



# CINDI DUCHOW

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 99<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Assembly Passes Constitutional Amendment on First Consideration

**Madison, WI** – During the Assembly floor session Thursday, February 22, the Assembly passed AJR 93, a constitutional amendment that will help keep communities safe.

Specifically, AJR 93 allows judges, when fixing the amount of bail, to take into consideration the seriousness of the offense charged, the previous criminal record of the accused, the probability that the accused will appear in court, and the need to protect members of the community from serious harm or prevent the intimidation of witnesses. Currently, judges are only able to take into consideration monetary conditions necessary to assure appearance in court.

Representative Cindi Duchow, the original author of the bill, was happy to see the bill continue to move through the legislative process and provided the following statement:

“We have a duty as state legislators to do what is right in order to keep our communities safe,” Rep. Duchow said. “When we have individuals getting signature bonds or low bails set who have been charged with violent crimes, it is our responsibility to give judges the tools they need to help them take into consideration more than just flight risk when setting monetary bail.”

The needed change was brought forward by an Assistant District Attorney who works in special crimes. District Attorneys across the state have had difficulty in requesting higher bail amounts because of the specificity of the Wisconsin constitution in that only the likelihood of appearance is to be considered when setting bail.

“Changing the Constitution is not something we take lightly, nor should we,” Rep. Duchow said. “Unfortunately there are countless examples across the state that demonstrate why we need to take other factors into consideration. This is not a partisan issue; it doesn’t matter what part of the state you are from, this is effecting all of our communities.”

AJR 93 is now in the Senate and is awaiting to be scheduled for a vote on the Senate floor.

For further information see Rep. Duchow’s comments at the following link:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9b3GiL1\\_9YY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9b3GiL1_9YY)

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*Representative Duchow represents the 99<sup>th</sup> Assembly District which includes the communities of Chenequa, Delafield, Dousman, Hartland, Merton, Nashotah, Oconomowoc Lake, Ottawa, and Wales; and portions of Genesee, North Prairie, Oconomowoc, and Summit.*