



# JIM STEINEKE

MAJORITY LEADER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 5<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

(608) 266-2401  
Toll-Free: (888) 534-0005  
Rep.Steineke@legis.wi.gov

P.O. Box 8953  
Madison, WI 53708-8953

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**CONTACT: Rep. Jim Steineke**

**April 24, 2017**  
**(608) 266-2401**

## **Milwaukee Teen Fighting Poverty and Gun Violence to be Recognized as WI Assembly ‘Hometown Hero’**

**MADISON** – The Wisconsin State Assembly will recognize Zeynab Ali from Milwaukee, Wisconsin as a “Hometown Hero” at the upcoming Assembly session on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Ali, a senior at Rufus King High School, was nominated by her State Representative, Jonathan Brostoff, for her dedication to reducing poverty and gun violence in Milwaukee as well as ending human trafficking. As a refugee herself, Ali has entrenched herself in creating an inclusive and compassionate community within Milwaukee’s diverse population.

Ali is the founder and chairwoman of Inspirational Impact, a youth council focused on eradicating human trafficking. In 2014, she was inaugurated as the 9<sup>th</sup> District representative on the City of Milwaukee Youth Council and is also a member of the City of Milwaukee Office of Violence Prevention Steering Committee and Serve to Unite. In her work with these groups, Ali has been the recipient of multiple awards, including the “Unsung Hero Award” and “Young Adult Leader” from the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee.

Last November, Ali published “Catclysm: Secrets of the Horn of Africa,” a historical narrative she authored. Born in a refugee tent village in Kenya to parents who had fled a war-torn Somalia, Ali’s book recaps her family’s experiences in Somalia, Kenya, and the United States with Somali history weaved throughout. Her experiences coupled with Somalia’s history inspired Ali to become committed to social change from a young age.

The Wisconsin State Assembly sees giving back to the community as one of the most valuable characteristics one can have. The Assembly Hometown Heroes program seeks to identify and recognize individuals from around the state who give of themselves to make a difference in our communities and in the lives of those around them. Hometown Hero Award winners are invited and introduced as a special guest at an Assembly floor session and given the opportunity to speak.

###