

## DAVID STEFFEN

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 4<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 22, 2018

CONTACT: Rep. David Steffen (608) 266-5840

## Rep. Steffen Votes to Enhance School Safety

Legislation invests \$100 Million into school safety plan

**Madison-** Today, State Representative David Steffen (R-Howard) cast his vote in favor of a package of bills which will enhance the safety of Wisconsin schools. The package establishes a number of school safety measures, some of which include: creation of an Office of School Safety within the Department of Justice which will be charged with establishing model practices for school safety as well as providing school safety training for school staff. The legislation also allocates \$100 Million in funding for school safety grants. Grants can be used to help schools cover costs of safety related expenditures, such as safety upgrades to buildings and equipment as well as safety training.

"Protecting the safety of our students, school staff, and parents is critical. I am very proud to have supported this package of bills, which will work to provide schools the resources they need to keep our kids safe. I am very pleased to see these meaningful school safety measures continue to move forward," said Rep. Steffen.

As a part of the 2017-19 state budget, the Legislature also provided additional resources to schools focused on mental health services and programs as well as funding for new anti-bullying curriculum.

In addition, the State Assembly took up and passed a measure to expand state background checks to include long guns, just as handgun purchases go through a Wisconsin background check. This change is in advance of a federal-level movement, known as "Fix NICS," which would incorporate these types of checks.

"Each of these common-sense safety measures are an important step towards ensuring the safety of our schools and communities across the state of Wisconsin," said Rep. Steffen.

###