



RON TUSLER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 3rd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Courts Creation Bill Signed by the Governor

Act 184 Allows for 12 New Judges across Wisconsin

Madison, WI – Representative Tusler (R – Harrison) was pleased to see Governor Evers sign [AB 470](#) (now Act 184) into law. Act 184 will add 12 new circuit court branches across the state: four in 2021, four in 2022, and four in 2023.

“The adage ‘justice delayed is justice denied’ could not be more true under the circumstances today. I am proud that this bi-partisan bill will help ease caseload backlogs and help ensure justice is served,” said Representative Tusler.

Since 1989, 33 bills have been introduced creating additional circuit court branches. Only nine of those 33 bills have been enacted, the most recent being in 2007. Since that time, the need for additional circuit court branches has grown across the state, especially in rural parts of Wisconsin.

“Our judicial system plays a critical role in society,” said Representative Tusler. **“Yet, the combined courts budget accounts for less than half of one percent of Wisconsin’s overall biennial budget. Our investment in Wisconsin’s judicial system is important to both victims and the accused.”**

Calumet County, a one-judge county, has seen more than a 40 percent increase in criminal case filings from 2015 to 2018 and heroin and methamphetamine referrals have nearly tripled, according to the Calumet County District Attorney.

“Calumet County is a prime candidate for a new circuit court branch and I am extremely optimistic a judge will be allocated here in the Third Assembly District. Regardless of which counties receive additional judges, the infusion of these positions will have a positive statewide impact,” said Representative Tusler.

Thank you to Senator Jerry Petrowski (R – Marathon), Representative Paul Tittl (R – Manitowoc), Representative Tip McGuire (D – Kenosha) and all my legislative colleagues for your support to help make Act 184 possible.

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