

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Date: January 14, 2021 Contact: Rep. Greta Neubauer, (608) 237-9166

Republican Legislators Promoted Conspiracy Theories, Asked Pence to Overturn Elections Results

Neubauer calls for their removal from Campaigns & Elections Committee

MADISON — In an article published by the Wisconsin Examiner today, Wisconsinites discovered that fifteen state legislators were signatories to a letter to Vice President Mike Pence peddling conspiracy theories about election fraud in Wisconsin and asking him to refuse to certify the 2020 presidential election results. The fifteen Republican legislators included four out of six Republican members of the Assembly Committee on Campaigns and Elections, one of whom chairs the committee.

The letter was sent on January 4, 2021, one day before a mob assaulted the U.S. Capitol and attempted to overthrow the results of the November 2020 presidential election. The legislators who signed the letter, all Republicans, are as follows: Rep. Janel Brandtjen (R-Menomonee Falls) Rep. Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) Rep. Rick Gundrum (R-Slinger) Rep. Cody Horlacher (R-Mukwonago) Rep. Dan Knodl (R-Germantown) Rep. Gae Magnafici (R-Dresser) Rep. Dave Murphy (R-Greenville) Rep. Jeff Mursau (R-Crivitz) Rep. Timothy Ramthun (R-Campbellsport) Rep. Joe Sanfelippo (R-New Berlin) Rep. Michael Schraa (R-Oshkosh) Rep. Shae Sortwell (R-Two Rivers) Rep. Jeremy Thiesfeldt (R-Fond du Lac) Rep. Chuck Wichgers (R-Muskego) Sen. André Jacque (R-DePere).

Democratic Leader Gordon Hintz has called for the removal of the four legislators seated on the Assembly Campaigns and Elections Committee, on the grounds that their decision to support overturning our democracy disqualifies them from being objective decision makers in any future changes to Wisconsin election law. Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) released the following statement in support:

"It is absolutely unacceptable that members of this body who are entrusted with upholding our democracy and our elections process are spreading conspiracy theories and blatantly false information and working to undermine the results of a free and fair election," Neubauer said.

"I am appalled to find that so many members of the Wisconsin State Legislature were willing to use their elected office to promote lies and conspiracy theories about the presidential election. This letter is part of a campaign of misinformation that led directly to the attack on the Capitol last week, and to the ongoing threats against legislatures here in Wisconsin and around the country.

"People who promote false narratives and seek to undermine the results of democratic elections should not be making decisions on future changes to our election laws and process in Wisconsin. I join Rep. Hintz in calling on Speaker Vos to relieve these legislators from their roles on the Campaigns and Elections Committee," Neubauer concluded.