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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Steineke Votes to Advance Suicide Prevention Legislation

MADISON – Moments ago, Representative Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna) voted in favor of legislation that will focus attention and resources on preventing suicide in Wisconsin during this afternoon’s floor session. The bills are a product of the bipartisan [Speaker’s Task Force on Suicide Prevention](#), which traveled the state throughout the spring and summer, hearing from experts, advocates, survivors, and impacted families on what needs to be done to curb suicide in our state.

“Our community, like so many others around Wisconsin, has been touched by the grief, fear and worry that come with suicide,” said Rep. Steineke. “I am proud to have supported measures today that will help prevent suicide in our community and state.”

In 2017, 918 individuals died by suicide, with nearly 5,000 others making an attempt – a number that has trended upwards in recent years. The bills approved today direct resources toward programs and initiatives that will increase awareness, provide education, and target and assist at-risk individuals.

Recently, Rep. Steineke sat down with the Chair of the Speaker’s Task Force on Suicide Prevention, Representative Joan Ballweg (R-Markesan), for [a discussion on suicide and the group’s recommendations](#) as a part of the Wisconsin Assembly Republican’s Right Angle podcast series.

“I’d like to thank Joan and the entire Task Force for their incredible work on a topic that is so personal to so many of us,” continued Rep. Steineke. “These bills are a great step forward in doing all we can to prevent suicide in Wisconsin.”

Now having passed the state Assembly, the package of bills now await a Senate vote before heading to Governor Evers’ desk.

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