



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 6th, 2019

Contact: Senator André Jacque
(608) 266-3512

Senator André Jacque Hails Passage of Senate Bills

(Madison, WI) – Yesterday the Wisconsin State Senate passed six bills authored by Senator André Jacque (R- De Pere). The proposals covered a variety of topics, from aiding workforce development through apprenticeship and youth apprenticeship, to protecting victims of cyberstalking, to helping student athletes and Washington Island's home newspaper and local municipal courts:

Senate Bill 44 expands the hugely successful "Tools of the Trade" grant program to keep up with demand and assist students in completing their apprenticeships with the equipment needed for their vocation. The program has an outstanding 96% continuation rate in helping apprentices in the trades keep their education on track. The bill had unanimous support on the Senate floor.

Senate Bill 72 requires the Department of Workforce Development to develop curriculum within all 16 occupational "career clusters" for Wisconsin's youth apprenticeship program. A broad coalition of local governments, school district officials, and local chambers of commerce requested this change to make it possible to connect all students to career education and training options in their desired field.

"I'm excited my Senate colleagues joined me in passing these vital proposals to expand workforce training in areas of high demand for Wisconsin's economy," Senator Jacque said.

Senate Bill 235 updates and clarifies Wisconsin's stalking statutes to ensure the effective prosecution of cyberstalking predators at the request of victims, advocates, and law enforcement. SB 235 has received unanimous support on the Senate floor and in committee in the Assembly.

"It's time to modernize Wisconsin's cyberstalking to reflect 21st-century technology and give peace of mind to survivors so they are not re-victimized by the effects of criminal defense tactics taking advantage of current wording," Senator Jacque said.

Assembly Bill 112 removes the technical barrier that has kept the award-winning Washington Island Observer from becoming the paper of record for the remote paradise. It allows the Washington Island Observer to publish legal notices and keeps residents informed. Around 86% of the residents of Washington Island are subscribers to the Observer. The bill allows for cost-effectiveness for newspapers statewide by allowing for e-mailed affidavits of publication. AB 112 now heads to the Governor for his expected signature.

Senator Jacque commented, *"This bill supports fairness to news outlets in rural communities by allowing Island residents to benefit from having additional information in hands reach from their local source. I look forward to Governor Evers signing it."*

Additional bills authored by Senator Jacque which passed on a unanimous voice vote yesterday were **SB 117**, which adopts the uniform athlete agent act to protect student athletes, and **SB 214**, which utilizes several common-sense reforms to municipal courts requested by municipal judges and municipalities.

Sen. André Jacque represents Northeast Wisconsin's First Senate District, consisting of Door and Kewaunee Counties and portions of Brown, Calumet, Manitowoc, and Outagamie counties.

###