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NORTHEAST LEGISLATORS ANNOUNCE FORMATION OF
SPEAKER'S TASKFORCE ON PREVENTING HOME FORECLOSURES
MAJORITY LEADER NELSON: "THIS IS A FAMILY VALUES ISSUE"

MADISON – This morning, Northeast Wisconsin legislators announced the formation of the Speaker's Taskforce on Preventing Home Foreclosures (STOP Home Foreclosures). The taskforce will be comprised of representatives from the banking and lending industry, the real estate industry, community advocacy organizations, and legislators from all regions of the state.

"The foreclosure crisis is wreaking havoc on the housing market, the financial system and our economy as a whole," said Rep. Thomas Nelson (D-Kaukauna). "But this is more than an economic, bread and butter issue – it's a family values issue. It's about ensuring that every child has a safe, loving and stable place to call home."

Over the next four months, the taskforce will hold public hearings around the state to hear from people affected by the foreclosure crisis. They will meet several times to discuss best practices and to formulate legislative recommendations. This summer, STOP Home Foreclosures will submit a comprehensive report to Assembly Speaker Mike Sheridan, suggesting possible legislative action.

Representatives Roger Roth (R-Grand Chute) and Richard Spanbauer (R-Oshkosh) will represent Northeast Wisconsin on the taskforce. Roth is a homebuilder, and the ranking Republican on the Assembly Committee on Housing. Spanbauer is a former realtor.

"This is an issue that transcends partisanship, which is why it is critical that this taskforce include members from both sides of the aisle," stressed Rep. Nelson. "Neither Republicans nor Democrats have a monopoly on good ideas, and when we're trying to keep people in their homes, no contribution can be discounted."

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