

## Coalition Forms to Introduce a New Vision for Pre-Trial Detention

Written by Ryan Clancy Press

Friday, 17 March 2023 13:01 - Last Updated Saturday, 18 March 2023 13:21

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***Advocacy partners oppose cash bail expansion questions on April 4th ballot and propose a legislative solution.***

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MADISON – Thursday, Representative Ryan Clancy (D-19), Senator Chris Larson (D-7), and Representative Darrin Madison (D-10) stood with a diverse group of coalition partners to draw attention to the negative effects of the cash bail expansion constitutional amendment questions on the April 4<sup>th</sup> ballot and introduce legislation to replace the current cash bail system to a more risk-assessment based system.

The new legislation will minimize the use of cash bail.

### **The coalition partners are:**

American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin

Black Leaders Organizing for Communities (BLOC)

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The Community

Congregations United to Serve Humanity (CUSH)

Dream.Org

Ex-Incarcerated People Organizing (EXPO)

FREE

Justice Organization Sharing Hope & United for Action (JOSHUA)

Leaders Igniting Transformation

Madison Wisconsin Homeless Union

Milwaukee Democratic Socialists of America and their Abolition Working Group

Milwaukee Freedom Fund, opposed to the ballot questions and all incarceration

Our Wisconsin Revolution

Progressive Restaurants and Activists of Wisconsin Network (PRAWN)

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Racine Interfaith Coalition (RIC)

Wisconsin Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (WACDL)

Wisconsin Justice Initiative

WISDOM

The first bill in the package will minimize the use of cash bail and include:

- Risk as sole factor for pretrial incarceration.
- Criteria and data used in the risk assessment tool is public.
- Defense will have the ability to appeal a judgment for pre-trial detention.
- Risk assessment tool is dynamic, not fixed. It will be improved as data is collected.
- Rebuttable presumption of pretrial release for all charges except certain violent crimes.
- Restricts use of cash bail only to return to trial. No person will be incarcerated merely for inability to afford bail.

Wraparound companion bill provides for and funds:

- Bail advocates.
- Text messaging service for anyone expected for a hearing or trial.
- Funds the Risk Assessment tool itself and data analysis for improvement.
- Transportation and childcare assistance.

**Representative Clancy (D-19) issued the following statement:**

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