

OSHKOSH, WI – A proposal to help families reduce student loan debt payments through refinancing has gained the support of Winnebago County Executive **Mark Harris**.



“In order to grow our economy and retain skilled workers, we need to invest in education and show that we’re serious about helping families afford a college education," said Harris. "That is why I am putting my full support behind Sen. **Dave Hansen’s** proposal that allows Wisconsin families to refinance their student loans at lower interest rates."

Allowing individuals to refinance their student loans, just like you can with a mortgage or car loan, is a commonsense solution to reduce interest payments and ease the burden on middle class families.

A growing number of states have launched student loan refinancing efforts to help families reduce interest rates and lower their debt. Minnesota became the most recent state to allow for student loan refinancing after launching their plan earlier this month. According to their Higher Education Commissioner Larry Pogemiller, a borrower in Minnesota who owes $40,000 at an 8 percent interest rate could lower their monthly payments by $200 to $300 through their refinancing option.

“Minnesota has found a bipartisan solution to the student loan debt crisis, and we should follow their lead in helping families get out from underneath the crushing burden of student loan debt,” added Harris. “We’re fortunate to have great Universities and Colleges like UW Oshkosh, UW Fox Valley, UW Fond du Lac, Fox Valley Technical College, Moraine Park Technical College and Marian University in the 18th Senate District, but politicians in Madison have failed to reign in the lenders profiting on students and families. When I’m elected to the Senate, tackling the student loan debt crisis and providing relief to families in Wisconsin will be among my top priorities.”

Mark Harris is a Democratic candidate for the open 18th Senate District seat which includes parts of Fond du Lac County, Winnebago County and Dodge County.

Harris currently serves as Winnebago County Executive and lives in Oshkosh with his wife Susan. To learn more please visit www.harrisforwisconsin.com .