



Van H. Wanggaard

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EVERS FRIDAY NIGHT SURPRISE

Emergency Rule Allows for No Show, No Work, Full Pay Jobs

MADISON – At 4:44pm last Friday night, May 8, 2020, Governor Evers notified the Legislature of his intention to allow limited term state employees to stay home without working for full pay. This comes at the same time that Wisconsin has hundreds of thousands of workers on unemployment because Governor Evers has forced their employers to close.

“We have people begging to go back to work, and employers begging people to work for them,” said Van Wanggaard (R-Racine). “Governor Evers just released an emergency rule paying people for literally doing nothing. This isn’t work from home. That would be one thing, and understandable. This is don’t work from home, don’t go to your job site, don’t worry – we’ll still pay you.”

“We have hundreds of thousands of people waiting for phone calls from unemployment, and countless more who can’t even get through,” Wanggaard said. “There is a need for these workers. Sending them home with pay is insulting to every one of those unemployed workers.”

According to the Friday evening transmission to the legislature:

Currently, ch. ER 10 prohibits LTEs from receiving pay except for "actual hours worked." The emergency rule creates a new limited exception that allows state agencies to approve LTEs to stay home without loss of pay during the COVID-19 global pandemic. For the exception to apply, the reason for absence must specifically be related to the pandemic, such as a situation where the employee's continued presence at the worksite compromises the safety or security of the employee, other persons, the public or the worksite.

“Releasing this decision on Friday night shows that Governor Evers knows this is a bad move,” added Wanggaard. “I wish I could say I’m shocked by Evers’ move, but every day it seems he takes another unbelievable action. Evers’ only consistency throughout this pandemic is his inconsistency.

“If Legislative Republican’s weren’t watching what he was doing, I would seriously fear for the damage he would cause Wisconsin. Lord knows the other watchdogs are apparently asleep on the job,” said Wanggaard. “I call on the Joint Committee For Review of Administrative Rules to suspend this rule as soon as possible.”

[The full text of the Emergency Rule can be found on Senator Wanggaard’s website here.](#)

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