



DIANNE H. HESSELBEIN

STATE SENATOR • SENATE DISTRICT 27

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HESSELBEIN SLAMS REPUBLICANS' ATTEMPT TO RUSH DANGEROUS ANTI-TRANS BILL THROUGH COMMITTEE

MADISON – State Senator Dianne Hesselbein (D-Middleton) released the following statement after the Senate Committee on Health held a paper ballot to vote on SB 480, which would ban gender-affirming care for minors, less than 24 hours after the public hearing:

“I am beyond disappointed in my Republican colleagues and their decision to rush this harmful bill through committee. This choice to push forward a bill designed to hurt transgender and nonbinary youth is scary and dangerous. The move to hold a vote less than 24 hours after the public hearing and to do that vote via paper ballot so that each senator can cast their vote in the privacy of their own office and away from the eyes of the public is cowardly.

“Yesterday was an emotional hearing where we heard from members of the LGBTQ+ community, parents, members of clergy, and community activists who all came to Madison to oppose this harmful proposal. Their voices matter. Their stories matter. We owe them the basic human decency to listen to their personal experiences – not schedule a vote before the hearing even began.

“I am grateful to Governor Evers for his commitment to veto this bill and any bill that harms LGBTQ+ Wisconsinites. I am proud to vote against SB 480. I will be proud to vote against this bill as Republicans rush it to the Senate floor. And I will be proud to uphold Governor Evers’ veto.

“To the transgender and nonbinary people of Wisconsin: you are seen, you are loved, and you belong here.”

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