

Opportunity Wisconsin: Sen. Johnson Opposes Former Wisconsin Health Official in Preliminary Senate Vote

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MADISON, Wis.— Today Opportunity Wisconsin released the following statement after U.S. Senator Ron Johnson voted against advancing consideration of Andrea Palm to be the U.S. Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services. Palm most recently served as Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, overseeing the state's pandemic response and [enabling Wisconsin to become a national leader in vaccine distribution](#). Initial consideration of her confirmation [cleared the Senate by a vote of 62-35](#). The final vote to confirm Palm is expected tomorrow morning.

Meghan Roh, Opportunity Wisconsin program director:

"Today's vote demonstrates just how out of touch Senator Johnson is with the Badger State. Andrea Palm was a steady hand whose deep experience not only helped Wisconsin weather the worst of the pandemic, but set us up for success getting shots in arms. Whether it's pushing unproven coronavirus treatments or questioning basic public health measures, there isn't a COVID conspiracy Senator Johnson hasn't at least entertained. As our country continues to dig out from the pandemic's devastation, the American people will be well-served by Andrea Palm. We call on Senator Johnson to put the people of our state over pandemic politics and vote to confirm Andrea Palm as HHS Deputy Secretary."