

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: January 28, 2020 Contact: Representative Brostoff, (608) 266-0650

Rep. Brostoff Reintroduces Public Education Reinvestment Act (PERA)

"Every Kid in Our State Deserves Access to High-Quality Public Education"

MADISON – This afternoon, State Representative Jonathan Brostoff (D-Milwaukee), State Representative Marisabel Cabrera (D-Milwaukee), and other legislative partners reintroduced the Public Education Reinvestment Act (PERA), legislation that would strengthen our state's public schools and put Wisconsin on the path to ending the failed voucher school experiment that has undermined our state's education system for too long. In support of this important proposal, Rep. Brostoff released the following statement:

"Public education in Wisconsin and the United States is under attack. Over the past few decades, school privatizers like Betsy DeVos have bought enough politicians to ram through school voucher programs across the country, often under the cover of darkness and without meaningful public input. These privatizers and their allies have shown a willingness to sell out our nation's children for the sake of lining their own pockets. With PERA, Wisconsinites can be proud and say it loud: public dollars should remain in the hands of the public, and every kid in our state deserves access to high-quality public education."

The Public Education Reinvestment Act (PERA) would reinstate and expand the former Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) program while phasing out Wisconsin's failed voucher school experiment, ensuring that Wisconsinites' hard-earned tax dollars earmarked for education go towards providing a high-quality public education to every student in our state who wants one. Years of research have shown that voucher programs siphon significant amounts of money away from public school districts while performing at the same level or worse than traditional public schools, contrary to the promises made by school voucher advocates.

"These privatizers are so afraid of the truth that no less than the Vice President put my name in his mouth today when he spoke at the Wisconsin School Choice Showcase at the Capitol. Well, I have one message for Mike Pence: you work on not locking up any more innocent children; I'll work on public education in Wisconsin... and keep my name out your mouth."

###