



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Emerson Statement on Evers' Call for Special Session

MADISON - In response to yesterday's police shooting of Kenosha resident Jacob Blake, and Governor Evers' call for a special session, State Representative Jodi Emerson (D-Eau Claire) released the following statement:

"I am shocked and horrified by the video that surfaced yesterday evening of Kenosha police shooting Jacob Blake multiple times in the back. It is my fervent hope that Jacob makes a full recovery from his injuries. Jacob, his family, loved ones, as well as those who witnessed the shooting will continue to be in my thoughts.

"Jacob's life matters, and we cannot accept this continuing epidemic of police brutality against Black Americans. We must recognize the systematic injustice and violence being experienced by Black communities and other communities of color in Wisconsin and across the nation. But recognition and empathy are not enough; we need action.

"I strongly support Governor Evers' call for a special session of the Legislature to vote on justice reform and policing accountability. We had the opportunity to do just that this past June, when the Legislative Black Caucus outlined a series of policies that addressed these urgent issues. Governor Evers and the entire Assembly Democratic caucus stood with the Black Caucus in their efforts, yet Republicans refused to even hold a hearing or a vote. I plan on being in my seat in the Assembly chambers for the special session next week ready to take immediate action.

"It is past time for legislative Republicans to do their jobs and stop obstructing every effort to address racism in our state. Black lives matter, and we must continue working to make Wisconsin a more just and equitable place for all."

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