(608) 266-2401 Toll-Free: (888) 534-0005 Rep.Steineke@legis.wi.gov

P.O. Box 8953 Madison, WI 53708-8953

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Rep. Jim Steineke

November 11, 2019 (608) 266-2401

## Former State Senator to be Named Assembly 'Hometown Hero'

**MADISON** – The Wisconsin State Assembly will recognize former State Senator Tim Cullen from Janesville, Wisconsin as a "Hometown Hero" at the upcoming Assembly session on November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Cullen, who was nominated by his State Representative, Debra Kolste (D-Janesville), served Wisconsin's 15<sup>th</sup> Senate District for 16 years and now devotes his time and energy to serving local school districts. Notably, Cullen spearheads the Janesville Minority Teacher Scholarship, which provides scholarships to people of color who have graduated from Janesville High School, on the condition that they commit to returning to teach within Janesville School District after graduation.

"I am glad to see that Tim is continuing to find ways to better his community, even after leaving office," said Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna) who selected Cullen for the award. "Tim's notable contributions to the students and teachers in the Janesville area make him truly worthy of the Assembly Hometown Hero title."

Beyond the Janesville Minority Teacher Scholarship, Cullen also started the Tim Cullen Summer Institute that provides opportunities for high school seniors to get involved in the legislative process by placing them in both Democratic and Republican legislators' offices during the summer. Additionally, he began and funds a program called the Janesville Free Press, a newspaper run by students within the Janesville School District.

The Wisconsin State Assembly sees giving back to the community as one of the most valuable characteristics one can have. The Assembly Hometown Heroes program seeks to identify and recognize individuals from around the state who give of themselves to make a difference in our communities and in the lives of those around them. Hometown Hero Award winners are invited and introduced as a special guest at an Assembly floor session and given the opportunity to speak.

###