



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 11, 2021

CONTACT: Representative Dave Murphy
Rep.Murphy@legis.wi.gov, (608) 266-7500

Murphy Statement on D.C. Violence

MADISON, WI— Today, State Representative Dave Murphy (R–Greenville) issued the following statement regarding the recent violence in the nation’s capital:

“Democracy will never be won, preserved, or nurtured through acts of violence. The acts of insurrection committed Wednesday in our nation’s capital have no place in the America I believe in.

“Damage has been done to our institutions of democracy and our republican form of government. In addition to the physical destruction in our Capitol Building and the breach of our national security, five people have died, including a law enforcement officer. The individuals who committed and incited these acts must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

“We have a daunting but essential duty to restore the confidence that has been lost in our political systems. I have faith in the American people to do the hard work that faces us now to peacefully restore a political system in which we can trust election results and rely on our elected leaders to debate contentious issues in a civil way. This work will be done in town halls, courts of law, and legislatures—it cannot be done in the street or at the end of a gun.

“Riots in cities across the nation demanding political change have continued to grow in number and frequency. Allowing this sort of lawlessness across the county to persist has been a grave failure. However, we cannot meet violence with violence, nor should we allow destruction to proliferate as a form of legitimate political protest.

“I understand the anger and frustration felt when elections and laws appear to be implemented fraudulently. However, if you believe in democracy and love this nation as I do, I implore you to channel those emotions into lawful actions that will result in real improvements to our system. Tearing down institutions like Congress will help no one but anarchists and our enemies abroad.

“I will continue to fight for democracy and cleaner elections in my role as your representative. Civil dialogue, education, and laws are the weapons we must use in this battle. The moment we resort to violence is the moment we lose the soul of our nation.”

###