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Senator-elect Kelda Roys Announces Staff Hires

Madison – State Senator-elect Kelda Roys announced her capitol staff today, choosing a strong team that will advance Roys' progressive policy goals and serve the constituents of the 26th Senate District.

"I'm thrilled to announce our incredible team in the 26th District. Joining me in the capitol are three tireless progressive leaders, whose dedication to public service will ensure a high level of service and experience for our constituents. I'm so grateful to have Cecely, George, and Tayler as partners in serving our great state and enjoying all of our delicious cheese. We also thank Sen. Risser and his excellent staff, Terry and Craig, for their kindness, assistance, and dedication not just during this transition but for many years. While we will be working virtually until it is safe, our office will be ready to serve on Day One."

Cecely Castillo, Chief of Staff

Cecely (she/her) is a lawyer, and recently appointed as the first Latina Dane County Board Supervisor, with a wealth of public policy experience. A former Cook County (Chicago) Assistant State's Attorney, she served as Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton's Policy Director, an Assembly staffer for now-Minority Leader Gordon Hintz (D-54), and then-Democratic Caucus Chair Kelda Roys, and most recently the policy director for the Wisconsin Alliance for Women's Health. Cecely is also a licensed real estate professional with OpenHomes and former board chair for DAIS. Cecely lives in Madison with her husband and their strong-willed young daughters. You may spot her enjoying the peace of the UW Arboretum or cheering on her ice hockey-loving daughters at local ice rinks (during non-Covid-19 times).

*Cecely's favorite cheese is Dunbarton Blue, best purchased at Fromagination and paired with delicious Potter's Crackers.

George Gillis, Senior Advisor

George (he/his) is a veteran of numerous Wisconsin political campaigns and legislative offices. George served as Chief of Staff for Majority Leader Thomas Nelson, Research Director for the Wisconsin Assembly Democrats, and Executive Director for the Democratic Party of Wisconsin. George is also an active community leader, having served on the executive board for Citizens for Dane County's Future and on the Dane County Board (Dist. 14). George lives in Madison with his wife and 2 young children. In his spare time, George enjoys the Milwaukee Bucks, Comic Books and playing board games with friends and family.

*George's favorite cheese is the Pipit from Landmark Creamery and Hooks 20 year cheddar – obviously!

<u>Tayler Palkowski, Constituent Services Director</u>

Tayler Palkowski (she/her), a Wisconsinite born and raised, is a recent graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Political Science, with certificates in Education Policy, Gender and Women's Studies, and Public Policy. She did all this in three years while working two jobs. Tayler has interned for Senator Tammy Baldwin, State Senator-elect Kelda Roys, the Wisconsin Women's Council, and worked on the successful re-election campaign of State Rep. Robyn Vining. Tayler is excited to start this new role and help the constituents of our district.

*Tayler is a lover of many cheeses; however, her personal favorite is any fresh, white cheddar cheese curd from local dairy farmers.