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# TONY KURTZ

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 50<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Rep. Kurtz Lends a Hand in Fight to End Homelessness**

**Madison, WI** – Representative Tony Kurtz (Wonewoc), along with legislative colleagues voted to support “A Hand for the Homeless” legislative package this afternoon. The package consists of eight bills aimed at ending and preventing homelessness in Wisconsin. The set of bills follow last session’s first steps towards curbing homelessness, including the creation of the [Interagency Council on Homelessness \(ICH\)](#). These next steps directly mirror the recommendations made in the ICH’s statewide action plan, [A Hand and a Home: Foundations for Success](#).

The “A Hand for the Homeless” package includes new programming and \$3.75 million in new spending – a number that more than doubles the state’s current commitment to address the issue. The funding includes an additional \$500,000 for the Homeless Prevention Program, \$900,000 for the Housing Assistance Program, and \$250,000 to the Skills Enhancement Program – meant to work in tandem to attack homelessness from every angle.

Rep. Kurtz authored AB 144, relating to the skills enhancement program. The skills enhancement program is designed to help low-income individuals receive job training and technical skills. This bill is a direct policy adoption of strategy 3.4 presented by the Interagency Council on Homelessness. The community action groups near the 50<sup>th</sup> Assembly District are very supportive of this program because of the large need that our community presents.

The funding for the “A Hand for the Homeless” package was approved by the Joint Committee on Finance in the state’s budget. All eight bills passed out of the Assembly with bipartisan support, and now head to the state Senate for their consideration.

You can find more information on the [“A Hand for the Homeless” bills here](#).

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