

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Robyn Vining's Top 10 Takeaways from the Task Force on Childhood Health

MADISON—The Speaker's Task Force on Childhood Health introduced its policy recommendations this morning, including a resolution drafted by Rep. Robyn Vining to proclaim the week of April 29 to May 3, 2024 as School Nutrition Professionals Appreciation Week in Wisconsin. State Representative Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) served as the Vice Chair of the Task Force, and released the following statement:

"Every child in Wisconsin deserves access to healthy food, and the opportunity to lead a healthy lifestyle filled with love and play. When our children have access to nutritious foods and physical activity, they have better mental health and educational outcomes, and an overall increased sense of well-being. What we heard from the experts who testified at the public hearings across Wisconsin is that many factors contribute to the health of Wisconsin's children. A holistic approach is needed to make sure that Wisconsin kids and their families have the resources necessary to lead healthy lives.

"That is why we compiled a list of the top 10 takeaways from the Task Force which can be found here. This includes the top issues we heard about that impact childhood health, and we've incorporated policy solutions to address them—including youth mental health, maternal health and mental health, breastfeeding, school lunches, paid leave, and more. Also included in these 10 Takeaways is the policy suggestion that we introduce a Joint Resolution in the Assembly and Senate to recognize and appreciate school nutrition professionals. I am happy to say we are introducing that resolution today, and I thank our colleagues on this Task Force for their support.

"The Task Force introduced its policy recommendations today, and while most of these bills take a step in the right direction, there is much more we can do to ensure that children in Wisconsin lead healthy lives. Our goal is to make Wisconsin a place where all children regardless of circumstance or background, can grow up safe, healthy, and happy. I was inspired by so many people working to care for the neighbors, their neighborhood schools, and their neighborhood kids—this is why I so often say that when we move forward, we move forward, together!"

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

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