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Rep. Conley Statement on November 14th Assembly Session

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MADISON – Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly met in regular and special session to take up healthcare-related bills, the Brewers stadium funding, and the Governor's special session to address workforce challenges. Representative Sue Conley (D-Janesville) issued the following statement in response:

"I am proud that today both sides of the aisle could work together to pass needed healthcare legislation. Together, we passed bills that protect patients from misconduct and lessen barriers for seniors when accessing care and medications.

"I am also glad we could come together to pass a bill that keeps the Brewers in Wisconsin. This bill does not raise taxes on Wisconsinites, does not negatively impact Milwaukee's city and county budgets, and will create new construction jobs and ensure opportunities for unionized employment.

"However, I was disappointed that when it came time to provide funding for mental health and to take up Governor Evers' special session to address workforce challenges, GOP proposals fell short. I co-sponsored an amendment providing funding for proposals included in Assembly Bill 575. The amendment would expand reimbursement for state aid for mental health, provide funding for mental health training programs for teachers, and provide \$102 million for school-based mental health grants. Unfortunately, the amendment was not passed.

"Governor Evers proposed that we invest in the Child Care Counts Program, create a Wisconsin Paid Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Program, invest in higher education and provide state support to the UW and Wisconsin Technical College Systems. Instead, Republicans passed a substitute amendment stripping Governor Evers' provisions from the special session bill. Once again, rather than support the policies our constituents are asking for, Republicans chose to advance their own partisan agenda. It's time to support working Wisconsin families in a truly meaningful way. We did not do that today."

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