



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**Rep. Bowen Recovers from COVID-19 & Applauds Gov. Evers' Decision to Postpone
Spring Election**

"The Right Move for the Health of Our Citizens and Our Democracy"

MILWAUKEE - In response to Governor Tony Evers signing Executive Order #74 delaying Wisconsin's Spring Election, State Rep. David Bowen (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement:

"Governor Evers was 100% right to delay this election. COVID-19 cases and deaths continue to rise across our state, especially in Milwaukee where the Black and Hmong families of the Northside have been suffering the most. At this point, top public health officials are saying that we are entering a time when it is more important than ever to stay home and stay isolated, and to still expect thousands of Wisconsinites to gather in public to vote would not only be irresponsible, it would be deadly. The divergent examples of Michigan and Ohio have already proven this, and Wisconsin should not become another case study of how not to handle this pandemic. In the face of inaction by Republicans in the Legislature, the Governor did what was necessary to protect the people of this state."

Last week, Gov. Evers called the Legislature into a Special Session to take up legislation to postpone the election for the sake of public health and safety. In response, Republican leadership in both the Assembly and Senate chose to gavel in and gavel out of the Special Session without taking any action on both Saturday afternoon and this morning, setting the state up for a public health disaster that would hit people of color hardest. Executive Order #74, signed today by Gov. Evers, pushes the election until either June 9th or another date agreed upon by the Legislature, which he once again called into a Special Session to occur tomorrow at 2pm.

"As someone who contracted and gives thanks to God that I have officially recovered from COVID-19, the thought of going to the polls and voting tomorrow was not an easy or comforting one for me with some 5000 people going to the same consolidated polling site. It was bound to happen that someone with the virus was going to be there. I, along with other Democrats in the Legislature, have spent weeks calling for this election to be postponed, and Republicans had their chance to work with the Governor in good faith to save lives. Instead, they did nothing. By signing this Executive Order, Gov. Evers made the right move for the health of our citizens and our democracy."