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April 13, 2021 (608) 266-0610 Contact: Rep. Jessie Rodriguez

Rep. Rodriguez Supports Legislative Oversight of Federal Dollars

MADISON – On Tuesday, Rep. Jessie Rodriguez (R-Oak Creek) voted in favor of several bills that use federal dollars allocated to Wisconsin through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) to fund short term priorities for COVID relief. These bills are meant to aid in getting Wisconsin back on track and get our economy back to pre-COVID levels.

Wisconsin is receiving \$3.2 billion through ARPA and Assembly Republicans have a plan to use those dollars to fund several priorities for Wisconsinites who have suffered as a result of the pandemic. Rep. Rodriguez released the following statement:

"The pandemic has affected industries and groups of people in Wisconsin differently. Because of that, we have come up with a series of bills that use the federal ARPA funds to invest in multiple industries in Wisconsin as they recover. Specifically, a few of these bills are extremely important to my district in Southern Milwaukee County.

"Assembly Bill 232 (AB 232) provides **Aid to Households** which sends payments directly to property taxpayers based on 10% of their property tax payment. This is a way to get money in the hands of households to be used by families. Assembly Bill 233 (AB 233) delivers Small **Business Assistance** by allocating \$200 million for grants for small businesses. Small businesses in my district and across the state are the lifeblood of our economy and I want to do everything we can to ensure that those businesses keep their doors open. Assembly Bill 234 (AB 234) provides \$75 million in grants to the **Tourism Industry**. Tourism contributes billions of dollars to Wisconsin's economy each year and has been hit hard by the pandemic. I hope this helps the industry rebound as people are getting ready to explore our beautiful state once again. Finally, Assembly Bill 236 (AB 236) provides \$150 million in Long-term Care Assistance. These funds will assist nursing homes and assisted living facilities who have had to make major changes to the way they operate during the pandemic.

"I support these bills because I believe that they reflect the priorities of my constituents and I know that they will make a major impact while we continue to recover from the pandemic. I encourage Governor Evers to sign these bills and take our recommendations seriously."

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