



# SONDY POPE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
80TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



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## REPUBLICANS DEMONSTRATE THEY DON'T UNDERSTAND THE LAWS THEY PASS

MADISON –Today Representative Sondy Pope (D-Mt. Horeb) responded to a [“press release”](#) from Rep. Janel Brandtjen (R-Menomonee Falls). In the release Rep. Brandtjen makes an attempt at disputing Rep. Pope’s Wednesday [release](#) and the Legislative Fiscal Bureau’s (LFB) [memo](#) regarding the effects the Statewide & Racine Voucher programs have had on local public school districts. Rep. Brandtjen references figures and memos, but fails to actually make a coherent or truthful point.

**“If Rep. Brandtjen wants to compare theoretical what-ifs to reality on her own time, that’s fine. But using her platform to deceive the people of Wisconsin in an attempt to cover up the policy errors her special interest friends wrote into law is shameful,”** said Rep. Pope. **“My colleague must believe that she can fling numbers into the air in the hope that no one will examine them. In doing so, she demonstrates that she does not understand how vouchers are now funded and the impact they are having on the areas she represents.”**

Rep. Brandtjen pointed to old LFB memos to support the notion that the choice program saves taxpayers and school districts money. Both scenarios were theoretical, and virtually unrealistic. Each presents a scenario in which all of the choice programs are eliminated and each ends with a warning from the drafting attorney that the figures provided are “speculative.”

**“With 57 students using vouchers in her district, it is not a mystery why Rep. Brandtjen wants to hide the property tax hit her bad votes have caused,”** said Rep. Pope. **“Based on these memos it seems Rep.Brandtjen daydreams about what it would be like to eliminate voucher programs. If she is interested in working on that bill, I’d be more than happy to co-sponsor it,”** Rep. Pope said. **“Strong support for our neighborhood public schools will help kids learn to avoid the type of flawed logic used by Rep. Brandtjen and her Republican colleagues.”**

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