

For Immediate Release: May 19, 2021 Contact: Rep. Nancy VanderMeer (608) 266-8366

Rep. VanderMeer Statement Regarding Governor's Call for Another Special Session

Madison, WI – Today, Governor Evers issued Executive Order #116 relating to calling another Special Session of the Legislature to, "take up legislation to expand BadgerCare and invest in Wisconsin's economic recovery," and announced plans to visit Western Technical College in Tomah where he plans to hold a press conference on the call for a Special Session.

Representative Nancy VanderMeer (R-Tomah) released the following statement:

"I'm sure I join a number of local residents in welcoming the governor to Tomah. Unfortunately, it is now customary for our out of touch Madison governor to attempt to force his will through political stunts, and it would help him to talk to people outside of Madison more often. His actions, coupled with the fact that it's not atypical to have divided government in Wisconsin is really a testament to how disconnected this governor is to most taxpayers throughout the state. Earlier this year, the governor proposed a state budget that would have raised taxes on Wisconsinites by more than \$1 billion and fees on Wisconsinites by over \$17 million.

"On top of that, as the Legislature works to again put together a responsible state budget that does not raise taxes on residents and invests in priority items for residents throughout the state, the governor will not collaborate with the Legislature or share his plans on how he will spend the absurd \$3.2 billion in discretionary funding the state will be receiving from the American Rescue Plan Act. Job providers throughout the state that are trying to contribute to an economic recovery are reaching crisis levels in trying to find employees to work because they're now competing with the federal government's enhanced unemployment benefits to boot, not to mention the additional strain workers are subjected to as a result of understaffed workplaces. On the Madison Isthmus, expanding welfare is always a good idea. It's still discouraging, but in many ways, not surprising, that a governor from Madison would agree."

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