



Media Release

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Contact: Rep. Katrina Shankland
office: (608) 267-9649

Rep. Shankland: Statement on Assembly passage of “Right to Work”

MADISON – This morning, after a marathon 24-hour debate period, the State Assembly passed the so-called Right to Work bill on a 62-35 vote. In response, Rep. Shankland (D-Stevens Point) released the following statement:

“I am proud to stand up for Wisconsin workers today and every day. I voted against Right to Work because it drives down wages for everyone. Wisconsin’s hard-working families deserve a raise, not a pay cut. The middle class and the people who want to get there are being squeezed more and more, and Right to Work will only exacerbate wage inequality in our state.

“During the 24 hours of debate, I told the stories of people across the state who are working extra hours and picking up more shifts to make ends meet. They’re worried about making their mortgage payment, paying for childcare, and putting their kids through college. This bill takes away economic opportunity at a time when working families need it the most.

“We’ve heard from hundreds of businesses and workers across the state who have asked their government not to interfere with their private business relationships. I share their concerns with this bill and support their right to negotiate a contract together. If Republican legislators were truly serious about job creation and wage growth, they would not have fast-tracked this legislation at the expense of employers and workers. My focus is on helping Wisconsin families get ahead.”

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Rep. Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) represents the 71st Assembly District in Portage County and serves as the Assistant Assembly Democratic Leader.