

Bipartisan Support for “Revolving Door” Bill

Written by Wisconsin Assembly Democrats
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MADISON - On Monday, State Representative **Dana Wachs** (D-Eau Claire) announced the introduction of the “Revolving Door” bill. This bipartisan proposal would prohibit any individual who serves as a member of the Wisconsin State Legislature from being employed as a lobbyist for 12 months following the date on which they leave office. Of the 29 total co-sponsors of the bill, there are 11 Legislative Republicans, including Senate co-author Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville).

“I am pleased to have bipartisan support for the ‘Revolving Door’ bill,” said Wachs. “Now more than ever it is important that we restore public confidence in legislative ethics. This bill will ensure that those who are elected to the Legislature to serve their constituents will do so without the goal of ‘cashing in’ for a high-paying special interest job later. Other states have similar ‘cooling off’ periods, and it’s time that Wisconsin takes this important step.”

This is a similar proposal to one that was introduced by Rep. Wachs during the previous legislative session. 2013 AB 51/SB 33 failed to receive a public hearing or be given a vote in either the Senate or Assembly.

“I’m hopeful that with such strong bipartisan support we can pass this bill into law,” added Wachs. “It is crucial that we close the revolving door from lawmaker to lobbyist in Wisconsin. Our job as legislators should be to focus on creating jobs for others, not for ourselves.”