



PATRICK TESTIN
STATE SENATOR

PRESS RELEASE

Contact:

Senator Patrick Testin
(608) 266-3123

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Sen. Testin Calls for Extraordinary Session to Fire Parole Board Chair

Vote on Confirmation Necessary after Decision to Parole Murderer

Madison: Senator Patrick Testin (Stevens Point) has called on Senate leadership to convene an extraordinary session to vote to deny the confirmation of John Tate II, Governor Evers choice to chair the Parole Commission.

Tate had chosen to parole convicted murderer Douglas Balsewicz and doubled down on that judgement before suddenly reversing himself late last week – a decision Senator Testin says is too little, too late.

“Mr. Tate’s initial decision to parole a convicted murder who didn’t even serve one-third of his sentence is proof that he lacks the judgement to serve. He has shown a willingness to prioritize the feelings of criminals – even murderers – above the rights of victims and public safety. It’s time for the Senate to clean up Evers’ mess.”

Balsewicz has served less than twenty-five years of an eighty year prison sentence. He was convicted of stabbing his estranged wife Johanna 42 times.

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