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WISCONSIN STATE SENATE

6тн DISTRICT

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Republicans Fail to Prioritize the Safety of Wisconsinites

MADISON – Wisconsin State Senator LaTonya Johnson (D – Milwaukee) made the following statement regarding the refusal by legislative Republicans to bring up for a vote legislation to address gun violence, as called for by Gov. Evers' special session on gun safety:

"Five years ago, I told myself the funeral of 10-year-old Sierra Guyton, who was caught in the crossfire on an elementary school playground, would be the last I ever attended for a child taken from us by gun violence – but it wasn't.

"Recently, Governor Tony Evers called for a special session to address gun violence by strengthening background checks and enacting Extreme Risk Protection Orders in Wisconsin. As the lead Senate author of a similar proposal introduced earlier this session, I know that criminal background checks are the foundation of any effort to reduce gun violence. The public also knows this to be true, with over 80% of Wisconsinites supporting closing the background check loophole. Yet, despite overwhelming public support, Republicans are refusing to take any action.

"Our children and their families should have the opportunity to go to school, places of worship, or simply play on their sidewalks in their community knowing that it's a safe place, free from the threat of deadly weapons and dangerous people.

"It's time for Republicans to prioritize the safety of Wisconsinites."

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