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Representative Wichgers Repudiates Comments on Police by Senator Larson

Madison – Last week during Senate floor debate, State Senator Chris Larson spoke against a vote to override the governor's veto of <u>Senate Bill 517</u>. Senator Larson said the bill would allow police officers to be given "extra, extra, extra, extra special protections so that they cannot be held accountable and can kill with disregard and glee."

Representative Wichgers issued the following statement:

"Senator Larson's comments and the mischaracterization of police demand an apology. I wholeheartedly repudiate his anti-police rhetoric.

Thank you to Andrew Wagner, President of the Milwaukee Police Association, for recalling the courage and sacrifices of those who protect the sanctity of life – even at the cost of their own lives. Along with Majority Leader LeMahieu, I expect Democratic leadership to condemn Sen. Larson's comments.

As a co-sponsor of this bill, I agree we need to protect our law enforcement officers from the inordinate risk of investigations, when no new evidence has been brought forward in a case. This bill provides common sense protection from anonymous investigations and "punishment by process" when there is use of force.

Finally, as an immediate family member of law enforcement officers, I am familiar with the difficulties faced on the job. Those stressors should not extend to fear of endless investigations brought anonymously and without new evidence."

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The 82rd Assembly District includes the City of Franklin, the eastern portion of the City of Muskego, and the Village of Greendale.