills including:

- AB-47: Creating language to provide public access to actions from the Parole Commission
- AB-51: Today we have a limited group of DACA recipients who can serve as DNR Offices, Corrections Officers and State Patrolman. This bill will allow qualified applicants to also be hired on by our local Police and Sheriff's units where we have too many vacancies. (Supported by Police Associations across the State)
- AB-54: **THIS ISSUE IS ON THE APRIL 4TH BALLOT AS WELL-** The bill defines "violent crime" and "serious harm" for the bail constitutional amendment on the ballot on April 4th. I voted yes because we need to give judges the tools to keep dangerous criminals out of the community while on trial for violent felonies." (Supported by Police Associations across the State)
- AB-55: This bill creates and upgrades penalties for Reckless Driving for the first time since 1953. This is a serious issue in higher crime areas and the increased penalties are designed to impact reckless driving behavior. This bill was supported by the Police and Sheriff's Associations throughout the state
- AB-56: This is a companion bill to AB-55 whereby a local municipality can enact authority to impound vehicles used in reckless driving as a further consequence of disregarding the safety of others. This bill was supported by the Police and Sheriff's Associations throughout the state
- AB-57: Today we have too many instances where guilty suspects are able to negotiate to "amend" down certain criminal charges or DA's entering into "deferred prosecution agreements". This bill brings more transparency and accountability to these negotiations. (Supported by Police Associations across the State)
- AB-58: This bill updates language and minimum penalties related to felons illegally possessing firearms. (This bill was supported by the Police. NRA and Sheriff's Associations throughout the state)
- AB-70: Wisconsin has no definition for language that would describe what it means to either "incite a riot" or what it means to "intentionally commit acts of violence while participating in a riot". First and foremost this bill protects First Amendment rights. Secondly, it brings definition and certainty to those situations where a march or protest converts and becomes violent and results in thousands or millions of dollars in damage to someone else's private property is destroyed. (This bill was supported by the Police and Sheriff's Associations throughout the state)

"Don't forget there's an election on April 4th. Wisconsinites will elect a judge to the State Supreme Court and vote on several important issues. A constitutional amendment giving judges the ability to look at a defendant's past convictions for violent crimes when setting bail, and an advisory question regarding requirements to work to get state benefits."

As always, please feel free to contact our office with your questions or concerns: