

Rep. Steineke: Jayme Closs named Assembly 'Hometown Hero'

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CONTACT: Rep. Jim Steineke

(608) 266-2401

MADISON - The Wisconsin State Assembly recognized Jayme Closs from Barron, Wisconsin as an Assembly "Hometown Hero" at today's floor session.

Closs made national headlines last fall after she was taken from her home in Barron without a trace. After 88 days in captivity, she escaped and sought help. Closs was nominated for the Assembly Hometown Hero award by her State Representative, Romaine Quinn (R-Barron), for her extraordinary resilience and bravery in the face of tragedy and adversity at just 13 years old.

"Jayme's bravery, resilience, and strength is truly amazing. She has taught us all that no matter how dark your circumstances may be, there is always hope," said Rep. Quinn. "I can't think of anyone more deserving of our Hometown Hero award than Ms. Closs, and the entire State of Wisconsin wishes her the best on her future endeavors."

Closs joined her aunt and family members at today's floor session to receive the award after having been largely out of the public eye since her escape.

"The things this young girl has gone through, to still be standing here strong today, is nothing short of inspiring," said Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna), who selects Hometown Hero recipients. "We in the Assembly and the entire state of Wisconsin are behind Jayme, her family, and her community as she pursues what I'm sure will be a bright future."

The Wisconsin State Assembly sees giving back to the community as one of the most valuable characteristics one can have. The Assembly Hometown Heroes program seeks to identify and recognize individuals from around the state who give of themselves to make a difference in our communities and in the lives of those around them. Hometown Hero Award winners are invited and introduced as a special guest at an Assembly floor session and given the opportunity to speak.