



BARBARA DITTRICH

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 38th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release
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Rep. Dittrich Calls for Peace in Protests

Oconomowoc – Representative Barbara Dittrich (*R-Oconomowoc*), made the following call for peaceful protests in Wisconsin and the nation:

“As we have seen the incredible destruction on State Street and to our Capitol building in Madison as well as various locations in Milwaukee, I’m grateful for the individuals whom have protested while remaining peaceful. Sadly it hasn’t been that way for the past few days. Madison, Milwaukee, Wisconsin and our nation’s pain has been compounded by destruction and violence.

“While I absolutely support citizens’ first amendment right to make their voices heard, we cannot and must not stand for the escalating brutality that has resulted in hurling bricks, throwing Molotov cocktails, smashing and defacing of property, and widespread looting. I call on all those protesting locally and statewide to commit themselves to peaceful demonstrations such as the one that took place in Waukesha on June 1st. Peaceful protesters have a unique platform to make their voices heard while dissuading those who seek to destroy and divide us further. I call on that platform to be used in helping our state to move forward rather than adding to the hurt and loss already experienced.

“I cannot fathom any circumstance where the police brutality witnessed last week was justifiable. Constituents should know that I have been having insightful and productive conversations with law enforcement leaders trained in use of force. Wisconsinites should feel proud that our state revamped law enforcement intervention options successfully under Gov. Walker a number of years ago. Additionally, we can all be proud of our National Guard members who continue to selflessly serve with not only the COVID-19 outbreak, but the violence in our communities, in addition to everything else we ask of them.

“Going forward, I would again ask those attending rallies and demonstrations to remain peaceful, join me in decrying destruction by others, and invite calm dialogue in conversations. In the words of Dr. King, ‘We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.’ I call on all Wisconsinites to take seriously the opportunity to represent the positive change they wish to see.”

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