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Democrats Feeling the Heat of Evers UI Failures

MADISON – Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steineke (R-Kaukauna) issued the following statement in response to proposals circulated by legislative Democrats to expand unemployment benefits while thousands of Wisconsinite’s cases remain backlogged:

“It’s clear that after months of failing their constituents and the thousands of Wisconsinites awaiting unemployment benefits from the Evers administration, Wisconsin Democrats are feeling the heat of Tony Evers’ failures,” said Steineke. “The Evers’ administration’s response to this unemployment crisis has been nothing short of a dumpster fire. The tired proposals trotted out today would only serve to expand eligibility to an already strained system and fuel the flames of the problem at hand.”

The news comes on the heels of reports from the nonpartisan Legislative Reference Bureau that the state [Department of Workforce Development erroneously overpaid more than \\$20 million in benefits](#) in the month of April. In conjunction with [an estimated 140,000 individuals](#) around the state already awaiting their benefits, the proposals outlined by Democrats today do nothing to address the situation at hand but only expand eligibility further.

Republicans have been advocating for changes to be made for weeks, [making the case to Governor Tony Evers](#) that swift steps must be made to help struggling Wisconsinites. [As recently as late week](#), Assembly Republicans suggested that the governor utilize a modest portion of the remaining federal CARES Act package to immediately provide assistance to those experiencing delays – a proposal Evers callously dismissed as a “stunt.”

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