

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Rep. Robyn Vining on State Budget Vote: "A Failure to Fund is a Failure to Lead"

MADISON – Yesterday, the Wisconsin State Assembly voted on the proposed 2021-2023 biennial state budget, with provisions passed by the Republican-controlled Joint Committee on Finance. State Representative Robyn Vining (D-Wauwatosa) voted against this budget, because it fails to fund the priorities of the people of Wisconsin. Rep. Vining issued the following statement regarding the budget vote:

"I am profoundly disappointed that the Republican members of the Committee on Joint Finance have looked at Wisconsinites still reeling from, for many, the most difficult year of their lives, and in a time of both significant challenge and unprecedented budget surplus, failed to fund the recovery this state needs.

"Democrats introduced amendments that included many of Governor Evers' originally proposed budget provisions that fund Wisconsinites' priorities, such as providing needed investments in our K-12 and higher education systems, BadgerCare expansion, mental healthcare funding, Healthy Women Healthy Babies, public transit, updating our unemployment system, and increasing access to affordable childcare. Yet Republicans voted to block every single amendment. There was no appetite from the majority party for compromise.

"Governor Evers' proposed budget shows us what is possible for Wisconsin, by focusing on investments in our communities and addressing the issues facing our state. We have the resources to fund our priorities as a state, so let's get it done.

"Wisconsinites have made it clear what their priorities are: this is their money and they want us to invest it in the schools. Close the gaps. Assure every child a world class education. Our public schools are windows for our children's imaginations. Our teachers are heroes. Public education is an economic engine in this state. And our schools deserve better.

"The people of Wisconsin deserve better than this. In a time such as this, a failure to fund is a failure to lead. It's not too late to act on behalf of the people of Wisconsin. We must keep moving forward, together."

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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