

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislative Colleagues

FROM: Representative Cody Horlacher

DATE: Tuesday, May 12th, 2020

RE: LRB-6176/1: Business and Personal Protection Plan

DEADLINE: Friday, May 15th at 5:00 p.m.

This bill was drafted in consultation with businesses and individuals across the State of Wisconsin.

Wisconsinites are living in fear on a daily basis. I have received dozens of calls from folks who are afraid to live their lives.

This bill eliminates the financial and criminal penalties for businesses who are found to be violating the Safer at Home order by simply being open.

This bill provides protection for businesses and individuals who want to get back to work. We must stand by them so they no longer have to live in fear.

Whether its salon owners, churches, shops, or restaurants, I have heard from various sectors of the economy pleading for some relief, some sense of support.

No one should be afraid that they will be arrested for attending Sunday service. No one should be afraid that their business will be fined and that law enforcement will shut them down.

We have been elected to represent the people of Wisconsin and we cannot allow government overreach to prosper, at any time, but especially during these truly uncertain times.

We must eliminate these penalties and reasonably and responsibly reopen Wisconsin.

To be added on as a co-sponsor of this legislation, please reply to this email or contact Anna in Rep. Horlacher's office at 6-5715 by **5:00pm on Friday, May 15th**.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person who fails to comply with an order issued by the Department of Health Services for the control of an outbreak or epidemic may be imprisoned for not more than 30 days or fined not more than \$500 or both. Also under current law, a person who intentionally fails to comply with an order issued by the state or a local unit of government who is engaged in emergency management activities is subject to a forfeiture of not more than \$200. This bill exempts from these penalties and forfeitures a business that remains open in violation of an order related to the COVID-19 pandemic that is issued by DHS or a local health officer if the business is making a good faith attempt to comply with the safe business practices and other guidelines issued by DHS.