

For Immediate Release: May 6, 2021 Contact: Rep. Nancy VanderMeer (608) 266-8366

Statement on Joint Finance Committee Beginning Voting on Biennial State Budget

Madison, WI – Today, the Legislature's Joint Committee on Finance formally announced that they would be crafting its own version of the budget, effectively not utilizing a number of the proposals that Governor Evers proposed in his budget at this time. Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah) released the following statement:

"This is an excellent decision by the Joint Finance Committee. Once again, the governor proposed a divisive political document full of policy proposals that should be vetted via the legislative process and include public input. Additionally, despite the COVID-19 pandemic and government-mandated shut downs, the state is in a strong fiscal position, due in large part to responsible budgeting by Legislative Republicans.

"As recently confirmed by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, the governor's budget, as proposed, would increase fees by over \$17 million and raise taxes by more than \$1 billion. That's simply unacceptable. I'm confident that the Legislature will again put together a responsible budget that invests in resident's priorities while not raising taxes on workers, agricultural producers, job creators, and Wisconsin families."

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The 70th Assembly District includes portions of Monroe, Jackson, Portage and Wood counties