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Senator Jacque's Law Makes Youth Apprenticeships More Attainable

(Madison, WI) Senator André Jacque (R – De Pere) had seven bipartisan bills signed into law yesterday, with one expanding youth apprenticeships, Senate Bill 72. These reforms provide students with training opportunities and assist employers in filling workforce gaps in high-demand fields.

Under previous law, the Department of Workforce Development needed to approve and maintain a list of occupational areas, known as “career clusters,” however was not required to include any specific career cluster. Of the 16 generally accepted career clusters, DWD sanctions youth apprenticeship programs in 11 of them, leaving out the following areas:

- Business Management & Administration
- Education & Training
- Government & Public Administration
- Human Services
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security

“Wisconsin’s Youth Apprenticeship program has been proven to be both popular and extremely beneficial for students and employers,” Senator Jacque said. *“These career areas have been demonstrated to be among the fastest growing and highest demand fields in Northeast Wisconsin and across the state. As the many groups backing this legislation can attest, it is critical that we engage students in these fields here before they look to opportunities out of state. I’m proud to author Senate Bill 72, and I look forward to seeing the positive impact it has on Wisconsin’s workforce.”*

Senator André Jacque represents Northeast Wisconsin’s First Senate District, consisting of Door and Kewaunee Counties and portions of Brown, Calumet, Manitowoc, and Outagamie counties.

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