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Rep. Taylor: Think Indiana-style discrimination law couldn't happen here? Think again.

MADISON – As Wisconsinites travel to Indiana this weekend to cheer on the Badgers in the NCAA men's basketball Final Four, Rep. Chris Taylor (D-Madison) weighed in on the scandal surrounding Indiana's discrimination law. Taylor's comments come after coverage by the Milwaukee Business Journal, which reported, "Governor Scott Walker said he doesn't anticipate Wisconsin adopting a law like Indiana's controversial new Religious Freedom Restoration Act." Below is Rep. Taylor's statement:

"We should be ever vigilant as lawmakers to avoid writing hate and discrimination into our laws. That's why it was so troubling to hear about Indiana's discriminatory Religious Freedom Restoration Act.

"Governor Walker said he doesn't anticipate Wisconsin adopting a similar law. Yet, we've seen legislation introduced in the name of religious freedom in Wisconsin. For example, 2013 Assembly Joint Resolution 43 would amend Wisconsin's constitution to prohibit the state from infringing upon 'the right of conscience, which includes the right to engage in activity or refrain from activity based on a sincerely held religious belief...'

"Governor Walker shouldn't get away with claiming something like the Indiana law can't happen here when a religious freedom constitutional amendment was introduced just last session with 25 Republican co-sponsors. After all, the group that led the efforts on Wisconsin's discrimination amendment that prohibits marriage equality in Wisconsin told the Capital Times in January that their main focus for this legislative session would be to 'advance legislation incentivizing marriage and protecting individual conscience rights.' At a time when we may very well see these attacks on equality here in Wisconsin, I call on Governor Walker today to pledge to oppose AJR-43 and any and all future such legislation in Wisconsin."