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**Rep. Neubauer Calls for Universal Background Checks**

*Gov. Tony Evers and the Legislative Democrats push  
to close dangerous loophole in Wisconsin*

MADISON, WI – Today, Governor Tony Evers, Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes, Attorney General Josh Kaul, and the Legislative Democrats stood in support of universal background checks for all gun purchases in Wisconsin. The bill, authored by Rep. Melissa Sargent (D-Madison) and Sen. LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee), would close a loophole in Wisconsin’s current law, which allows gun buyers to avoid the background check process by buying from unlicensed sellers on the internet, at gun shows, and at pawn shops, among others. This loophole allows guns to be obtained by illegal buyers and gun traffickers, criminals and other prohibited purchasers acquire guns, dramatically increasing the likelihood of gun homicides and suicides.

Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) issued the following statement in support:

“Universal background checks are a critical, common-sense tool to reduce gun violence and trafficking in our communities, while protecting law-abiding gun owners. Experts estimate that 1 of 5 gun sales occur in “no questions asked” transactions over the Internet or at gun shows where, in most states, background checks are not required, allowing prohibited purchasers to acquire guns,” Neubauer said. “When over 80% of Wisconsinites, and 90% of all Americans support this policy, it’s time to take action.”

“States that enact universal background checks for handgun sales see a massive reduction in gun violence, including 53 percent fewer law enforcement officers killed by guns in the line of duty and 43 percent fewer women shot to death by intimate partners,” Neubauer continued. “This policy is just plain common-sense, and I am proud to support it.”

*Since 1998, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) has blocked more than 2.5 million attempted purchases by dangerous people who are prohibited from buying guns.*

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