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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 99th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Rep. Duchow Supports Safe Reopening of State

Madison, WI – Today, State Representative Cindi Duchow (R-Delafield) issued the following statement expressing her support for the safe reopening of Wisconsin:

"Today, May 12th, marks sixty days since Governor Evers issued his initial emergency orders in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. For two months, Wisconsinites have worked diligently to help 'flatten the curve' so our healthcare system would not become overwhelmed. Countless sacrifices have been made by citizens and businesses alike, compelling our communities to find creative ways to support one another in the short term. In the face of uncertainty, Wisconsinites rose to the occasion and did what was asked of them.

"Despite their cooperation, over half a million Wisconsin workers have lost their jobs and had to file for unemployment, many of which continue to wait weeks for any action from the Department of Workforce Development. Small businesses are forced into closing their doors, some for good. Families are forgoing priceless moments like graduations, birthdays, and anniversaries. Citizens continue to go without necessary healthcare procedures or the preventative care they need to stay healthy. It has yet to become clear why small family-run businesses who were forced to close are only now allowed to have up to five people at a time while big-box retailers have been able to operate at full capacity without interruption.

"It is past time for us to safely move forward with the reopening of our state. With ample data and resources available to the public, I trust that the people of Wisconsin are capable of making informed decisions about their own health. They do not need the governor, who's arbitrarily opening businesses picking winners and losers, deciding where they can and can't go or if they're 'essential' or 'non-essential.' <u>All</u> workers in this state are essential and <u>all</u> businesses should be allowed to reopen without government interference.

"Businesses have every incentive to take extra precautions to create safe environments for both their employees and customers. As always, citizens are free to leave any location they may feel is unsafe and are more than welcome to continue sheltering in place in their homes if they so choose to. I trust Wisconsinites to use common sense and make the right decision for themselves. It is time to stop the government overreach and allow all businesses to reopen."

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Representative Duchow represents the 99th Assembly District which includes the communities of Chenequa, Delafield, Dousman, Hartland, Merton, Nashotah, Oconomowoc Lake, Ottawa, and Wales; and portions of Genesee, North Prairie, Oconomowoc, and Summit.