



MELISSA AGARD  
STATE SENATOR  
DEMOCRATIC LEADER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 30, 2023

Contact: Chandra Munroe, (608) 266-9170

## **Senator Agard Introduces Prevent and Protect Legislation with Democratic Colleagues**

MADISON – Senate Democratic Leader Melissa Agard (D-Madison) joins her Legislative Democratic colleagues today in introducing several pieces of legislation that work to *prevent abuse and protect survivors*. Senator Agard released the following statement:

“The *Prevent and Protect Package* honors the rights of survivors, empowers our young people, and works to hold dangerous individuals accountable. We must make it abundantly clear that the State of Wisconsin recognizes, believes, and supports survivors of sexual assault.

“Earlier this month, End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin’s 2022 Homicide Report revealed chilling numbers in our state. Last year ninety-six individuals died due to domestic violence in Wisconsin, which is a 20% increase from 2021. Just one death is too many—we can do more to prevent these deaths and make a safer Wisconsin for all.

“From teaching young people about dating violence and healthy relationships to increasing funding for sexual assault nurse examiners and creating penalties for ‘stealthing’ or sending unsolicited lewd images, we can take tangible steps to improve the safety of our communities and health outcomes.”

**A summary of the legislation included in the *Prevent and Protect Package* is attached.**

###

*Senator Melissa Agard was elected by her colleagues to serve as Senate Democratic Leader in November of 2022. Senator Agard represents the 16th Senate District, encompassing Sun Prairie, Cottage Grove, Monona, Fitchburg, McFarland, and parts of Madison.*