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New Law Signed to Empower Victims and Their Families

Legislation extends notification period for victims and their families

Madison, WI – Representative Dave Maxey (R-New Berlin) issued the following statements on the enactment of Johanna's Law:

"I am thrilled that victims and their families will have the voices they deserve when their attacker is up for parole," said Rep. Maxey. "This is a huge win for Wisconsin; it sends a message that Wisconsin protects victims and not criminals like the man who murdered Johanna Balsewicz."

2023 Act 320 empowers victims of violent crimes and their families by granting them the opportunity to deliver written or oral statements during their offender's parole hearings. Moreover, this legislation extends the notification period for victims and their families from seven to thirty days prior to the hearing. Additionally, it authorizes local law enforcement to share crucial information regarding the release of violent offenders into their communities.

"I would like to thank Senator Bradley for his efforts in the Senate for helping move this legislation forward, to ultimately be signed into law," said Rep. Maxey. "I am also proud that this legislation passed both chambers on a voice vote and was then signed by the Governor."

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The 15th Assembly District includes portions of Milwaukee and Waukesha County including the communities of New Berlin, West Allis, and Waukesha