

## Representative • 82<sup>ND</sup> Assembly District

For Immediate Release Contact: Rep. Scott Allen February 13, 2025 (608) 237-9182

## **Rep Allen Releases Bill Fighting Human Trafficking**

Today, State Representative Scott Allen (R-Waukesha), along with Senator Jacque (R-DePere), released "The Human Trafficking Prevention Act."

"One way to tackle human trafficking is to increase the penalty for 'buyers' who make trafficking financially viable," said Rep Allen.

The bill intends to provide a stronger deterrent by imposing a mandatory \$5,000 surcharge on individuals convicted of patronizing/soliciting prostitutes or keeping a place of prostitution.

The bill is modeled after legislation in Florida and Washington that have been recognized by the Polaris Project for best practices in fighting human trafficking. The bill was released in previous sessions and has received support from law enforcement and human services groups.

All funds from the surcharge would fund the Internet Crimes Against Children task forces and services for Sex Trafficking Victims.

"Wisconsin has become a hot spot for trafficking," said Rep. Allen. "Let's change that by making it too expensive to do business in Wisconsin."

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Rep. Scott Allen represents most of the City of Waukesha and parts of the Village of Waukesha.