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**Rep.** Conley: Statement on Funding Local Governments and Reducing Violent Crime

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MADISON – Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly met in regular session and took up legislation related to criminal justice. Rep. Sue Conley (D-Janesville) released the following statement:

"We all want to live in safe communities without fear of violence. However, over the last ten years Legislative Republicans have continually reduced local government funding, squeezing local health departments, first responders, libraries, and other essential services. Democrats have proposed increases in local government funding, but the GOP has made no effort to fix this ongoing, systemic issue," Rep. Conley stated.

"I believe in investing in research-proven strategies to reduce violent crime. Using short-term federal funds is not a sustainable answer to the problem. Democrats' Smart Criminal Justice Package invests in victim services through our local governments and law enforcement agencies and supports local criminal justice systems. We should take up sustainable solutions to make our communities safer while also investing in local governments," Rep. Conley added.

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