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For Further Information Contact:  
tyboddenforassembly@gmail.com  
(920) 948-5076



## **State Representative Ty Bodden Suspends Campaign and Decides Not to Seek Re-Election**

**STOCKBRIDGE** – Rep. Ty Bodden won his first assembly election in November of 2022 and has represented the old 59th Assembly District since January of 2023. However, the new legislative maps have brought significant changes and many Wisconsinites will have new representation in 2025.

Bodden has made the following statement: *"It has been the greatest honor of my life to represent the great people of the 59th Assembly District. While you may see me on the ballot again someday, it won't be this August or November. I have been involved in politics since the 4th grade, 20 years ago, when my parents, grandparents, and aunts and uncles were heavily involved in Republican Party politics in Wisconsin. I met President Bush in 2004 and have helped every Republican candidate for office every two years since then. I am a devoted conservative Republican to the core; it's rooted in my DNA. The top priority must be for Republicans to win this November and prevent the lawlessness of the left from prevailing. We need to work tirelessly to defeat Tammy Baldwin and get Donald J. Trump back in the White House. We must retain Republican majorities in the legislature, and a contentious and expensive primary in the 3rd would not help the cause. My commitment is to the greater good of the party and this state. We are in this situation because of the gerrymandering by Tony Evers and the radical acts of the State Supreme Court. The district I have represented for the last year and a half is now part of five different districts, causing mass confusion.*

*In 2022, I decided to run for the 59th Assembly District because of my little family. This year, I have decided not to run for the exact same reason. My order of importance is God, family, and country, and since being elected, that order has not always been right. If you follow me, you know that I'm not home much. I miss a lot of important events and milestones, and my kids are only young once. It's even harder to justify with a divided government where nothing significant can get done. I cannot continue to campaign and serve while my kids are this young because I believe your politicians, especially your assembly representatives, should be at every district brat fry, picnic, social, and community event. They should rarely miss district events if they are not in Madison. They should never miss meetings with constituents and groups in Madison unless they are in the district with constituents. They should never miss caucuses, hearings, or floor sessions. I prioritized those things in my first term because that's the role, and I understood what the people of the district wanted. That should be the expectation of your politicians, and I am not in a position right now to meet that expectation because my family needs me at home.*

*I am also keeping my word to Rep. Tusler that I would never run against him. We have been good friends for a decade. Many politicians and people in politics lie and deceive, but in good conscience, I cannot be one of those people. There are many individuals out there with agendas that do not seek the truth. Never make assumptions. I know this decision is letting many people down, and I greatly apologize for that. However, this state has a lot going for it in the conservative movement that we should be excited about. The hundreds of people I've encountered encouraging me to run have been humbling, but circumstances in life change, and you must trust that God has you on the right path. God and family should be at the center. We need to make decisions based on what He says, not on what we selfishly want. Maybe that means running for office again in two years or 32 years. I have other career goals and plans, like starting a business, and something else which may or may not involve politics. Political office should not be a career but rather a public service, partaken in only from time to time. Our Founding Fathers served in different roles for only a year or two at a time, never sticking to one for too long.*

*For me, this legislative session was a success. We fought to keep our sturgeon spearing tradition. If that was my only achievement in office, I could sleep easy. We took on the federal government and won. We have fought the green energy companies and are continuing to push back against them. We have won battles, and at this rate, we will keep them out entirely. We have made strides towards election integrity, banning Zuckerbucks, and bringing awareness to the issues people care most about. I served as Vice-Chair of the Corrections Committee, and the biggest accomplishment was securing much-needed raises for our correctional officers. We passed a constitutional amendment through the first chamber to protect our First Amendment rights and our right to freely worship without government interference. Hopefully, the legislature will pass it in the second session next year.*

*There are many people I would like to thank, and I will do so at a later date. For now, I want to express my gratitude to all of the county sheriffs of the 59th district. I have the utmost respect and appreciation for Calumet County Sheriff Bowe, Fond du Lac County Sheriff Waldschmidt, Sheboygan County Sheriff Roeseler, and Washington County Sheriff Schulteis. It has been an honor to work with them and serve them. I am also grateful for the opportunity to work with and develop friendships with Fond du Lac County Executive Sam Kaufman and Washington County Executive Josh Schoemann. I appreciate the support of Senator Stroebel, Congressman Grothman, and former 59th Assembly District Representatives Kremer and Ramthun. As my term comes to an end in early January, I look forward to being there for the people of the 59th district and assisting them with any matters they may need help with.*

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*The 3rd Assembly District covers Calumet County's portion of Appleton, Brillion, Chilton, Harrison, Hilbert, Calumet County's portion of Menasha, New Holstein, Potter, Sherwood, St. Nazianz, Stockbridge, Valders, and Whitelaw*