



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Republicans Refuse to Act in
Special Session on Police Reform**

MADISON – Today at noon, the Wisconsin State Legislature was meant to meet in a Special Session to debate and vote on a package of evidence-based justice reform and policing bills set put forward over two months ago by Governor Tony Evers. Legislative Republicans refused to act, recessing the session without taking up any of the nine bills. Representative Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) released the following statement in response:

“Today, I arrived in Madison ready to get to work and take up meaningful reforms to our justice system and policing practices in Wisconsin. We know that this moment demands substantive, urgent action by the legislature to address the racial inequities we continue to witness across our state and nation. But despite the desperate need to act, despite having had these bills to review for months, Legislative Republicans have refused to act.

“Legislative Democrats are ready to meet this moment. We have introduced proposals aimed at addressing racial inequities throughout this session, not only this summer. We need to take up these bills and begin to address the root causes of injustice in our state.

“We are ready to pass legislation to support stronger, safer, more equitable communities throughout Wisconsin. But we can’t act alone: representative democracy depends on our elected officials being responsive. Today, Wisconsin Republicans refused to even begin this desperately needed conversation.

“Black Lives Matter. We cannot stop repeating this until we understand its meaning and put that meaning into action. I stand with those who continue to exercise their Constitutional rights to peacefully protest in support of Black Lives and equality in our country. Action on systemic racism is long-overdue in Wisconsin, and we cannot refuse our responsibility to act.”

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