



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Neubauer Co-Sponsors Bill to Return Attorney General's Powers
Legislators have a responsibility to protect the separation of powers

MADISON — Yesterday, Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) signed on to co-sponsor LRB-4110/1, a bill authored by Representatives Chris Taylor (D-Madison) and Evan Goyke (D-Milwaukee), along with Senators Jon Erpenbach (D-West Point) and LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee) that would repeal the changes made to the Attorney General's powers during the December 2018 Lam Duck Session. Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) released the following statement in support:

“Attorney General Josh Kaul was duly elected by the people of Wisconsin to a constitutional office within our state. The 2018 Lam Duck power grab spearheaded by Speaker Robin Vos and Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald was unprecedented, upsetting the balance of powers, usurping powers from the Governor and Attorney General's offices, and placing Attorney General Josh Kaul at the mercy of the Republican-controlled Joint Finance Committee as he tries to fulfill his constitutional duties.”

“In recent weeks, we have seen the dysfunctional results of this unprecedented power grab, as the Joint Finance Committee attempted to micromanage the settlement process for complex, multi-state litigation without regard for legal and ethical confidentiality requirements. It is clear that the Lam Duck law created unworkable requirements for both the Attorney General and Joint Finance Committee, as the Republican Joint Finance Committee Co-Chairs moved the committee into closed session, shutting out the public and the press in spite of Wisconsin's open meetings laws.”

“These cases affect real people and have real consequences throughout our state. They shouldn't be used as a political game piece. I am proud to join my legislative colleagues in supporting the repeal of this undemocratic law, and returning Attorney General Josh Kaul's full powers to him,” Neubauer concluded.

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