

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Sen. Dianne Hesselbein (608) 266-6670

## HESSELBEIN APPLAUDS PASSAGE OF COUNCIL ON VETERANS PROGRAMS BILL

MADISON – State Senator Dianne Hesselbein (D-Middleton) released the following statement after the State Senate passed Senate Bill 251 which changes the makeup of the Council on Veterans Programs:

"I am pleased to see this bipartisan legislation pass the Senate today. This bill makes small but important changes that will make certain that our veterans continue to play an important role in the policy decisions that will affect them.

"Under current law, the Council on Veterans Programs advises the Board of Veterans Affairs and Department of Veterans Affairs on solutions and policy alternatives relating to the challenges of veterans. This bill removes representatives from organizations that are no longer active and replaces them with representatives from important veteran stakeholder groups like veterans services coordinators at our colleges and universities. By adjusting the membership of the council we are ensuring that it reflects today's veteran population.

"I would like to thank my co-authors, Sen. Romaine Quinn and Rep. Tony Kurtz for their work championing this bill. I look forward to seeing this bill pass the Assembly and be signed into law."

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