



**PATRICK TESTIN**  
STATE SENATOR

***PRESS RELEASE***

**Senator Patrick Testin**  
[Sen.Testin@legis.wi.gov](mailto:Sen.Testin@legis.wi.gov)  
**(608) 266-3123**

February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**Senator Testin Authors Star Spangled Banner Act**

*Bill Would Require Playing of Anthem before Athletic Events Held in Taxpayer Funded Sports Arenas*

**Madison, WI** – Recently, the practice of playing the national anthem at sporting events has come under fire from a small, but vocal group of activists. In response, Senator Patrick Testin (R-Stevens Point) proposed the Star Spangled Banner Act on Wednesday, which would require the playing of the anthem prior to sporting events held in Wisconsin venues that have received taxpayer funding

“Hearing the Star Spangled Banner at a sporting event reminds us that despite our differences, we have something in common – we are Americans,” noted Sen. Testin. “This tradition traces its roots back more than a century – even pre-dating the song’s adoption as the national anthem. It’s a practice that unites us, and I believe it’s worth preserving.”

Veterans groups in Wisconsin, including the Wisconsin American Legion and VFW Department of Wisconsin have expressed support for the bill, which is co-authored by Representatives Tony Kurtz (Wonewoc) and Scott Krug (Town of Rome). Several venues would be impacted, including Lambeau Field, American Family Field, and the Fiserv Forum.



###