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Statement on Protests and Community Unity

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KENOSHA - This weekend concerned citizens in cities across the country, including Kenosha, gathered to demonstrate against societal inequalities, racial injustice, and excessive force used by law enforcement, which most recently led to the murder of an African American man named George Floyd in Minnesota.

Following a weekend of largely peaceful protests that unfortunately turned destructive in Kenosha and some other communities, Representative Tod Ohnstad (D-Kenosha) released the following statement:

"I support demonstrating against inequality and the horrible, unjustified police killings we have witnessed across our country, including George Floyd most recently. Peaceful protest is a cornerstone of our democracy. I do not support responding with further damage and violence. I do not stand for the anger to be vented on family-owned stores in our community, many of which are minority owned small businesses, as was done after the peaceful demonstration yesterday.

I stand with those who are outraged. These deep issues have been clear and pervasive for so long, and the time has long since come that they must be addressed. I join anyone who has the courage to speak out against what is wrong and wants to make our neighborhoods a better, stronger, safer place. We must all join in a commitment to taking action to confront injustice, to challenge violence where we see it, to challenge racism wherever and whenever we see it. We are weak when we are divided, but we are strong when we are united."

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