

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: April 23, 2021

CONTACT:

Rep. Lee Snodgrass, (608) 266-3070 Rep. Marisabel Cabrera, (608) 266-1707 Sen. Tim Carpenter, (608) 266-8535 Rep. Greta Neubauer, (608) 266-0634 Rep. Mark Spreitzer, (608) 266-1192

Members of the LGBTQ Caucus Release Statement of Support for Day of Silence

MADISON - Today, Rep. Lee Snodgrass (D-Appleton), Rep. Marisabel Cabrera (D-Milwaukee), Sen. Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee), Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine), and Rep. Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) issued the following statement in honor of the Day of Silence. The Day of Silence is a national student-led demonstration where LGBTQ students and allies take a vow of silence to protest the erasure, discrimination, and harassment of LGBTQ people in schools.

"Today, we stand with the millions of participants across universities, workplaces, and schools who have taken a vow of silence to draw attention to the discrimination and harassment that LGBTQ youth experience. As students 'break the silence' at the end of the day, we stand with their call to build a more inclusive and tolerant society.

"We have made progress in acceptance of the LGBTQ community, but there is still work to be done. We must work together to remove barriers and bias and push back against recent attacks on our transgender community members, to ensure everyone is accepted for who they are and who they love."

The Day of Silence was first organized in 1996 at the University of Virginia and quickly became a nationwide movement in opposition to the silencing effect that bullying and harassment has on LGBTQ students. For further information, please visit <u>dayofsilence.org</u> or the <u>GSAFE Wisconsin</u> website.

###