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SEN. JACQUE'S BILL PROTECTING 'DEEP FAKE' VICTIMS A STEP FROM GOVERNOR'S DESK

NE WI lawmaker's bills supporting volunteer firefighters, protecting gardens and clarifying family law also advance through committee

MADISON, WI... Stronger legal protections for victims of "deep fake" social media pornography is one step away from Governor Evers' desk after bipartisan legislation overwhelmingly passed a State Assembly committee today. The bill, which unanimously passed the State Senate last month, now goes to the full Assembly.

"As the capabilities of artificial intelligence (AI) become more and more advanced, bad actors are increasingly using artificially generated sexually explicit images to harass and intimidate innocent people online," said State Sen. André Jacque (R-New Franken), lead author of the measure. "This bill would protect against a new and disturbing form of cyber-abuse and ensure that all Wisconsinites can feel comfortable sharing regular images of themselves online without fearing that those images will be manipulated or corrupted into pornography."

Sen. Jacque also had three other pieces of legislation clear committees:

<u>Supporting Our Volunteer Fire Fighters</u> (<u>Senate Bill 186</u>): Legislation supporting our local volunteer fire fighters by reimbursing their education and training expenses passed a Senate committee today in a bipartisan vote, after advancing through an Assembly committee last month.

"Most of us don't realize that the volunteers who dedicate their time to serve and protect their neighbors are also expected to pay for their own education and training," Sen. Jacque said. "It's no wonder that some departments providing emergency services are struggling to attract and retain volunteers."

<u>Wisconsin Vegetable Garden Protection Act</u> (<u>Senate Bill 37</u>): Legislation protecting the right of Wisconsin homeowners to grow their own food on their own property, free from unreasonable restrictions, passed a Senate committee today.

"State law should encourage and protect home vegetable gardens and private property rights," Sen. Jacque said. "Recent events, including the global pandemic which has stressed global supply chains, emptied grocery store shelves, and increased food prices, make protecting local food sources even more of a necessity for many."

<u>Clarifying Child Relocation Standards</u> (<u>Assembly Bill 123</u>): To ease pressure on family courts, and avoid unnecessary confusion and contention, legislation clarifying the 100-mile child relocation standard as driving miles and codifying past precedent to eliminate redundant rulings unanimously passed an Assembly panel.

"This standard will provide clarity to the public and reduce additional hearings clogging our courts when the result is predictable based on precedent," Sen. Jacque said. "It's also a way to take an issue off the table and relieve one of the pressure points inherent in child custody cases."

Senator André Jacque represents Northeast Wisconsin's First Senate District, consisting of Door and Kewaunee Counties and portions of Brown, Calumet, Manitowoc, and Outagamie counties.