



ROBERT BROOKS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Assembly Approves “The Development and Housing Act of 2018.”

Madison, WI—Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly approved, Assembly Bill 770, the “Development and Housing Act of 2018” authored by Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) and Senator Duey Stroebel (R-Cedarburg).

The “Housing and Development Act of 2018” seeks to lower the cost of new development at the local level by further reducing regulations, streamlining processes, and providing information to developers regarding fees and available lots. This legislation makes much-needed reforms to Wisconsin state statutes and seeks to create greater statewide uniformity as it relates to property development guidelines.

“This bill was the result of more than one-year of meetings with stakeholders on both sides of the issue. Without their constant input and improvements, this bill would not have come to fruition,” Representative Rob Brooks opined.

A recent study conducted by the National Association of Homebuilders found that an average of 24.3 percent of a home’s final selling price is comprised of local, state, and federal regulatory costs. This study denoted that, while the percentage of housing regulatory burdens remain in line with 2011 estimates, home prices have increased exponentially, resulting in a thirty percent increase in the dollar value of those costs.

“The exorbitant cost of local, state, and federal regulations is one of the reasons why I authored this legislation. Government regulation adds an estimated twenty-five percent to the costs of a new single-family home. Subsequently, the compounding of local, state, and federal requirements have a profound impact on cost-effective housing and ownership,” Representative Rob Brooks said.

At a time when Wisconsin is competing for skilled workers, it is imperative we have ample affordable housing. Doing so will help Wisconsin attract businesses and workers.

By modernizing their approach to housing development regulations, state and localities can restrain unchecked housing cost growth, protect homeowners, and strengthen their economies.

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