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REPUBLICANS CLOSE UP SHOP WITHOUT ADDRESSING MAJOR ISSUES FACING WISCONSIN

The 'Do-Nothing' Republican legislature calls it quits until January

MADISON – Today, Republicans ended the final Assembly floor day until the New Year without taking up bills that address the challenges and priorities of the people of Wisconsin. While there is overwhelming public support for Governor Evers' agenda — including Medicaid Expansion, legalizing medical marijuana, and closing the dark store loophole — Republicans chose inaction. The next possible floor day in the State Assembly isn't until mid-January. Assembly Democratic Leader Gordon Hintz (D-Oshkosh) released the following statement on the failure of Republicans to take action on issues that would improve the lives of Wisconsinites:

“It's clear that Representative Vos wants to meet as few days as possible to avoid being held accountable for his failure to lead on the issues that matter most to the people of our state. Republicans are leaving for a two month vacation while families are struggling to afford health care, local governments are subsidizing big box retailers due to an unfair tax break, and water quality remains a serious concern,” Rep. Hintz stated. **“Every two years we are elected to address the challenges facing our constituents and our communities. Republicans believe they can ignore the people they represent and get away with it. This is cynical politics at its worst.”**

An average of 357 laws were passed per two-year session from 2011-2018. And the number of laws passed in the previous three legislative sessions with divided government in Wisconsin were:

2003-04: 327

2005-06: 491

2007-08: 242

2019-20: **20**. So far.



Among the issues Republicans have refused to act on:

- Medicaid Expansion ([70% public support](#))
- Universal Background Checks (81%)
- Non-Partisan Redistricting (72%)
- Closing the Dark Store Loophole ([79%](#)), 22 Democrats & 19 Republicans are co-sponsors.
- Medical Marijuana (83%)

Despite public support for Governor Evers (52% approval) and his agenda, Republicans in the Assembly have refused to take up these pieces of legislation or introduce their own legislation on issues the public wants action on. In addition, there are 45 bills passed by the State Senate that have not come before the State Assembly.

“It’s time for Wisconsin Republicans to do their job. With 19 session days scheduled in 2020, there is plenty of time to act. Wisconsinites work hard, and they have an expectation that their lawmakers are doing everything they can to make our state a better place. Republicans are failing to meet this expectation. If they refuse to act, it’s time to bring in new faces since the current majority is, at best, a ‘do-nothing’ legislature.”

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