



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Sen. Testin and Rep. Macco Introduce Legislation to Help Elderly Victims of Crime** *Legislation Would Expedite Court Proceedings and Preserve Testimony of Elderly Victims*

**Madison, WI** –With incidents of elder abuse on the rise, Senator Patrick Testin (Stevens Point) and Representative John Macco (Ledgeview) have reintroduced legislation to help victims get justice. By allowing for expedited hearings and the ability to preserve testimony through a video-taped court hearing, the bill aims to reduce stress and improve the process for elderly victims and witnesses who are involved in a court proceeding.

“The justice system must be able respond to the unique needs of an elderly victim or witness,” said Testin. “This bill has broad bi-partisan support, and I believe that the time is now to pass this important reform.”

Both Senator Testin and Representative Macco were involved in Attorney General Brad Schimel’s Task Force on Elder Abuse, which originally developed the bill. Macco agreed with Testin that the bill would have a positive impact.

“This bill is essential to protect our growing elderly population,” said Rep. Macco. “With more baby boomers retiring each day, it is critical that we take steps to protect them from harm and any unnecessary delays in the court process.”

The bill will circulate in the legislature for co-sponsorship until October 5<sup>th</sup>.

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