



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 13, 2020

Contact: Representative Melissa Sargent

Email: [Rep.Sargent@legis.wi.gov](mailto:Rep.Sargent@legis.wi.gov)

Phone: (608)-266-0960

**Rep. Melissa Sargent: Response to Wisconsin Supreme Court Decision**

MADISON— Representative Melissa Sargent (D-Madison) released the following statement in response to the Wisconsin Supreme Court’s decision in *Wisconsin Legislature v. Andrea Palm* regarding the Safer at Home Order:

“The Safer at Home Order is imperative to saving lives and for the long term well-being of our state. Sadly, due to partisan antics and a failure to prioritize public health, GOP legislators chose to challenge Governor Evers’ lifesaving Safer at Home Order in court, while also failing to offer any comprehensive alternative plan to combat COVID-19. The Wisconsin Supreme Court’s decision today is detrimental for our state. Not only does this decision exacerbate the confusion, fear, and instability that many Wisconsinites are facing, but it truly puts lives at risk. I am deeply disappointed that a narrow majority of the Supreme Court has put partisanship above public health and safety.

We all want our state to reopen, and to see our Wisconsin businesses and workers thrive again. However, it is vital that we use a science-based and data driven approach to reopen our state, so that Wisconsin can stay open for good. Governor Evers’ Safer at Home Order, in conjunction with a strategic and incremental plan to reopen our state— the Badger Bounce Back Plan— does just that.

Today’s Wisconsin Supreme Court decision negates the months of hard work Wisconsinites have put in, staying safer at home, social distancing, and going without seeing loved ones. Further, this action prioritizes partisanship over human life—an egregious and reckless decision for our state. Lives depended on this decision, and the Court failed to take appropriate action. As a result, too many of our Wisconsin friends and neighbor will continue to suffer.

We cannot let today’s Supreme Court ruling undo all the work we have done and the sacrifices we have made over these past few months. My top priority continues to be the health and safety of the people of Wisconsin, and I am committed to continuing to work within the Legislature to push for responsible and science-based action to address the COVID-19 public health threat that still remains.”

###

*Melissa Sargent is a State Representative in the Wisconsin Assembly, representing the 48<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, which covers the east and north sides of the city of Madison and the village of Maple Bluff*