

For Immediate Release Contact: Representative Brent Jacobson February 5, 2025 608-237-9187

Republicans Introduce Bill to Address Noncitizen Felons

MADISON, WI – Yesterday, Wisconsin Republican legislators introduced a bill requiring county sheriffs to cooperate with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in identifying and deporting illegal aliens arrested for felonies. Representative Brent Jacobson (R - Mosinee) released the following statement:

"Many local law enforcement departments across Wisconsin are already cooperating with federal agencies to enforce the law," said Rep. Jacobson. "However, a minority of sheriffs and Governor Evers have decided to stand in the way. This common-sense bill ensures that our sheriffs cooperate with ICE to keep dangerous illegal aliens off our streets."

In 2024, ICE issued nearly 150,000 detainers for noncitizen criminals. Under the proposal, sheriffs must verify citizenship status when they make an arrest. If the individual is not a citizen, they would have to report to ICE. If a detainer has been issued for that individual, the sheriff would have to hold them. Sheriffs that do not comply would face a penalty to their shared revenue funding. Before this bill had even been introduced, Governor Evers announced he would veto it.

"Enforcing the law and keeping our communities safe is not a partisan issue," said Rep. Jacobson. "If someone is committing felonies while they are in our state illegally, they should be deported. Now that the bill has been introduced, I hope Governor Evers will reconsider his impulsive decision."

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