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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Felzkowski Presides Over Passage of Commonsense Legislation

Madison, WI- Senate President Mary Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) presided over debate of multiple bills on the floor of the State Senate today, including legislation to increase healthcare access, return education standards to their previous levels, approve contracts for trades workers, and make commonsense changes to support Wisconsin's American Indian tribes.

Senate Bill 18 returns educational standards back to National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) standards. Governor Evers aligned Wisconsin standards with NAEP when he was State Superintendent. Current State Superintendent Jill Underly, who is generally in agreement with the liberal governor, deviated from NAEP standards, instead choosing lower standards and cut scores to measure student achievement. This lowering of the standards led to artificially inflated achievement levels and difficulty measuring year-over-year data.

To support blue collar workers, Senate Bill 101 ratifies agreements negotiated between the State of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee. Senator Felzkowski worked to get these agreements through the committee process to give our trades workers, welders, plumbers, contractors, well deserved raises. These actions mark the earliest these contracts have ever been approved since the current system was implemented.

Wisconsinites want healthcare options and flexibility. Senate Bill 4 defines direct primary care in Wisconsin law to allow physicians and patients to contract on a direct payment or subscription basis to avoid bureaucratic paperwork and complexity. Direct primary care supplements existing healthcare infrastructure and gives Wisconsinites more control over their care.

Finally, Senate Bill 86 allows tribal governments and their employees to the list of persons who are authorized to copy a certified copy of a vital record, such as a birth certificate. This change is helpful for tribal governments as it allows them to retain copies of vital records to establish and verify tribal membership.

Senate President Felzkowski issued the following statement:

To me, today's commonsense bills should have been bipartisan- we're bringing standards back that Governor Evers implemented, we're approving trades contracts for hardworking Wisconsinites, and we're making changes for tribal governments to retain vital records.

It shocks me that my democrat colleagues voted against some of these measures. Who doesn't want Wisconsin to have high education standards, especially when Governor Evers himself implemented them? Who doesn't want Wisconsinites to have options in healthcare?

Purely partisan decisions that are not taken with the best interests of Wisconsinites in mind are not what our state needs, and not what our constituents voted for.

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