



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**ROBYN VINING**

14TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

MILWAUKEE • WAUWATOSA • BROOKFIELD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Rep. Jimmy Anderson Shows the Courage America Needs Right Now**

MADISON - Yesterday, the Wisconsin State Assembly voted on resolutions related to ADA accommodations and veto override powers. State Representative Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) released the following statement in response:

“This week in Madison, in a surprise move launched through the press instead of conversations with colleagues, Republican leadership exploited the ADA related request of State Representative Jimmy Anderson to extort more power for their caucus. Rep. Anderson responded with thoughtfulness, strength, courage, vulnerability, dignity, empathy, compassion, and concern for Wisconsinites beyond himself. In short, Rep. Anderson showed the courage America needs right now.

“Democrats in the Assembly are outnumbered 63-36, but the only way Republicans will achieve the ability to override the Governor’s veto is if they sidestep the process. So, after an embarrassing year led by a Speaker who refused to comply with ADA accommodation requests, Republicans saw an opportunity to exploit the request to distract from the embarrassment, sidestep the veto process, and gain more power. While the debate stretched to 3 hours, Speaker Vos did not once speak on the floor.

“In spite of all that, Rep. Anderson rose above it all. He exercised a rule that required all Republicans to return to the Assembly and sit in their seats and listen to him. He made himself vulnerable in a way no one should ever have to expose themselves publicly for ADA accommodations. And, he cast a vision for what this year should have looked like. It was an act of courage and leadership.

“I am deeply grieved that a request made last winter was neglected, then exploited, but I am proud to stand with my distinguished colleague to fight for the rights of Wisconsinites with disabilities. Rep. Anderson showed yesterday, in the face of great adversity, the courage America needs right now. Please click [this link](#) and find the speech that silenced the room and grew our hearts.”

*Rep. Vining represents the 14th Assembly District, which includes parts of Brookfield, Wauwatosa, and Milwaukee. For more information, visit Rep. Vining’s website [here](#).*

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