

STATE REPRESENTATIVE GORDON HINTZ 54th DISTRICT

WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 27, 2021 Contact: Rep. Hintz, 608-266-2254

## REP. HINTZ: APPLAUDS STRONGER MENTAL HEALTH PROTECTIONS FOR WISCONSIN FIRST RESPONDERS

MADISON - Today, Governor Evers signed Wisconsin Act 29 into law to increase access to mental health treatment for Wisconsin first responders who experience post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a result of their official duties. Rep. Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh) issued the following statement:

"Wisconsin's law enforcement and firefighters serve an incredibly important role in every community of our state, yet we know they are more likely to develop PTSD as a result of the intense and often dangerous circumstances to which they respond. I was proud to vote in favor of increasing accessibility to mental health treatment for many of our first responders, and I commend Gov. Evers for signing this bill into law.

"Mental health treatment is an integral component of every person's health care, and we have seen the need for treatment for first responders in particular. Access to mental health treatment can be instrumental in helping them to cope with the intense and difficult aspects of their work. With Act 29, and thanks to the dedication of many brave individuals who worked on this change in the law, Wisconsin's first responders now have better access to this important treatment."

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