FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 28th, 2021

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Rep. Robyn Vining Urges Legislature to Focus on Wisconsin Priorities

MADISON – Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly met in session to vote on numerous bills and resolutions, many that were introduced to create division and drive wedges. State Representative Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) issued the following statement in response:

"The legislation we had before us today was not introduced to improve the lives and livelihoods of Wisconsinites – these bills were introduced to distract from the real issues that matter to the people of Wisconsin and to create more division.

"We must learn from our mistakes, not erase them from the school history books – and when we teach from that perspective and with that commitment, we both teach the content of the lessons, and lead by example. The best tool for breaking cycles of discrimination, inequality, and hatred is education.

"Parents, teachers, students, and administrators have been begging us to take action, even before the pandemic, to provide mental health resources for our kids. We should be investing in school mental health programs and we have available state funds to accomplish this in a long-term and sustainable way, but my Republican colleagues would rather bash Governor Evers instead of focusing on actual solutions.

"Wisconsin's current maps are gerrymandered, and the resolution put forth by Republicans is meant to keep maps that would maintain their majority. The people of Wisconsin have made it clear that they want, and deserve, fair maps, but my Republican colleagues are more concerned with maintaining power than reflecting the will of the people.

"I voted against these bills and resolutions because I believe that as legislators, we must do the work people entrusted us to do to create a more fair, just, healthy, safe, equal, transparent, and accountable Wisconsin. Let's do the work to improve the lives and livelihoods of the people of Wisconsin, because we can and because we should. Forward together."

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

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