For Immediate Release January 15, 2020 Contact: Rep. Scott Allen (608) 266-8580

Representative • 97th Assembly District

## Rep. Allen introduces bill expanding rights for virtual students

Representative Scott Allen (R-Waukesha) along with Senator Jerry Petrowski (R-Marathon) introduced legislation enabling students enrolled in virtual charter schools to participate in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic athletics, in their resident school districts.

Virtual charter schools are public schools where students to participate remotely via the internet. As public charter schools, these schools are based in Wisconsin public school districts. Many students are enrolled in a host school district which are hundreds of miles away from their home. Their distance from the host school district makes it impossible for them to participate in extracurricular activities. Currently, about 7,000 students from around the state participate in virtual charter schools via open enrollment.

"Extracurricular activities provide students with a well-rounded educational experience. Our virtual students deserve every opportunity afforded to all other Wisconsin students," said Rep. Allen.

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The 97<sup>th</sup> Assembly District includes portions of the City of Waukesha and the Towns of Waukesha, Genesee, and Mukwonago.