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FOR IMMEDIATE ADVISORY:

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Representative LaKeshia Myers Rebukes Assembly Speaker's Call for Election Investigation

MADISON – Representative LaKeshia Myers (D-Milwaukee) sharply criticized Assembly Speaker Robin Vos' directive to the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections to use their subpoena power to investigate alleged election impropriety in Milwaukee County.

Myers stated, "I am dismayed at the statement given by Rep. Vos earlier this evening. The Wisconsin Elections Commission, and the seventy-two county elections directors and their staffs performed at the highest level possible, ensuring that Wisconsin's vote tallies were completed with the utmost professionalism and transparency. While Rep. Vos praised election workers in one breath, his words became a dagger when he suggested that Milwaukee's central counting of absentee ballots was 'inefficient'.

Speaker Vos' statement is concerning because he has previously expressed his aversion to our state's most populous cities; having said after the 2018 gubernatorial election, *'if you took Madison and Milwaukee out of the state election formula, we would have a clear majority'*. I am certain Rep. Vos realizes his party has retained their majority and he also understands the fundamental American principle of one person, one vote. I will not stand by and allow criticism of any Wisconsin voter, regardless of their city of residence. Homogeneity works only in a bottle of milk, not when it comes to operating a government. The voters spoke clearly and it is our job to listen to the will of the people.

Perpetuating falsehoods of impropriety is an assault on our democracy. And using public dollars to fund a political witch hunt is sorely un-American. I urge the speaker to focus on the next session and support passage of legislation that would allow absentee ballots to be counted prior to Election Day.

There were bipartisan bills that sought to streamline our elections processes that were presented last session and they failed to be heard in the state senate. Instead of leading the charge for the Committee on Campaigns and Elections to investigate Milwaukee, I implore Rep. Vos to work with legislators to reintroduce these measures in the 2021 session. I also encourage him to work diligently with the new Senate Majority Leader to ensure more of our bipartisan assembly bills pass in the state senate.

The election is over in Wisconsin. It is time for us to put partisanship aside and get to work for the people of this state."

XXX