



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 11, 2020

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Rep. Neubauer's Statements on Today's Floor Session

RACINE — Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly met for a floor session and debate on bills relating to many pressing issues facing Wisconsinites. Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) released the following statements:

On the "Tougher on Crime" Package:

"As a state, we need smart, effective criminal justice reform. We need policies and laws based on evidence, designed to keep our communities safe. We need policies that lower our prison population and reduce the social and economic impacts of mass incarceration on vulnerable communities. The "Tougher on Crime" package does none of these things.

"These bills will not make our communities safer, and they will not reduce crime or recidivism in our communities. They will not make our families, our communities, or our state stronger. What these bills will do is increase incarceration, increase prison spending, and increase racial disparities in Wisconsin."

On the Republican Sexual Assault Kit Bill (2019 AB 844):

"AB 844 is a rushed, partisan bill developed without input from subject matter experts or advocates. It's a clear attempt to score political points at the expense of sexual assault survivors. We already have a bipartisan bill on sexual assault kits, AB 219, which has already passed in the Senate with bipartisan support.

"Playing political games with sexual assault kits does a disservice to survivors. The Assembly should act on AB 214, instead of a clearly partisan bill stuffed with provisions that advocates and survivors haven't asked for and don't want."

On the Special Session on Education:

"In Governor Evers' call for a Special Session on Education last week, he made it clear that investing in our schools and the critical services they provide is the way forward for our state. This funding is especially needed for school-based mental health services, so our students can



get the care that they need. School districts across the state, including Racine, have asked for state support for these programs, which are too often underfunded and understaffed.

“Republicans have indicated their support for increasing school-based mental health funding, but have not yet acted on Gov. Evers’ call to action. We’ll see whether this funding is truly a priority for them, or just a talking point.”

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