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## **Task Force on Racial Disparities Recommendations Continue to Make Progress**

**MADISON** – The recommendations from the Speaker’s Task Force on Racial Disparities Subcommittee on Law Enforcement Policies and continue to gain momentum today as Representatives Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna) and Shelia Stubbs (D-Madison), Co-Chairs of the task force, introduced seven bills reflecting the work of the task force. The seven bills were introduced as several of the task force’s recommendations cleared the state Senate on the same day.

“The bills we introduced today are a testament to the hard work the task force did over seven months and are a direct result of the conversations we had and consensus we found,” said Rep. Steineke. “The progress we’re making here in the Assembly will undoubtedly have a positive impact on Wisconsin communities of color, and the law enforcement that serve them.”

Today’s bills focus on seven issue areas the task force addressed, including: body cameras; no-knock warrants; drug testing; mental health evaluations; school resource officers; crisis training; and crisis response teams. The bills are a direct reflection of the recommendations from the task force, which was comprised of community advocates, faith-based leaders, and law enforcement experts; only recommendations that had consensus from the diverse group were included in the task force’s final report.

While the seven bills authored by Rep. Steineke and Rep. Stubbs were introduced today, the state Senate approved a number of bills that were amended to reflect other recommendations of the task force, including: chokeholds; public access to use of force policies; collection of data on use of force instances; and employment files.

“I am proud to say that less than a month after our subcommittee released its final report, 14 out of 18 recommendations have received action here in the legislature,” continued Rep. Steineke. “I look forward to continuing the work needed to get the task force’s recommendations across the finish line and having a positive effect in our communities.”

The seven bills introduced today are being circulated for co-sponsorship before being referred to an Assembly committee for further action by the body.

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