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Statement on statewide mask mandate

Madison – Today, Governor Tony Evers announced a statewide mask mandate in response to the COVID-19 crisis. The mask mandate will begin on Saturday, August 1. Representative Dave Considine (D-Baraboo) released the following statement:

“I have been skeptical about a statewide mandate in weeks past. I was hoping people would follow my lead and practice public health guidance such as wearing a mask. Unfortunately, that did not happen in Wisconsin as much as it needed to. As with a seatbelt mandate, I think there comes a time that a temporary mask mandate is necessary to protect the public.

“Science points to the fact that under Governor Evers’ previous public health emergency, Wisconsin was one of the best at addressing COVID-19. Science showed us that after the Wisconsin Supreme Court struck down that order, Wisconsin has become one of the worst states in regards to COVID-19 spread. I’m glad Governor Evers issued a statewide mask mandate. It is the right thing to do because science proves that wearing a face covering reduces the risk of spreading COVID-19.

“A piecemeal approach doesn’t give all of us the protection we need. With this statewide mandate, all Wisconsinites will be safer from COVID-19 and its harmful impacts. Additionally, wearing a mask is the quickest way to reopen our economy and get everyone back to work. Healthy people and a healthy economy are connected. We must all do our part to trust the science so our communities and economy can be healthy once again.

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