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## Murphy Statement on Government Reform

MADISON, WI — This morning, the Wisconsin State Assembly took up legislation relating to a variety of government reforms.

State Representative Dave Murphy (R–Greenville) issued the following statement:

“This November, the people of Wisconsin elected a split government, endorsing a system of checks and balances. Mr. Evers was elected governor with 49.6 percent of the vote, Mr. Kaul was elected attorney general with 49.4 percent of the vote, and, in contested State Assembly elections, Republicans won 58 percent of the vote, maintaining majorities in both the Assembly and Senate. I’ve known and respected Governor-Elect Tony Evers for many years, and I’m looking forward to working with him in his new role.

“We had a rare opportunity to make government more accountable to the people, and it would have been irresponsible to pass it up. In 2016, the people elected me to serve a **full** two-year term, not just until the results of the 2018 election in November were announced. I’m committed to doing everything I can to best serve all the people of my district and not just a single political party.

“The real powers of the governor and attorney general exist in the state constitution and are not up for discussion. Unlike what you may have heard elsewhere, the changes I support are not about limiting the powers of anyone, they are common sense reforms to make government more transparent and responsive to the public. Many of these reforms have been supported by the same Democrats who voted against them last night, simply because a member of their party will now be serving as governor.

“One reform that I’ve pushed for is to implement state protections for individuals with preexisting conditions. This critical protection, which many Democrats campaigned on this year, failed in the State Senate when not a single Democratic senator voted for it.

“I voted to ensure our state laws continue to have their day in court. I voted to keep elections fair and free of fraud. I voted to maintain Wisconsin’s flexibility from federal mandates. I voted to keep Wisconsin’s economic engine running. I voted to continue tax cuts already existing in state law. I voted to continue getting able bodied individuals into the workforce in order to earn a portion of their state benefits.

“Each of these common sense reforms deserved to be adopted without delay. I’ve been proud to support them in the past and I’m proud to support them today. I didn’t vote to take power away from anyone, I voted to keep power in the hands of the people.”

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