



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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### **DEMOCRATS THREATEN FILIBUSTER IF ETHICS BILL NOT SCHEDULED**

*Pocan, Parisi and Pope-Roberts Vow to Force Scheduling of SB1*

Madison – Three Dane County legislators - State Representatives Mark Pocan (D-Madison), Joe Parisi (D-Madison) and Sondy Pope-Roberts (D-Verona) today told Assembly Republican leadership that they will filibuster legislative session to try to guarantee that SB1, the Ethics Reform bill, gets scheduled for an Assembly vote before session ends next week.

“In a year of unparalleled legal action surrounding legislators and their ethics, we must as a body address ethics reform. If the Republican leadership refuses to allow the full Assembly to vote on meaningful reform, we will do everything in our power to force a vote on SB1. If that means filibustering on the final day of session next week, we will fight as long as it takes to pass ethics reform in Wisconsin. The Republicans will not be allowed to kill this bill,” said Pocan.

The State Assembly is expected to be in session this Tuesday and Thursday and next Tuesday and Thursday.

“I refuse to sit around passing legislation that benefit’s the special interests while ignoring the public’s interest,” said Pope-Roberts. “If the Republican leadership won’t schedule a vote on reform, we will do our best to force the Assembly to do the right thing,” she added.

The Republican leadership in the State Assembly has stated their intent is to not schedule SB1 in the next few weeks. The Democratic legislators from Dane County have strongly stated their interest in seeing legislative action on ethics reform.

“Ethics reform cannot wait for another scandal or another legislative session. The time is now for the State Assembly to act on this bill, without further delaying tactics from the Republican leadership. If that means we have to make the legislature work day and night to do the public’s business, than so be it,” said Parisi.

Senate Bill 1 passed the Senate 28-5 and Governor Doyle indicated he would sign the bill