

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Rep. Robyn Vining Commends Rental Assistance, Farm Support, and Food Security Programs

MADISON - Today, Governor Evers announced the Wisconsin Rental Assistance Program, a \$25 million investment to provide short-term rental assistance to eligible Wisconsinites who experience income loss as a result of COVID-19. Initial details regarding the program are available <a href="here">here</a>. Governor Evers additionally announced today the Wisconsin Farm Support Program, a \$50 million investment to provide direct payments to Wisconsin farmers hurt by the COVID-19 pandemic, and a \$15 million Food Security Initiative to fight hunger in Wisconsin. These initiatives are part of the \$1.9 billion of federal CARES Act funding Wisconsin received.

State Representative Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) released the following statement in support of these programs:

"Rental assistance brings much needed relief to Wisconsinites as we navigate the public health and economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The people we represent are juggling bills and rent payments during a time of immense uncertainty. Housing is a public health issue itself, and we must treat it as such.

"Farmers in Wisconsin were struggling before the COVID-19 pandemic hit our state, and the issues they face have been exacerbated. Direct payments to Wisconsin farmers will help to jumpstart local rural economies and ensure the strength of our state's food supply chain.

"Even as an agricultural state, Wisconsin still experiences food insecurity, further worsened by the COVID-19 crisis. Every day, families are forced to choose between buying groceries, or paying rent, or purchasing necessary medications. By connecting food suppliers in our state with food banks and other organizations that help improve food security, we can support our farmers and the agriculture industry and Wisconsinites in need."

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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