



# Van H. Wanggaard

Wisconsin State Senator

## TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 432

Thank you Mr. Chairman and committee members for today's hearing on Senate Bill 432. This bill will allow a county board of supervisors, in both even and odd years, to transfer authority from their District Attorney (DA) to their corporation counsel in matters of a child or unborn child in need of protection or services.

Current law stipulates that a county may only make this change if the transfer is effective on September 1 of an odd-numbered year, and the county board notifies the Department of Administration (DOA) of the change by January 1 of that odd-numbered year.

Without this bill, if Racine County wanted to transfer their authority from the DA to the corporation counsel, the earliest they could do this would be September 1, 2021, providing they notify DOA of that change by January 1, 2021.

This change will allow counties to more efficiently handle Child In Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) and Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) cases, and save tax dollars in their annual budgets. Additionally, by transferring these responsibilities away from the DA, it allows them to focus on other pressing issues.

In short, this simple bill makes logistical and fiscal sense. It has bi-partisan support, as well as support from the State Bar, and the Association of State Prosecutors. I urge you to support it as well.

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