



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact**

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**Representative Crowley Advocates for Census Preparation and Outreach**

MILWAUKEE, WI - Representative David Crowley (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement after unveiling LRB-3443/P1, a bill that would dedicate \$1,000,000 in funding towards preparation for the 2020 United States Census.

“The U.S. Census is an essential tool to our democracy, however many fail to realize just how important it is. Data from the census is used to determine how federal dollars are allocated for many of Wisconsin’s essential social services and transportation programs. A low response rate in 2020 could severely limit the amount of federal funds Wisconsin receives for years to come. This legislation will aim to address these potential barriers prior to the 2020 U.S. Census through preparation activities and outreach efforts. I am introducing this legislation with the goal of increasing Wisconsin’s response rate for the 2020 U.S. Census.

“According to a George Washington University study, Wisconsin lost an estimated \$76.1 million in Health and Human Services Program funding in 2015. Because the state’s population was undercounted in the last census, we lost millions of dollars a year from just one federal department. Imagine what we could accomplish in Wisconsin if we were able to increase our response rate.

“As a state, we must realize the important implications of the census. By investing in the preparation and outreach for the 2020 U.S. Census, we will increase our ability to maximize federal funding and as a result receive millions of dollars in return for years to come.”

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1. <https://gwipp.gwu.edu/sites/g/files/zaxdzs2181/f/downloads/GWIPP%20Reamer%20Fiscal%20Impacts%20of%20Census%20Undercount%20on%20FMAP-based%20Programs%2003-19-18.pdf>