FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rep. Robyn Vining Comments on Pre-Existing Conditions Bill

MADISON – Following the Assembly session today, Representative Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) released the following statement regarding Assembly Bill 1:

"I understand the importance of expanding access to affordable and high quality healthcare, and that starts with ensuring protections for people with pre-existing conditions. I have, and always will be, a staunch advocate for people with pre-existing conditions. I know how it feels to be dropped from health insurance for having a pre-existing condition. With that, I voted in favor of Assembly Bill 1."

"However, this bill does not nearly go far enough. I made a commitment to my constituents to fight for them in Madison, and that's what I plan to do. I was willing to be at the table, with both sides, to ensure these protections are upheld."

"I support the amendments proposed today to expand essential health benefits, drop out of the former Attorney General's lawsuit, prohibit annual and lifetime benefit limits, and ensure the affordability of healthcare for those with pre-existing conditions. These amendments address the issues I raised in the Executive Session of the Assembly Committee on Health."

"Though we must acknowledge the remaining issues, we achieved a small victory with the amendment recognizing annual and lifetime benefit limits, a piece negotiated with bipartisan support from Governor Evers, Speaker Vos, and Senator Fitzgerald."

"I will continue to fight for healthcare that is affordable, accessible, and high quality. On its own, this bill does not fulfill this criteria, though it is one small step forward. To fully protect the people of Wisconsin with pre-existing conditions, we must not be afraid of the hard work necessary to pass comprehensive legislation that addresses complicated issues such as healthcare."

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