



TREIG E. PRONSCHINSKE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 92nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Release:
May 1st, 2020

Contact: Rep. Treig E. Pronschinske
(608) 266-7015

Getting Back to Business

I have received many phone calls over the past couple of days asking when Wisconsin can reopen. Many of us are waiting for the day to return to normal, to grab burgers with our friends while supporting our small businesses, or to go to work and be able to support our families. While I don't know an exact date when everything will be back 100%, I can share with you some of the developments so far.

On Thursday April 30th, the Wisconsin Assembly Committee on State Affairs held an informational hearing on the "Back to Business Plan" proposed by Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce (WMC). This plan would allow businesses in Wisconsin to open back up based on a few different metrics relating to risk. First, each business would submit their company name, county and NAICS code to the Department of Health Services (DHS). DHS would then use the infection rate, health care capacity and population of the county, and how interactive the business is with people to determine its risk factor. Higher risk businesses would be required to take more precautions such as social distancing, reducing at a reduced capacity, increasing the use of personal protective equipment or more strict cleaning procedures.

This plan can be found at: <https://www.wmc.org/wp-content/uploads/04.24.20-WMC-B2B-Plan-Outline-FINAL.pdf>.

After hearing the testimony that was given from business owners, the Wisconsin Restaurant Association, the Wisconsin Tavern League and the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) I am confident that the legislature and the Governor can agree on a safe and effective plan to get Wisconsin back to business. While some businesses are currently deemed as "essential," to me all businesses are essential. People rely on their jobs and employees to feed their families and support their communities. It is unfair for golf courses to be able to serve alcoholic beverages, and not our small taverns and bars. Even pets can get their haircut but humans cannot. The government should not be picking winners and losers.

It has become clear from the data that this virus is not as deadly as was first assumed. While I am saddened by the lives lost from COVID-19, we cannot let this bring our state to its knees. There is too much at stake. As adults we can take precautions to protect our neighbors and loved ones while still earning a living. I look forward to a common sense plan in the coming days that is safe and also puts Wisconsinites back to work.



TREIG E. PRONSCHINSKE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 92nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

As always, feel free to contact my office with questions, comments, or concerns.

###