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February 4, 2021 (608) 266-0610

Statement on Senate Joint Resolution 3

MADISON – Representative Jessie Rodriguez (R – Oak Creek) released the following statement after voting against <u>2021 Senate Joint Resolution 3</u>, which nullifies Governor Evers' latest public health emergency:

"This was not an easy vote. The joint resolution is correct – Governor Evers overstepped his authority by not seeking legislative approval to extend his emergency orders. The governor wasted many opportunities to follow the law and to work with the legislature.

"While the joint resolution intends to 'terminate any and all' of the governor's COVID-related orders, it does not prevent Governor Evers from issuing a new order tomorrow; instead, it nullifies an order already deemed by the joint resolution to be 'void from the date of its issuance.' Only the courts can make a definitive ruling on whether the governor has the statutory authority to issue multiple and successive states of emergency without legislative approval.

"Wisconsin continues to struggle with its vaccine rollout. With the failure of the Evers administration to distribute the vaccine efficiently, we are leaving the more vulnerable members of our community at risk. Having personally spoken to constituents who are concerned about the slow vaccine rollout, my concern is that the timing of this joint resolution could send mixed messages to the public concerning our priorities.

"My priorities are to keep Wisconsin businesses open and get all of our children back to inperson schooling as quickly as possible, while doing what we can to support vulnerable members of our community."

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