



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
18th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



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Sanfelippo vs The World

MADISON- Today, State Representative Joe Sanfelippo issued a statement accusing Democrats in the Assembly of prioritizing individuals accused of crime over victims or public safety. While Wisconsin Republicans continue to make this a partisan issue, President Trump, former Speaker Paul Ryan, retiring Representative Jim Sensenbrenner and hundreds of other Republicans in Congress and around the country have supported criminal justice reform and a move away from the “tough on crime” era.

Representative Goyke said: “During the 5+ hours of testimony, the Republican authors never once offered any evidence, example, or peer state that proves the contention that the ‘tougher on crime’ legislation will in fact reduce crime and if so, by how much. Instead, concrete evidence about the increased prison population and prison costs were made clear. Democrats – as well as Republicans on the Committee – asked these important questions.”

“Representative Sanfelippo overstates the support for his own proposals. For example, Assembly Bill 805 does not have a single organization registered in support – not one. Beyond the lack of support, several organizations, including those representing law enforcement, have raised questions, including questions about cost. According to the newly released fiscal estimate, AB 805 alone, would cost \$54 million in year one; \$156 million annually thereafter; plus the construction of two new prisons.”

In response, the following organizations have registered their position on AB 805:

In Favor

None

Undecided/Undisclosed

Americans for Prosperity
The Badger Institute
Badger State Sheriffs Assoc.
Wisconsin District Attorneys Assoc.
Wisconsin Sheriffs and Deputy Sheriffs

Opposed

Wisconsin Public Health Association
Wisconsin Justice Initiative
Wisconsin Counties Assoc.
Wisconsin Catholic Conference
Wisconsin Assoc. of Local Health
League of Women Voters
American Civil Liberties Union of WI
Community Advocates, Inc.
City of Milwaukee
Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault

“Despite Representative Sanfelippo’s accusations, several Wisconsin organizations also have serious questions about the ‘tougher on crime’ legislative package, including law enforcement and prosecutors. Representative Sanfelippo wants to make this a partisan issue, when the list above clearly shows how bi-partisan the concerns and opposition really are.”