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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 9, 2021

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Rep. Duchow Votes for Workforce Recovery Legislation

Madison, WI – Representative Cindi Duchow (R-Delafield) joined her Republican colleagues in passing legislation that ends Wisconsin’s participation in federal unemployment compensation enhancement programs and encourages able-bodied adults to get back into the workforce.

“These benefits may have been necessary at the height of the pandemic, but now they only keep people on the sidelines,” said Rep. Duchow. “Employers in Waukesha County and throughout the state have increased wages and offered sign-on bonuses because they are competing against enhanced unemployment benefits that are incentivizing people to not go back to work.”

Assembly Bill 336 ends Wisconsin’s participation in the following federal programs:

- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program
- Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program
- Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) program
- Mixed Earner Unemployment Compensation (MEUC) program

In addition to joining Wisconsin with the 25 other states that have opted out of the federal enhancers, which are set to expire on September 6, 2021, this legislation also prohibits the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development from waiving the work search requirements for any reason related to COVID-19. The governor waived that requirement last year through an emergency rule.

“Passing this legislation is an important first step to getting Wisconsin’s economy to continue along the road of recovery,” said Rep. Duchow. “I encourage Governor Evers to support Wisconsin’s small business owners and sign this legislation. We must get Wisconsinites back into the workforce.”

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Representative Duchow represents the 99th Assembly District which includes the communities of Chenequa, Delafield, Dousman, Hartland, Merton, Nashotah, Oconomowoc Lake, Ottawa, and Wales; and portions of Genesee, North Prairie, Oconomowoc, and Summit.