



# Nik Rettinger

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 83<sup>rd</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release  
February 21, 2024

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## **Rep. Rettinger “Scouts in Schools” Act and “Rehiring Our Heroes” Act Pass Assembly**

Freshman Lawmaker Proud to see Another Bill headed to the Governor’s Desk

Madison – The Wisconsin State Assembly passed another pair of Representative Nik Rettinger’s bills today. The “Scouts in Schools” Act (Assembly Bill 592/Senate Bill 549) and the “Rehiring our Heroes Act” (Assembly Bill 671) passed on voice votes. Following passage, Rep. Rettinger said:

*“As an Eagle Scout, I am proud to author the ‘Scouts in Schools’ Act. Unfortunately, in a large number of Wisconsin districts, student outreach programs within schools has been denied to organizations such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the Boys & Girls Club. These restrictions severely impact the recruitment efforts of these organizations, sometimes slashing recruitment by as much as fifty percent for certain chapters. SB 549 seeks to reverse this troublesome trend by allowing this limited list of federally chartered youth organizations, that have an educational purpose and who promote civic involvement for their members, the opportunity to provide recruitment information once each school year.”*

The “Rehiring Our Heroes” Act seeks to address, in part, the vacancy of critically needed law enforcement positions, as well as meet the educational needs in training up future officers who will step-up to serve communities across Wisconsin. It allows retired law enforcement officers to be rehired for a limited scope of time by a different department or entity such as a technical college, along with certain other guiderails to protect taxpayers, while being able to continue receive their annuity. Following passage of AB671, Rep. Rettinger added:

*“Speaking with the Police Chiefs and Sheriffs across the counties I represent of Waukesha, Walworth, and Racine, this lack of new offices has led to numerous lateral moves between departments in a shell game that is no longer sustainable. This, along with retirements, has led to the shortage and vacancy issue hitting a critical mass that, should we not address it in a meaningful way, will lead to the ability of our communities and neighborhoods to be kept safe to be at risk. To help reverse this trend, we’ve worked with numerous stakeholders bring forward the Rehiring Our Heroes Act to give law enforcement agencies the tools they need to fill critical vacancies in the short term while also working to train up the next wave of recruits to serve and protect Wisconsin’s communities.”*

Representative Rettinger, additionally, voted in favor of Assembly Bill 900. AB900, informally referred to as the “School Choice De-Coupling Act” provides for “decoupling” of state payments for both parental choice students and independent charter school students from the funding mechanism for public schools. These students would no longer be included in enrollment counts of school districts for revenue limits and general aid, and will be fully funded by GPR beginning in the 2024-25 school year. Unlike the original bill, the substitute amendment funds parental choice payments with GPR immediately, rather than implementing a 13-year phase in period. This critical reform bill will finally clear up the confusion surrounding the funding of both choice and public schools by the public, eliminate administrative cost, and provide property tax relief to local districts.

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*The 83rd Assembly District includes portions of Waukesha, Racine, and Walworth Counties including the municipalities of Mukwonago, Eagle, Big Bend, Vernon, Muskego, Waterford, East Troy, Troy, and Troy Center.*