

## GARY ALAN HEBL STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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## Rep. Hebl's Statement on International Women's Day

(MADISON) – Today Rep. Gary Hebl (D-Sun Prairie), released the following statement recognizing International Women's Day:

International Women's Day is celebrated on March  $8^{th}$  to recognize women and their allies around the world and to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. International Women's Day also marks a call to action for accelerating economic and gender parity. We celebrate the achievements of women in every part of our society and across the globe.

The first International Women's Day gathering took place over a century ago, in 1911. Over one million people in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland celebrated. Prior to this, groups such as the Suffragettes campaigned for women's equality. Today, many advocate groups and political leaders around the world continue working for women's equality.

We must also acknowledge that there is more we can do as a state to achieve parity for women. A more equal society would help our economy and communities to thrive. I am confident there is a bright future ahead of us if we commit to creating inclusive public policies as well as increase involvement and engagement of women as both legislators and voters. International Women's Day is vital because it gives a chance to pause and reflect on our journey, from where we started, to where we still need to go.