FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 13, 2024

"PARENTAL BILL OF RIGHTS" HEADS TO GOVERNOR EVERS

Contact: Van Wanggaard

608-266-1832

MADISON – Assembly Bill 510, which ensures parents have rights when it comes to their child's education and health care passed the State Senate today. The bill now heads to Governor Evers for his signature.

"I've always said you shouldn't have to legislate common sense, but apparently we have to here," said Senator Van Wanggaard (R-Racine). "Of course parents should have the right to determine the name and religion of their child, and see their medical records. Unfortunately, some school districts and health care providers think differently, making this bill necessary."

Assembly Bill 510, co-authored by Rep. Bob Wittke (R-Racine) and Senator Van Wanggaard, explicitly establishes a number of parental and guardian rights relating to a child's religion, medical care and records, and education. Specifically, parents have the right to determine the name and pronoun used by their child at school, the right to determine the religion of the child and the chance to opt out of certain educational topics and surveys. The bill also gives parents the right to make decisions about the vaccination of their children, be notified about health care services offered at school, and the ability to decline school-provided health care services. Parents will also be allowed to view their child's medical records.

"Parents, not schools and not health care providers, are best able to make decisions about their children," said Wanggaard. "Parents shouldn't have to jump through hoops or obstacles to raise their kids. This bill ensures parents are in charge of their children, and no one else."

Assembly Bill 510 passed the State Senate on a party-line vote on Tuesday. The bill cleared the Assembly in January, and now heads to Governor Evers for his signature or veto.