

For Immediate Release Contact: Rep. Jon Plumer 608-266-3404 March 27, 2020

LET WISCONSIN GOLF

Lodi... Rep. Jon Plumer (R-Lodi) released the following statement regarding the closure of Wisconsin's golf courses in Health Order #12 – 'Safer At Home':

"During the COVID 19 pandemic, we have been educated on what the term 'social distancing' means and how we need to live our lives for the next few weeks. Wisconsinites have, like always, accepted the challenge and done what is necessary to stop the spread of COVID 19. We have been told to practice social distancing, but to also not be afraid to engage in outdoor recreation such as walking, running, and biking. Wisconsin's state parks are open and have even waived their entrance fees so that people can still enjoy the outdoors and get out of their living rooms for a while. This is extremely important for our physical and mental health. Walking nine or 18 holes on a golf course is great exercise and a perfectly acceptable way to social distance yourself from others.

"However, the most recent order by the Governor and the Department of Health Services (DHS) requires golf courses to shut down to the public. This is unfortunate and misguided. As the weather begins to improve, The Evers Administration should be encouraging folks to get out and enjoy Wisconsin's great golf courses. The golf season is short enough as it is and not allowing them to open to begin their season could severely affect their businesses.

"Golf courses could remain open while maintaining public health and safety. I understand that there are dozens of other industries that would remain shut down, but it is important that we try to minimize the economic impact of COVID 19 on our employers and citizens anywhere we can.

"I encourage Governor Evers and DHS Secretary-designee Andrea Palm to amend their Health Order #12 and allow all golf courses in Wisconsin to resume operations."

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