

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Rep. Rob Hutton (608) 267-9836 December 4, 2019

GOP Weekly Radio Address: Deterring "Porch Pirates"

MADISON – In this week's GOP radio address, Rep. Rob Hutton (R-Brookfield) talks about a bill he is proposing that will increase the penalties for stealing mail and delivered packages.

More shoppers are ordering products online than ever before, but this trend has increased the potential for so-called porch pirating. I'm State Representative Rob Hutton from Brookfield and I'm proposing a bill that will increase penalties for stealing mail or packages.

The Christmas season is an especially busy time for online shopping as we buy gifts for our loved ones. In fact, a recent study showed that nearly half of all gifts bought for the holidays are now purchased online. Unfortunately, another study showed as many as one in four people have had a package stolen from their residence. These crimes cost us money, time, and even our feeling of security.

Of course, it's already against the law to steal mail or any other item. But, the bill I'm proposing will make it easier to charge criminals with felonies for stealing from multiple people, including a felony charge for taking mail or packages addressed to at-risk or elderly adults.

Our laws need to keep up with the shift toward purchasing products online. And increasing the penalties for mail and package theft will provide a deterrent for these crimes.

http://legis.wisconsin.gov/eupdates/asm63/HuttonRadioAddress12.4.19.mp3

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