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From Job Loss to Job Ready: Moving Wisconsin Forward

Madison...State Representative Dan Knodl (R-Germantown) proudly voted in favor of a comprehensive workforce development package aimed at strengthening Wisconsin's economy, enhancing accountability, and helping individuals return to meaningful employment.

Assembly Bill 167 clarifies and modernizes the definition of employee misconduct by including theft, destruction of property, and habitual absences. These updates ensure that unemployment insurance remains focused on helping those who lose their jobs through no fault of their own, while protecting the program from misuse.

"Our unemployment insurance system should be a bridge back to the workforce, not a loophole," said Rep. Knodl. "These reforms ensure the program supports hardworking Wisconsinites in transition, while preserving its integrity for those who truly need it."

Assembly Bills 168 and 169 focus on building a more secure and efficient unemployment system. AB 168 enhances ID verification processes, ensuring benefits reach eligible recipients while reducing improper payments. AB 169 addresses the issue of missed job interviews—also known as "ghosting"—by encouraging genuine engagement from applicants and supporting businesses in need of reliable workers.

"We're focused on making this system work better for everyone—workers, employers, and taxpayers," Rep. Knodl explained. "These improvements are about restoring trust, reducing red tape, and creating a more effective path back to employment."

The legislative package now advances to the state Senate for further consideration before heading to the Governor's desk.

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The 24th Assembly District includes portions of Washington and Waukesha County including the communities of Butler, Germantown, Menomonee Falls, and Lannon