MARK SPREITZER
STATE SENATOR

CLINTON ANDERSON
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Representative Clinton Anderson and Senator Mark Spreitzer Introduce Bills Strengthening Local Communities

MADISON - Today, State Senator Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) and Representative Clinton Anderson (D-Beloit) were joined by state legislators and local government leaders from around the state for a press conference discussing the challenges faced by local communities and proposing new legislation to strengthen Wisconsin's local communities in the future. Both Senator Spreitzer and Representative Anderson served as President of the Beloit City Council before being elected to the legislature, and both currently serve on their respective chambers' local government committee. This legislation came forward after an effort led by Sen. Spreitzer and Rep. Anderson to organize outreach to local government leaders around Wisconsin and to identify ways to strengthen local communities.

Senator Mark Spreitzer:

“Today we are introducing legislation to strengthen local communities and give them the tools they need to control their financial futures. For too long, local governments have been dependent on funding from the state and property taxes to fund critical services - and when the state doesn’t help enough, local taxpayers are asked to pay more and more or communities are forced to cut services. Local leaders want to provide police, fire, EMS, trash pickup, and all the other essential services we rely on every day, but those costs are rising. At the same time, I hear from seniors on fixed incomes who cannot afford another property tax increase regardless of the critical needs it may fund. Today’s bills give local governments more tools to help them move away from relying on property tax increases and encourage more economic development, housing, and green spaces too. With these proposals behind them, we’ll help strengthen local communities so they can thrive.”

Representative Clinton Anderson:

“For six years on the Beloit City Council, I saw firsthand that local leaders understand their communities better than anyone in Madison ever could. Everywhere I traveled across Wisconsin, the message was the same: give us the tools, trust us to lead, and let us govern our own communities. This local control bill package reflects that belief and puts decisions back where they belong, in the hands of the people who live and work in our communities every day.”

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Attached to this press release is a summary of the bills introduced today to strengthen local communities at the Wisconsin State Capitol, along with the lead authors of each proposal.

Photos of the event are attached with captions below.

Strengthening Local Communities-1: Democratic legislators and local elected leaders from around Wisconsin gather at the State Capitol to introduce the Strengthening Local Communities bill package.

Strengthening Local Communities-2: Senator Mark Spreitzer discusses bills introduced by legislative Democrats at the Wisconsin State Capitol on November 4.

Strengthening Local Communities-3: Representative Clinton Anderson discusses bills introduced by legislative Democrats at the Wisconsin State Capitol on November 4.

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