



ROBERT BROOKS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: Rep. Rob Brooks

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(608) 267-2369

Representative Brooks Votes to Amend State Constitution on Bail

Madison, WI—Today, Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) supported bail reform in Wisconsin by voting the Wisconsin State Constitution for the second time. Assembly Joint Resolution 1 would allow courts to consider more relevant factors when establishing bail.

“We are seeing a vicious cycle of high crime coupled with low bail, and Wisconsin communities are facing unnecessary and unavoidable violence. This constitutional amendment strikes a balance between presuming innocence, public safety and ensuring our judges possess the appropriate tools to deal with repeat violent offenders,” Representative Brooks stated.

In 2022, the City of Milwaukee eclipsed its homicide record for the third consecutive year. In fact, one-out-of-every-five homicide suspects was already out on bail or signature bond for another felony.

“While the Waukesha parade murders are the highest profile low bail incident in Wisconsin, this has been an issue I have been working on since being first elected to the Assembly. Sadly the issue received renewed attention after the Waukesha tragedy,” Representative Brooks said.

Assembly Joint Resolution 1 provides an amendment to the state Constitution removing restrictions on bail determination or denial by allowing judges to consider the safety of the community, the severity of the offense and previous criminal record.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, forty-eight states permit courts to consider “dangerousness” in some fashion when crafting conditions of pretrial release.

Both houses of the legislature have approved this constitutional amendments for two consecutive sessions, the amendment will now be presented to Wisconsin voters.

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