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Assembly State Affairs Committee Democrats: Statement on Committee Public Hearing

MADISON – Democratic members of the Assembly State Affairs Committee released this statement following the committee's <u>public hearing today</u>:

"After a year of failing to act to address the COVID-19 pandemic and provide Wisconsinites with much needed relief, legislative Republicans are again using proposals like Assembly Bills 232, 240, 241, and 243 to politicize the distribution of federal COVID relief dollars. These bills were introduced on Friday, at the start of the holiday weekend, and were rushed to a public hearing with a committee vote to follow tomorrow. These actions make it clear that legislative Republicans are not interested in ensuring there is full transparency with these proposals.

"Throughout the pandemic, Governor Evers has shown consistent, steady leadership, particularly as he invested the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars allocated to Wisconsin under the CARES Act. We are confident that, as he did with the Coronavirus Relief Fund dollars, Gov. Evers will invest Wisconsin's discretionary American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act dollars in a way that prioritizes the health, safety, and economic recovery of our state.

"The Governor's integrity during this process stands in stark contrast to these bills before us today, which are part of an ongoing Republican challenge focused on politics and power, rather than on the needs of the people and the ability of the state to respond flexibly to additional issues as they emerge."

State Representative Chris Sinicki (D-Milwaukee)

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