

STATE REPRESENTATIVE **ROBYN VINING** 14TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Rep. Robyn Vining Advocates for Federal Food Assistance for Wisconsin Families

MADISON - On March 31st, 2021 the Wisconsin Supreme Court in a 4-3 decision blocked Governor Evers from issuing multiple emergency orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic and rendered the statewide mask mandate invalid. This decision also ends about \$69 million per month in federal food benefits for Wisconsin families in the midst of a public health and economic crisis, because these benefits require states to have a COVID-19 public health emergency order in place. State Representative Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) released the following statement:

"We have known for months that Wisconsin families would lose millions in federal food aid if the public health emergency was struck down, yet Republicans failed to ensure these federal funds would be maintained for those in need.

"But now, here we are, facing a massive monthly loss for Wisconsin families, and a loss that is entirely preventable had legislative Republicans taken action. We cannot let these crucial benefits expire in the middle of a global pandemic.

"Throughout the pandemic, Republicans have worked to block important health measures by filing lawsuits against Governor Evers. The consequences of their actions are dire. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to create uncertainty and Wisconsinites should be able to have faith in the government to do all that we can to help those who need the most support.

"We have a moral obligation to ensure food for the hungry. The federal government has given us the opportunity and millions in federal funding to help those who need it most. This is no time for partisanship, and no time for games. As a state, we must love our neighbors through these most difficult times, and that includes helping put food on Wisconsinites' tables."

Rep. Vining represents the 14th Assembly District, which includes parts of Brookfield, Wauwatosa, and Milwaukee. For more information, visit Rep. Vining's website <u>here</u>.

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