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## Assembly Democrats Vote to Keep Drunk Drivers on the Road

**Madison**...Representative Jim Ott (R-Mequon) planned on voting for requiring an 18<sup>th</sup> month stay behind bars for fifth and sixth OWI offenders, <u>Senate Bill 6/Assembly Bill 16</u>. Under the bill, if judges want to impose less than 18 months, they must explain in writing their justification. Current law requires only six months in prison for these convictions.

"This legislation would have sent a strong message to repeat offenders," said Rep. Ott. "However, the political decision made by the Assembly Democrats makes a stronger statement, gamesmanship before safety!"

In a show of partisan politics, Assembly Democrats decided to make a statement on a bipartisan bill that would make our roads safer. As we enter into the busy holiday season, the Assembly Democrats voted to keep multi OWI offenders on the road.

"These drivers are dangerous and should not be threatening families on our roads," said Rep. Ott. "There is no excuse for the vote that was taken by the Assembly Democrats today!"

The Wisconsin State Assembly was the final hurdle left before SB 6/ AB 16 would have been sent to the Governor's desk. Governor Evers has been a strong supporter of laws that would keep Wisconsin citizens safe.