

## RACHAEL A. CABRAL-GUEVARA

STATE SENATOR • 19<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

Testimony before the Senate Committee on Education

Senator Rachael Cahral-Guevara

May 6, 2025

Hello, members of the Senate Committee on Education. Thank you for allowing me to provide testimony on Senate Bill 10, a bill that would allow meaningful access to recruitment in schools for our military recruiters.

I'll keep this testimony brief. Our military and service members deserve the respect and honor they have earned. That is why it was surprising to hear that certain local school districts have denied military recruiters meaningful access to public high schools.

Federal law has a long-standing policy of requiring many school districts to allow military recruiters the same access to high schools as local education agencies. However, this has not always meant equal access for military recruitment officers. Some officers have been placed in restrictive areas on campus that are not clearly accessible or visible to students.

This proposal would ensure two things for recruiter access: that recruiters have access to a common area of the school and that they have this access during the school day or at a school-sanctioned event where students are likely to congregate freely.

This bill explicitly does not require access to recruitment in a classroom during instructional time.

I am hopeful you will support this important bill, allowing kids to learn more about what service in any of our armed service branches have to offer.

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## Senate Committee on Education Testimony in Support of Wisconsin Senate Bill 10 May 6, 2025

Chairman Jagler and members of the Senate committee on Education, thank you for taking my testimony on Senate Bill 10 (SB 10), relating to: access to public high schools for military recruiters.

Our military servicemembers have earned the respect, recognition, and opportunities afforded to them by a grateful nation. It is both surprising and disappointing to learn that some local school districts in Wisconsin have placed unnecessary restrictions on military recruiters, limiting their ability to share information about service opportunities with interested students. Such actions stand in direct contrast to the spirit of federal law, which has long required that military recruiters receive the same access to secondary schools as postsecondary institutions and prospective employers.

SB 10 is a commonsense proposal that ensures military recruiters are given fair and meaningful access—nothing more, nothing less. The bill does not require classroom access or interfere with instructional time. Instead, it simply guarantees that recruiters may use common areas during the school day or at school-sanctioned events where students are likely to gather. This framework protects the integrity of the school environment while honoring the service of our men and women in uniform.

Providing this access does not compel any student to enlist. Rather, it gives them the opportunity to make informed decisions about their future—whether through college, employment, or military service. Denying equal access denies students the full scope of options they deserve to consider.

I urge the committee to advance SB 10 and uphold our collective commitment to fairness, respect, and informed opportunity for all Wisconsin students.

Thank you for taking my testimony.