

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 25th Assembly District

For Immediate Release April 13, 2021

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Rep. Tittl Votes to Require Holocaust Education in Wisconsin Classrooms

Madison – Rep. Paul Tittl (R-Manitowoc) voted in favor of <u>Senate Bill 69</u>, which places the Holocaust and other genocides' instruction into the state model social studies standards. This legislation guarantees that Wisconsin students learn about the Holocaust at least once between grade 5 to 8 and again when they are in high school. The bill extends to any public, charter, and private schools in the parental choice program.

"The goal is to guarantee that Wisconsin students understand the events of the Holocaust and the dangerous consequences of rising religious prejudice and anti-Semitism," said Rep. Tittl.

Recent surveys have found that nearly two-thirds of millennials did not know what Auschwitz was and one-fourth did not know what the Holocaust was. Over seventy-seven percent of Holocaust survivors have reached 80 or older, making this legislation even more necessary.

The Nathan and Esther Pelz Holocaust Education Resource Center has committed to providing educational material and professional development on the subject at no additional cost to schools.

"Already sixteen other states have passed legislation to require genocide education, and numerous other states have similar legislation pending," said Rep. Tittl. "Wisconsin has been a leader in education; it is time that we join these states and set an example for the country."

Days of Remembrance, celebrated Thursday, April 8, is the nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust. This legislation that passed the Assembly is monumental for continuing the education of genocide and is crucial toward fighting intolerance and discrimination in Wisconsin.

Once approved through the Assembly and signed by Gov. Evers, the law will go into effect for most schools in the 2022-23 school year.

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