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WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

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Four Bills Authored by Senator Kapenga Signed into Law

Measures Will Protect Property Rights, Increase Budgetary Accountability, & Defend Small Businesses from Washington Bureaucrats

Madison - On Tuesday, Governor Walker signed four bills authored by Senator Chris Kapenga (R-Delafield) into law. These bills addressed a number of issues ranging from property rights to budget reform.

Senate Bill 344, co-authored by Representative Dave Craig (R-Big Bend), creates a process for land owners to interrupt adverse possession from reaching a period where a squatter can take ownership of land to which they do not hold the title.

“Senate Bill 344 protects property owners by creating a legal tool that prevents their property from being taken by another person through adverse possession. This commonsense law will give property owners the certainty and peace of mind when settling property disputes.”

Senate Bill 407, co-authored by Representative Rob Hutton (R-Brookfield), requires state agencies to include in their biennial budget requests plans to reduce their spending by 5 percent and to maintain current spending levels for all state operations, with a few exceptions.

“In order to properly right size government we need to continually look at ways to evaluate the effectiveness of every dollar spent and find efficiencies within our budgets. The BASE Act takes a significant step towards improving transparency in our budget process by giving legislators the tools needed to examine how agencies prioritize spending.”

Senate Bill 408, co-authored by Representative Mike Kuglitsch (R-New Berlin), places a reasonable cap on liability for adult sponsors of minors involved in a motor vehicle accident to the higher of the following: \$300,000 for one accident or the limits of any insurance.

“When parents sign the sponsorship for their child to drive, they often unknowingly take on unlimited liability for their child’s actions behind the wheel. This bill strikes a reasonable balance between protecting un-suspecting parents from financial ruin and ensuring that victims receive fair compensation for damages.”

Senator Bill 422, co-authored by Representative Mike Kuglitsch (R-*New Berlin*), counters an effort by Washington, D.C. to redefine the long established joint employer standard. This bill would protect thousands of small businesses across Wisconsin from being subject to more burdensome and costly regulations from the federal government.

“Despite efforts by unelected Washington bureaucrats and special interests to threaten a long-established business structure, Wisconsin took a prudent step towards protecting entrepreneurs and their employees across the state from another overreach by the federal government.”

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