



Jennifer Shilling

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR
32ND SENATE DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 14, 2017

Contact: Tony Palese, tony.palese@legis.wi.gov, 608-266-5490

Veterans denied right to Veterans Day

Republicans grant state employees, not veterans, a paid holiday on Nov. 11th

MADISON, WI – In seeking to designate November 11th as an official state holiday in Wisconsin, Senate Republicans blocked an amendment that would have ensured all veterans, regardless of whether they are a public or private employee, would be granted a paid day off. Democrats argued that veterans should be the ones benefiting from the holiday rather than simply closing government offices.

“The men and women who answered the call to serve should be the ones we’re honoring on Veterans Day,” said Senate Democratic Leader Jennifer Shilling (D-La Crosse). “The overwhelming majority of veterans work on Veterans Day and many aren’t able to participate in community events. We need to stop and ask ourselves who Veterans Day is meant to honor. Democrats want to recognize the sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform by making sure veterans are the focus of Veterans Day.”

Senate Republicans unanimously opposed the Veterans Day for Veterans amendment to SB 113 while all Democrats voted in support of veterans. Over the past six years, Wisconsin Republicans eliminated pay discrimination protections for veterans, blocked justice for veterans injured by exposure to asbestos and raided millions from the King Veteran Home to backfill budget deficits.

###