

TREIG E. PRONSCHINSKE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 92<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District

For Release: March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Contact: Rep. Treig E. Pronschinske (608) 266-7015

## Nothing to Fear but Fear Itself

As many of us experience social isolation and changes to our jobs and communities, it is important to not give in to fear. Together we can be strong and pull through this crisis. One thing that can be very calming in a time like this are facts. I'd like to provide you with the most recent developments since March 20<sup>th</sup>.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> Governor Evers mandated that all gatherings of 10 people or more are prohibited. The exceptions to this include airports, childcare, group homes, hotels, military facilities, law enforcement facilities, government facilities, residential buildings, gas stations, healthcare facilities including pharmacies, polling places, manufacturing and production facilities and utility facilities. The Governor has additionally mandated that all bars and restaurants close for inside seating but are able to offer food for delivery or pickup. Schools both public and private will remain closed until the end of the public health emergency.

While I suggest stocking up on a couple of items, it is important in this time to remember our friends and neighbors. With many residents in our communities being elderly be sure to see if they have enough food, hand sanitizer and are doing alright mentally.

As far as the economic impact to many of us, the U.S. government has taken measures to help businesses and families through paid leave, an increase in unemployment dollars and refundable tax credits. This piece of legislation was signed by President Trump on the 18<sup>th</sup>. As of today, March 20<sup>th</sup>, the Federal Government has pushed tax day from April 15<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>.

At the State level, on March 18<sup>th</sup> the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) announced a \$5 million grant program for small business that provides grants up to \$20,000 if you have 20 employees or less to cover rent, paid leave and payroll expenses.

For more information at the State level please visit: <u>https://govstatus.egov.com/wi-covid-19</u>

For more information at the Federal level please visit: <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</u>

As of March 19<sup>th</sup>, there have been 155 people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in Wisconsin and two deaths.

Updates are coming in daily, and things are subject to change at any minute. But the one thing that can unite us is our care of one another and how we spend time with our loved ones. Take



this opportunity to teach kids how to cook, change the oil, sew or basic life skills. Consider spending quality time away from technology with your families while we get through this.

My office will remain open and as always, feel free to contact my staff with questions, comments, or concerns.

###