

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Rep. Robyn Vining Statement On Concern For Our Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, and Arab Neighbors

MADISON—Over the weekend, a white supremacist neo-Nazi group organized a demonstration at the Capitol. Rep. Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) released the following statement:

"Over the weekend hatred and bigotry were on full, repugnant display at the Capitol when neo-Nazis showed up—clearly with intent to terrify, and divide. Hateful, racist behavior in Wisconsin is abhorrent, but it is not new, and it is not isolated. There has been an uptick in anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim violence. Our Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and Arab neighbors continue to express fear and concern for their safety, for their children's safety, for their loved one's safety. Will we hear them? How will we respond?

"We must now come together as one community unified and clear in how we denounce racism, hatred, bigotry, white supremacy, and forces that seek to divide and sow fear amongst us. And, as this unified community, we must be focused on love, acceptance, and valuing each others' differences as richness to the human fabric. We must also be sensitive to hearing our neighbors when they express concern, and protecting our neighbors when they feel vulnerable and unsafe.

"We can say we reject racism and hatred and fear—we should also live lives consistent with our words.

"May you find peace this week as the world suffers so much pain."

Rep. Vining represents the 14th Assembly District, which includes parts of Wauwatosa and West Allis. For more information, visit Rep. Vining's website <u>here</u>.

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