

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Rep. Patrick Snyder

February 23, 2021 (608) 266-0654

## Rep. Snyder Votes to Improve Unemployment Process

**Madison...** Representative Patrick Snyder (Schofield) gave the following statement after today's vote by the State Assembly directing Governor Evers to make improvements to Wisconsin's unemployment process:

"It is unfortunate that throughout the pandemic the administration and the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) have failed to properly process unemployment claims and rather than accepting responsibility and working to improve have instead played a blame game. This legislation requires that DWD finally drop the act and use existing funds to take steps to improve their internal processes and infrastructure for handling unemployment claims. Additionally, the liability protections in the legislation will give businesses the assurance that they can operate without the threat of frivolous lawsuits.

The legislation requires the DWD to begin improvements on their internal systems used to process unemployment claims. The legislation appropriates no new funds as the Department already has the ability and funds available to begin this process. Additionally, the legislation includes provisions that extends the waiver of the unemployment insurance waiting period, relief for businesses from unemployment benefit charges during the pandemic, and provides liability protections for small businesses from COVID-19 related claims.

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The 85th Assembly District includes the Cities of Wausau and Schofield; the Villages of Rothschild, Elderon, and Hatley; and the Towns of Ringle, Norrie, Weston, Bevent, Easton, Reid and Franzen.