



Assembly Committee on Education

Public Hearing, January 12, 2022

Assembly Bill 830

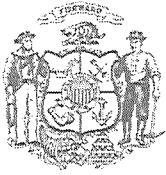
Testimony of State Representative Dave Murphy

Mr. Chair and members of the committee, thank you for hearing Assembly Bill 830 today.

Providing the public with a stronger understanding of their rights and responsibilities while interacting with law enforcement would create a solid foundation of mutual cooperation and respect. The best place to create this foundation is in our schools.

Our bill requires the state superintendent of public instruction, in consultation with organizations representing law enforcement, to promulgate rules to develop a model curriculum for students in grades 5 to 12 to instruct pupils on how to interact with law enforcement with mutual cooperation and respect.

The bill requires school boards and operators of independent charter schools to include this curriculum in each grade from 5 to 12. However, the bill specifies that a school board may opt out of this requirement with a majority vote.



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*Testimony before the Assembly Committee on Education
Senator André Jacque
January 12, 2022*

Chair Thiesfeldt and Members of the Assembly Committee on Education,

Thank you for holding this hearing and the opportunity to testify before you in support of Assembly Bill 830, which establishes a model curriculum for pupils in grades 5 to 12 on interacting with law enforcement. Several constituents have suggested this idea to me previously, and I am pleased to join Representative Murphy in bringing this legislation forward. Providing the public with a stronger understanding of their rights and responsibilities while interacting with law enforcement will create a solid foundation of mutual cooperation and respect. The best place to create this foundation is in our schools, and will allow us to build on the positive relationships already formed by School Resource Officers.

When encounters between police and youth go wrong, the individuals, their communities, and all of us pay a steep and sometimes irrecoverable cost.

AB 830 is supported by the Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Association and Wisconsin Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police. Thank you for your consideration of Assembly Bill 830.



Wisconsin State Lodge *Fraternal Order of Police*



PO Box 206 West Bend, WI 53095

Ryan Windorff
President

Shane Wrucke
Secretary

January 12, 2022

Wisconsin Fraternal Order of Police Testimony in Support of Assembly Bill 830

Assembly Committee on Education

Thank you, Representative Thiesfeldt and fellow committee members, for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Assembly Bill 830. My name is Ryan Windorff, and I am the President of the Wisconsin State Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police. The Fraternal Order of Police is working to bring effective, balanced, and fair improvements to policing in America.

In recent years, bad interactions between the police and the public have been highly publicized and have created a lot of conversation about law enforcement officers and the role of policing in our society. These incidents, although rare, create feelings of anxiety, anger, and fear by some in our communities. When citizens don't feel safe around the police, it only makes policing more difficult and dangerous for law enforcement and the public.

We have heard a lot over the last few years about police "reform", but nothing about how the public also can be educated. Are we perfect? Far from it, but virtually every recent high-profile incident of a bad encounter with law enforcement was exacerbated by a citizen unnecessarily escalating the situation. While every citizen of our country enjoys a variety of rights when interacting with law enforcement officers, they do not have the right to threaten an officer, injure an officer, flee an officer, resist arrest, or escape. The safe, proper, and legal way for a citizen to interact with a law enforcement officer is to comply first, then complain later if they feel that the officer acted inappropriately or that their rights were violated.

AB830 would require the development and implementation of curriculum on how to interact with law enforcement with mutual cooperation and respect to students in grades 5 to 12. Currently, schools do not teach children how to interact with law enforcement, and even well-meaning advice isn't always the right advice. The creation and implementation of a curriculum, with input from educational and law enforcement stakeholders, can build understanding between law enforcement and the public, educate citizens of their rights, dispel commonly held myths about law enforcement, and even eliminate unnecessary violence.



Wisconsin State Lodge *Fraternal Order of Police*



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We envision a curriculum that would educate students on:

1. Proper conduct during a traffic stop.
2. The role of law enforcement and the duties and responsibilities of officers.
3. A person's rights when interacting with officers.
4. Proper behavior of citizens and officers during interaction.
5. Laws regarding questioning and detention by officers, including laws requiring a person to provide identification to an officer, and the consequences for a person or an officer failing to comply with those laws.
6. How and where to file a complaint against an officer.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.