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### **Governor Evers is the Adult in the Room as Republicans Continue to Play Politics**

The COVID-19 pandemic has upset the lives of everyone, and it continues to spread across the country and the world. During a once-in-a-century crisis, we need leaders that are willing to work together and find solutions that will work for the state. Unfortunately that is not what Wisconsin has right now. We have an administration that is taking it seriously and is trying to balance the health of Wisconsin residents with getting back to some semblance of normal, and an opposition party that is perfectly happy to sit back and take potshots at the governor while doing the bare minimum that is expected of them.

Governor Evers has taken a careful, measured approach to “reopening” the state amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. He has shown steady leadership, avoiding knee-jerk, reactionary responses in his proposals. This is the kind of leadership we need.

Instead of working with the administration, Republicans constantly badgered Gov. Evers to come up with a plan to reopen the state, while they continued to offer nothing. Then when the Governor offered a plan, they continued to sit on the sidelines and complain while offering no alternative of their own.

They play politics while Governor Evers is the adult in the room. They claim that they want to work together, but their actions say otherwise: they sue to overturn the safer at home order that was keeping Wisconsinites safe; they hold a committee hearing to listen to ideas from a private business group on how to reopen, but don’t offer the same courtesy to the governor’s plan; they are offered a private meeting with the governor, ignore it, then publicly demand that the governor meet with them.

As the governor offers a plan to reopen Wisconsin, Republicans counter that there should not be a “one-size-fits-all” approach to reopening. And, fair enough- I am open to all ideas to reopen Wisconsin and get the economy moving again, while keeping residents of the state safe. But they offer little besides saying what won’t work. Not only that, it appears their demand for something more than a one-size fits all approach was nothing more than a tool to try to damage the governor, because just a couple of weeks after he declared that a one-size-fits-all approach was not the right way for Wisconsin, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos said on May 11 that “It’s time to get everyone back to work in every part of the state,” which sounds awfully a lot like a one-size-fits-all approach.

Even when agreeing with the Governor, Republicans can’t help but try to get digs in at him. In a recent release praising the governor telling its agencies they need to cut spending by 5% in preparation for decreased revenues, Rep. John Nygren, the co-chair of the power Joint Committee on Finance said the following: “While we don’t fully know the impact the Governor’s ‘stay[sic] at home order will have on state finances, we can only assume it will have a dramatic effect.” They are already trying to blame Governor Evers for the economic effect a global pandemic will have on Wisconsin. It shouldn’t be surprising- this is the same party that has for more than a decade blamed former Governor Doyle for the effects a worldwide economic meltdown had on the state.

I am grateful that Governor Evers has taken a measured approach to reopening the state instead of giving in to a loud minority that demands we reopen every aspect of the state, potential illnesses and deaths be damned. His plan was the kind of smart, mature approach that I wish we had in the federal government, and would have kept the spread of COVID-19 as slow as possible while allowing business to get back to work when it’s plausible. I wish that my friends across the aisle could see that instead of resorting to petty politics.

Unfortunately, they got their way with the conservative Supreme Court of Wisconsin and got the Safer at Home extension overturned. Wisconsin is now in a state of chaos, with no measures to stop or slow the spread, and we could see drastic increases in COVID-19 cases because of Republican’s need to fight the Governor on anything and everything.

The 46th District includes the City of Sun Prairie, the City of Stoughton, the Village of Cottage Grove, the Town of Sun Prairie, the Town of Cottage Grove, the Town of Pleasant Springs and the Town of Dunkirk. More information about Representative Hebl can be found at [www.garyhebl.org](http://www.garyhebl.org). Representative Hebl can be reached at 608.837-3858 or via email at [friendsofgaryhebl@yahoo.com](mailto:friendsofgaryhebl@yahoo.com).