

Representative • 97th Assembly District

For Immediate Release Contact: Rep. Scott Allen July 31, 2020 (608) 266-8580

Mask Mandate Wrong for Waukesha and Wisconsin

Rep. Allen (R-Waukesha) released the following statement regarding Gov. Evers Mask Mandate:

Governor Evers continues to treat Wisconsin residents like children unable to make prudent decisions on their own. He also continues to play political games and prey on people's fears. While purporting to follow the science, what he is really doing is manipulating science to disrupt and devastate our economy while deceiving people into believing that government is their protector.

In the last several days, we have learned that the information released by the Department of Health Services (DHS), including the Waukesha County Health Department, has not included crucial data necessary for policymakers and the public to understand the scope of the COVID-19 pandemic in Wisconsin. Statistics are easy to skew, especially when you don't count data you don't like.

More than 25,700 negative test results from Dane and Waukesha counties were not included in state calculations of positivity rates, including more than 8,700 unreported negative results in Waukesha County alone. How many unreported negative results are there statewide?

Even assuming DHS data is accurate, the numbers do not justify sweeping government action. As of today, DHS has reported 52,108 current infections. With 919,710 tests administered, that's an infection rate of about .5% [one-half of one percent]. Of those 52,108 patients, the total number of hospital admissions is 283 people, a hospitalization rate of also .5%. Since June 1, the number of patients in ICU has declined by 100 cases, almost half.

Yet, even in light of the lower rates of infection, and fairly steady low rates of hospitalization or intensive care, the Governor declared a state of emergency. This is an assault on science and an insult of the intelligence of the people of Wisconsin.

The governor's actions earlier this year nearly destroyed our economy and has wrought havoc in the lives of thousands of Wisconsinites, many of whom are still waiting for their unemployment compensation. His nanny-state leadership has caused many businesses to close permanently. He continues to help propagate fear.

We must resolve that we need a new governor in 2022. One who actually cares about Wisconsin and who is capable of leading with truth.

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The 97th Assembly District includes portions of the City of Waukesha and the Towns of Waukesha, Genesee, and Mukwonago.