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De Pere Alderman Jonathon Hansen Announces Run for State Senate – District 30

Over the past 19 years, my uncle, Sen. Dave Hansen, has worked tirelessly to represent his constituents in Wisconsin's 30th State Senate District. As a former teacher and truck driver for the City of Green Bay, he has never forgotten his working-class roots, or lost sight of the fact that politics, in the words of the late Sen. Paul Wellstone, "is about the improvement of people's lives". From helping to land the Navy LCS contract that brought good-paying jobs to Marinette, to intervening to keep a nursing home open in Oconto, to securing state funding for the Kress Events Center at UW-Green Bay, Sen. Hansen has improved people's lives in concrete ways.

Today, I am announcing my candidacy for the 30th Senate District in order to carry on his legacy. I come from a working-class background: My grandfather worked at a lumber yard and owned a farm in Oconto. My father worked at a meat processing plant in Green Bay, and as kid I helped him deliver *Green Bay Press-Gazette* newspapers on weekends. I started working at a grocery store while attending Green Bay West High School, and then worked in the retail industry to pay my way through college, eventually earning a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a Master's Degree from Marquette University.

Since April 2017, I have had the privilege of serving as an alderman on the De Pere City Council. I am proud of my accomplishments, including working closely with a grassroots citizens group to save a cherished pool in my district; introducing reforms to De Pere's façade improvement grant program to make it significantly more beneficial to local businesses, which has led to an infusion of investment in downtown De Pere; and partnering with county and state officials to generate momentum for the Brown County Southern Bridge project.

This campaign will be about pragmatic solutions that help the hardworking residents of the 30th Senate District. I will work to ban taxpayer dollars from going to companies that ship jobs overseas or out-of-state, oppose corporate welfare, fight to protect family farms, and reduce property taxes by closing the "dark store" loophole. I will also prioritize cleaning up PFAS contamination while holding the perpetrators accountable, and directing state economic development assistance to small businesses that create jobs right here in NE Wisconsin.

This campaign will also be about restoring civility and compromise to our political system. Fifty years ago, Robert F. Kennedy lamented how: "Too often we excuse those who are willing to build their own lives on the shattered dreams of other human beings". We must finally replace "divide and conquer" politics with a renewed commitment to finding common ground.

Finally, this campaign will reach out to all the residents of the 30th Senate District, including in the most remote parts of the district. As an alderman, I personally hand-deliver periodic constituent newsletters to every house in my district, and mail them to every apartment, because I strongly believe that elected officials have a duty to represent all of their constituents.

I look forward to earning your vote.