



# CHRIS KAPENGA

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

For Immediate Release  
June 3, 2020

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## **Governor Evers Fails to Lead with Civil Unrest Hampering State**

**Madison, WI** — Senator Chris Kapenga (R-Delafield) issued the following statement in response to Governor Evers' failure to address civil unrest hampering our state.

"Our state is in turmoil. In the waning days of a long lockdown leading to citizen tensions running high, we have violent social unrest. This is a time when we need leadership to unite us, not divide us.

Yesterday, the Governor did the exact opposite. Instead of focusing on leading, he purposefully ignored fulfilling his responsibilities, and his inaction is once again working to unnecessarily divide Wisconsinites.

I, like most Wisconsinites and law enforcement, condemn the reprehensible actions by the Minnesota police officer. I also believe he should be held accountable and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. His actions have led to a nationwide protest demanding justice for what he did to George Floyd.

Wisconsinites also universally support the right to peacefully protest. This is a founding principle of our nation. This was demonstrated in Waukesha earlier this week where a peaceful protest ended with officers and protestors kneeling side-by-side. This happened again at a park and ride in Brookfield where more than 150 protestors peacefully exercised their rights, and when they kneeled, an officer joined them. These unifying acts are what leaders should be highlighting and encouraging.

However, the illegal acts being committed by looters, rioters, and arsonists should be universally condemned. In fact, the family of George Floyd has said that looters and rioters are soiling their fight for justice. We must also support our law enforcement officer's ability to do their job and protect us and our private property.

There is no excuse for the destructive and violent actions that have destroyed communities and businesses around the state, yet our Governor continues to look the other way and fails to even acknowledge or address these actions. That is not leadership."

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*Senator Kapenga represents the 33<sup>rd</sup> Senate District, which covers most of central Waukesha County and Lake Country.*