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## Rep. Kristina Shelton: Passage of Election-related Bills

MADISON – In a regular Assembly floor session this afternoon, Republican legislators raised and passed multiple bills relating to restricting voting opportunities for individuals of all backgrounds across our state. Representative Shelton (D-Green Bay) released the following statement in response:

"Today, multiple pieces of legislation passed on our Assembly floor with the sole intention of making it more difficult for Wisconsinites to exercise their civic duty. Everything from the basic principles of ballot cure to the ability of ballot observers to complete their responsibilities became more challenging from the bills pushed through the Assembly today.

"Green Bay, in this last election cycle, existed under a microscope across the state and the nation. The addition of requirements for our county clerks and election observers puts a strain not only on the individuals themselves who uphold our free and fair elections, but in the funding and resource use to make those processes available to the public.

"The bills that passed today are egregious to the accessibility of absentee ballots and strenuous to the roles of election officials all across the state - and the people who will be most affected are already disenfranchised, such as people living with disabilities and our elderly population in retirement homes.

"We, as elected officials, have the responsibility to protect our democratic elections and engage all who want to participate, and these bills do not serve that purpose. As a legislator, I will always seek to uphold the integrity of our election system and move towards initiatives to make voting more accessible, not less."

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