

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Working Together to Fix Wisconsin's Unemployment Insurance System

(Madison, WI) – Following Governor Evers call for a special session on Unemployment Insurance, today the Senate Committee on Economic and Workforce Development held an informational hearing on the Wisconsin Unemployment Compensation program.

Following the hearing, Senator Brad Pfaff (D-Onalaska), released the following statement:

"Too many people this past year either lost their job or saw their hours reduced. COVID-19 continues to cause extreme financial stress and our state Unemployment Insurance program has struggled to meet the pressing need. The number of claimants stretched the current system, causing delays in payments and frustration for eligible applicants."

"It is beyond time for policy makers to come together and invest in fixing unemployment insurance in Wisconsin to get relief to people who need it. The pandemic only highlighted the shortcomings of a system that has been neglected for many years by multiple administrations and legislatures."

"We can and must do better. As a state senator, I am ready to roll up my sleeves and get to work on modernizing this important system. I will continue to work with my colleagues to streamline the application process and ensure that benefits are being distributed promptly to Wisconsinites who need them."

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Senator Brad Pfaff represents the 32nd Senate District, which includes La Crosse, Vernon, Crawford, and southern Monroe County.