



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Shawn N. Reilly, Mayor

201 DELAFIELD STREET
sreilly@waukesha-wi.gov
WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN 53188-3633
TELEPHONE 262/524-3700 FAX 262/524-3899

City of Waukesha Testifying in Support of Tax Fairness

Contact: Shawn N. Reilly, Mayor

Phone: 262-524-3700

E-mail: sreilly@waukesha-wi.gov

For Immediate Release

Madison – Mayor Shawn Reilly, City of Waukesha is testifying today in support of legislation that would close the Dark Store Loophole and bring fairness back to the tax system. The City of Waukesha is joining city, village and county leaders from across Wisconsin who are concerned about the potential shift in property taxes to residential and other taxpayers if the proposed legislation is not enacted.

“I support the passage of Assembly Bill 386 and Assembly Bill 387. These Bills are needed to stop the unfair and ongoing property tax shift that is continually increasing the property tax burden on homeowners, while providing a windfall to the big box stores and chain pharmacies.” said Mayor Shawn Reilly.

According to the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau, residential property taxpayers pay 68% of the property tax statewide. Without this legislation, homeowners and other taxpayers will pick up more of the costs as large retailers take advantage of the loophole.

The Assembly Ways and Means Committee will hear testimony on Assembly Bill 386, the Dark Store Bill and on Assembly Bill 387, reversing the *Walgreens v. City of Madison* decision. Both bills close loopholes that some large retailers have been taking advantage of to significantly lower their property tax assessments. State Representative Rob Brooks, (R-Saukville) is the Assembly author of both bills. Senator Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville) is the Senate author of the Dark Store bill and Senator Roger Roth (R-Appleton) is the author of the Walgreens reversal bill.

The City of Waukesha is a member of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization, founded in 1898. The League provides advocacy, legal services and training for Wisconsin's cities and villages.

END