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Rep. Allen supports amended cell tower bill

Setbacks could be required on cell towers, small wireless facilities under current version

The Wisconsin State Assembly passed Assembly Bill 348 today, which adds back some local control for regulating the location of mobile cell tower sites. The bill allows political subdivisions to enact setbacks in areas zoned for single-family residential use, or where only single-family residential use is permitted.

"We have been hearing from people across the state concerning cell towers going up in their neighbor's backyard, or on land adjacent to their property," said Rep. Allen. "The current version of the legislation, as amended, helps communities reduce adverse impacts from cell tower placement."

The bill permits local setback ordinances for cell towers and small wireless facilities based on the height of the proposed structure. Under certain circumstances, setbacks could be shorter than the proposed height of the tower if the neighbors agree in writing.

"I would like to thank Rep. Kuglitsch and Speaker Vos for listening to the concerns raised by constituents," said Rep. Allen. "While we work to keep property taxes low, we also need to be mindful of protecting property values."

AB 348 now goes to the Senate.

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The 97th Assembly District includes portions of the City of Waukesha and the Towns of Waukesha, Genesee, and Mukwonago.