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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **Rep. Snyder Announces Hearing on Family First Prevention Services Act**

**Madison...** On Tuesday, State Representative Pat Snyder (R-Schofield) announced his plans to host an informational hearing on the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) in the Committee on Children and Families, of which he is chairperson. The bipartisan federal legislation, which overhauled how foster care is funded, was signed by President Trump in February 2018. The informational hearing has been scheduled for September, following recently issued guidance from the federal government on state implementation.

“When I became Chairman of the Committee on Children and Families, I promised to continue the work I began last session of helping our families that have encountered the foster care system, and those at risk of entering the system,” Rep. Snyder said about the announcement. “The Family First Prevention Services Act presents a significant opportunity for the state to better serve our at risk children and families. This hearing is the first step to taking advantage of this great opportunity.”

The FFPSA prioritizes funding for keeping families intact while ensuring children that do enter the foster care system are in the best possible setting, by making federal funding available for prevention services and dis-incentivizing placements in non-treatment group homes.

Following the announcement of the hearing, Rep. Snyder invited his legislative colleagues from both sides of the aisle to attend the hearing, and called on them to join the conversation about using this opportunity to support kids and families.

“Regardless of whether you are in Vilas County, Milwaukee County, or somewhere in between, the drug epidemic is impacting your area, and it is driving the increase in out-of-home placements,” Rep. Snyder added. “We need to work together to get these families assistance before child maltreatment occurs and the cycle of trauma can continue. I am looking forward to an active conversation about how we can use this opportunity to better serve our kids and families.”

The hearing will occur on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 11AM in the State Capitol Building. The official notice will follow shortly.

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