

Rep. Duchow: State Senate passes SB 431 and AB 225

Posted on Wednesday, Feb 11, 2026

>> **WisPolitics is now on the State Affairs network. Get custom keyword notifications, bill tracking and all WisPolitics content. [Get the app or access via desktop.](#)**

Madison, WI – Today, the Wisconsin State Senate approved two bills authored by Representative Cindi Duchow (R-Delafield). Senate Bill 431 and Assembly Bill 225 passed the chamber by votes of 18-14 and 33-0 (voice vote), respectively.

Senate Bill 431 addresses a loophole in Wisconsin's Fair Employment Law, which is intended to balance employee protections while allowing employers to terminate bad actors. Upon enactment, employees may face discipline, up to and including termination, for criminal or non-criminal conduct that is substantially related to their job responsibilities.

Assembly Bill 225 takes direct aim at "venue shopping," a lawsuit tactic that allows trial attorneys to file cases in jurisdictions perceived to be more favorable in order to secure larger payouts and higher attorney fees. This practice drives up costs for businesses and, ultimately, for Wisconsin families. By requiring a meaningful connection between the lawsuit and the court in which it is filed, the bill promotes fairness, transparency, and accountability in our judicial system. This common-sense reform helps curb lawsuit abuse and keeps insurance costs more affordable for consumers across the state.

Senate Bill 431 now awaits a floor vote in the Assembly. Assembly Bill 225 awaits the Governor's signature.