



JESSIE RODRIGUEZ

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 21ST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rodriguez Votes to Improve Unemployment Insurance System

MADISON – Today on the Assembly floor, the Assembly voted unanimously on [January 2021 Special Session Senate Bill 1](#), which directs Governor Evers to upgrade the unemployment insurance (UI) system at the Department of Workforce Development (DWD). The bill was also amended to include protections for businesses, schools, and local governments from frivolous lawsuits related to COVID-19. Rep. Jessie Rodriguez (R-Oak Creek) released the following statement:

“Even though Governor Evers believes that he doesn’t have the power to act on his own and update the UI system, we do. This bill requires DWD to begin the ‘request for proposal’ (RFP) process. This will allow us to find out exactly how much the UI system upgrade will cost.

“My colleagues and I are more than willing to work with the administration in upgrading this antiquated system, but it needs to be done responsibly. Governor Evers and DWD are looking for a blank check for tens of millions of dollars to purchase a new system. Wisconsin is in great fiscal shape because we have not agreed to wild spending like the Governor has suggested.

“This bill also exempts the one week waiting period to receive UI benefits through March 14, 2021 and other items that help our constituents get through this difficult period of time. I look forward to working with Governor Evers’ administration in the coming months to upgrade our technology and respond to the challenges brought on by the pandemic so we can better serve the people of Wisconsin.”

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