

# Sen. Cowles: Assembly approves five bills

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MADISON– Senator Robert Cowles (R-Green Bay) released the following statement reacting to the passage of five bills led by Cowles during today’s floor session in the Assembly:

*“From protecting the property rights of condo owners to raising the awareness and prevention of Lyme disease to supporting the restoration of state aid to the Freedom School District, I’m happy to see three bills I’ve authored head to the Governor’s desk. These efforts, which all passed with bipartisan support, aren’t triumphs for my co-authors or I, but instead are victories for the constituents who directly inspired all three bills. I look forward to the Governor’s consideration of these reasonable approaches that have a chance to make a positive difference in the lives of people in Northeast Wisconsin.*”

*“Along with those three bills, I’m also pleased to see two other bills pass the Assembly and head to the Senate for concurrence. Anticipating the expansion of a workforce crisis in renewable energy jobs and paving the way for a huge economic development opportunity in the Fox Valley are both crucial efforts for Wisconsin workers and businesses. I hope to receive the support of my Senate colleagues on the floor in March so we’re able to send these two bills to the Governor’s desk.”*

The five bills by Senator Cowles passed during today’s Assembly floor session include:

- Senate Bill 298, authored with Representatives Jeff Mursau (R-Crivitz) and Nick Milroy (D-South Range), requires that information is published in State Park brochures to raise awareness of Lyme disease, inform on how to prevent tick bites, and encourage people to check for ticks after spending time outdoors.

This legislation also requires that similar information is posted on the DNR's digital and print platforms in May of each year which is Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

- When voters in Freedom turned down a referendum for a new building, they never knew that ripple effects would cause the School District to lose part of their state aid. Senate Bill 437, authored with Representative Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna), restores that state aid for this low-spending district.
- Senate Bill 512, authored with Representative Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay), gives unit owners a guaranteed seat at the table with condominium associations when the unit owner is aggrieved.
- Assembly Bill 237, authored with Representatives Mike Kuglitsch (R-New Berlin) and Adam Neylon (R-Pewaukee), helps to train more workers in family-supporting renewable energy jobs by prioritizing this sector in part of the state's existing workforce training program.
- Assembly Bill 821, authored with Representatives Ron Tusler (R-Harrison) and Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna) and Senator Roger Roth (R-Appleton), ensures that Little Chute doesn't miss out on the chance to have Agropur expand its operations in the Fox Valley by authorizing a new tax incremental financing district in the Village.