

## **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

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**CAVALIER JOHNSON**  
ALDERMAN, 2ND DISTRICT

# **Proposed ‘Right-to-Carry’ legislation disastrous for urban areas**

**Statement of Alderman Cavalier Johnson  
September 20, 2017**

A dangerous and reckless piece of legislation was passed out of the state’s Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee yesterday without regard for the impact on residents living in Wisconsin’s urban areas. The proposed “right to carry” legislation allows concealed weapons to be carried without obtaining a permit. Plus, it legalizes the carrying of concealed firearms in — or within five feet of — a vehicle on *school property*. As if that wasn’t bad enough, it also removes the prohibition on possession of electric weapons like Tasers, which currently requires a concealed license permit.

For far too long, state lawmakers in rural districts have had on blinders, creating laws that only work for their region of the state, without considering the impacts of these laws on urban areas. Our police force is already struggling to keep illegal guns off the street. This legislation, which could be voted on by the full State Senate as early as next month, only adds gasoline to a fire here in Milwaukee.

If you need proof of what I’m talking about, look up a video of a shooting this past weekend near N. 23<sup>rd</sup> and W. State showing a man spraying bullets from an AK-47—it ended with a deceased male victim. It’s time for responsible legislation from Madison. I ask lawmakers in our state’s capitol to consider that 2,419 guns were seized from criminals in Milwaukee last year alone. That’s a rate of 406 guns for every 100,000 residents in our city according to Milwaukee’s Police Department. Consider that, per capita, the number of firearms seized off of Milwaukee’s streets was more than New York City.

While rural state lawmakers may have been elected by their district, the laws they create affect everyone. I ask the state senate to vote against this proposal for the sake of Milwaukee residents who are already struggling with gun violence.

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