

STATE REPRESENTATIVE **ROBYN VINING** 13TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT WAUWATOSA • BROOKFIELD • ELM GROVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: May 5, 2025 Contact: Representative Robyn Vining 608-237-9113

"Wisconsin Kids Deserve Better." -Rep. Robyn Vining on Trump Mental Health Cuts

MADISON-The Trump Administration notified the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction last week that it was terminating the 2024 School-Based Mental Health Professionals Grant Program, which was created as part of a nationwide initiative to increase the number of schoolbased mental health professionals. Wisconsin is set to lose at least \$8M of the \$10M grant that was awarded last year. Rep. Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa), Ranking Member on the Assembly Committee on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Prevention, issued the following statement:

"Republican lawmakers have underfunded Wisconsin schools for over a decade. Students have been asking us for years to provide them with the mental health resources they need, and so far, this legislature has failed them. Now President Trump's Department of Education has suspended funding for a program that invests in school-based mental health professionals.

"At a time when we have both a massive state surplus and a tremendous rainy day fund, the Wisconsin legislature has the responsibility to step up to meet this moment and address the mental health needs of Wisconsin kids. We cannot wait to respond–this crisis is too urgent. We need to fund youth mental health in Wisconsin schools. Forward, *together*."

Rep. Vining represents the 13th Assembly District, which includes Elm Grove, and parts of Wauwatosa and Brookfield. For more information visit Rep. Vining's website <u>here.</u>

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MADISON OFFICE P.O. BOX 8953, MADISON, WI 53708

• PHONE (608) 237-9113 • TOLL-FREE (888) 534-0013

FAX (608) 282-3613

- EMAIL REP.VINING@LEGIS.WISCONSIN.GOV
- WEB HTTP://LEGIS.WISCONSIN.GOV/ASSEMBLY/13/VINING
- 🚯 @REPROBYNVINING 🎯 @REP.ROBYN