



HOWARD MARKLEIN

STATE SENATOR • 17TH SENATE DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 1, 2016

CONTACT: SENATOR MARKLEIN
(608) 266-0703

Sen. Marklein Works With Local Sheriffs To Pass Law

Governor Signs Bill To Reimburse Counties for Costs for Extended Supervision

MADISON— State Senator Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green) joined Sheriffs from several counties in the 17th Senate District for the signing of Assembly Bill (AB) 522 to become Act 164. Sen. Marklein authored Senate Bill (SB) 389, the Senate version of the bill.

Act 164 addresses the unpredictability of reimbursements paid by the state to counties for housing and holding prisoners who have violated their conditions of probation, parole, or extended supervision. Previous law specified that the Department of Corrections (DOC) was to reimburse a county \$40 per day for holding an individual in this case, with the ability to pro-rate the reimbursement if funding was not available for a variety of reasons.

Act 164 gives the DOC flexibility to charge a reasonable fee to probationers, parolees and those on extended supervision to reimburse the department for the costs associated with providing supervision services. The reimbursement rate remains the same, but DOC is required to use money collected from supervision fees if the appropriation to reimburse counties for probation, parole, and extended supervision is insufficient for reimbursing a county for maintenance of a person placed in a county jail or other county facility pending the disposition of parole, extended supervision, or probation revocation proceedings. This change will insure that counties are fully reimbursed for their costs.

“All of the Sheriff’s from the counties I represent asked for this bill,” Marklein said. “The last time the counties were paid at a rate of \$40 per day was in 2004. Since then, the costs of housing violators has increased, but the reimbursement rate has varied to an average of \$28.08 to \$32.55 per day. Act 164 gives the department flexibility to collect more from violators to cover the costs for which they need to reimburse the counties.”

Sheriff Brent Oleson – Juneau County

“On behalf of the taxpayers of Juneau County, I appreciate Senator Marklein’s hard work to pass this law,” Juneau County Sheriff Brent Oleson said. “We have been working on this bill for a long time and appreciate that there is finally resolution to this issue.”

Sheriff Chip Meister – Sauk County

“Predictability is extremely helpful in our budgeting process,” Sauk County Sheriff Chip Meister said. “This bill helps our department plan and benefits taxpayers of Sauk County who have had to fill in the financial gaps left by low reimbursements.”

Sheriff Nate Dreckman – Grant County

“This bill benefits the taxpayers of Grant County who have had to make up the difference in the past,” Grant County Sheriff Nate Dreckman said. “I am proud to be a part of this solution and appreciate Senator Marklein’s diligence in solving this issue with us.”

Sheriff Steve Michek – Iowa County

“I have been Sheriff of Iowa County for 13 years,” Iowa County Sheriff Steve Michek said. “I, and many other Sheriffs throughout the state, have worked on this issue every year and Senator Marklein got the job done. Thank you Senator Marklien, I and the citizens of Iowa County appreciate your hard work.”

Sheriff Reg Gill – Lafayette County

“Lafayette County taxpayers were given some relief through this bill,” Lafayette County Sheriff Reg Gill said. “We will not have to make up the difference from our county budget anymore and our department will be able to plan more effectively into the future.”

Act 164 has no fiscal impact on the state and is supported by Sheriff’s Departments throughout the state and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

###