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STATE SENATE APPROVES COVID RELIEF

MADISON— Senator Eric Wimberger (R-Green Bay) issued the following statement today, after the State Senate approved an amended version of Assembly Bill 1 by a vote of 29-2:

"While far from a perfect bill, AB 1 as amended will provide critical relief to citizens, businesses, and healthcare facilities across Wisconsin as we work to help them through this pandemic. Under this bill, our senior citizens in care homes will be allowed essential visitors, more healthcare professionals will administer vaccines, and our churches, nonprofits, and schools will receive important protection from frivolous lawsuits.

"Crucially, existing state law, which contains a strong personal conviction exemption from vaccine requirements, is not affected by this bill.

"Finally, I believe strongly that the power of local public health officials to close businesses and places of worship needs to be carefully scrutinized. While we chose not to deal with that issue today, my colleagues and I will work toward a bill that protects all citizens from an overzealous bureaucracy."

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