



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Mark Spreitzer Statement on Republican Inaction on COVID-19

Today, State Representative Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) released the following statement on the statewide response to COVID-19 in Wisconsin:

“My Democratic colleagues and I have been putting forward proposals to directly address the COVID-19 pandemic since the legislature passed its initial bipartisan bill in April. We have proposed common-sense ideas like supporting our frontline healthcare workers, fundamentally improving unemployment systems, and aiding local governments that are bearing the brunt of the COVID-19 pandemic. We also know that with federal CARES Act money running out, we need more direct financial relief for families and small businesses. Governor Evers has put forward a series of proposals that would directly address the COVID-19 pandemic using ideas from Republicans and Democrats in good faith.

“Now, almost 250 days since the last bill was passed, Assembly Republicans have proposed a harmful bill that doesn’t spend one additional penny on needed relief for families and small businesses. Instead, it would undercut local responses to COVID-19, hurt local school funding, and endanger lives by inserting partisan politics into vaccine distribution. While they congratulate themselves on producing a blatantly partisan bill, our state is in desperate need of real compromise and real funding to address urgent needs.

“Of course, this assumes that Republicans are willing to pass anything at all. I was disheartened to hear that Republicans in the State Senate are refusing to even meet and consider COVID-19 legislation before the end of the year.

“I hope that my Republican colleagues in the State Legislature realize that they are the problem with our state’s response to COVID-19, and they need to stop the political posturing and get serious about helping Wisconsinites. The promise of a coming vaccine gives us all hope, but more help is desperately needed between now and when a vaccine can be distributed to most people. Good, sincere proposals have been put forward since the Legislature last met in April. I can only hope that Republicans were paying attention.”

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