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# MARY FELZKOWSKI

STATE SENATOR • 12<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

## Felzkowski Votes for COVID-19 Relief Bill Supporting Small Businesses

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 12, 2021

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**Madison, WI-** The Wisconsin State Senate voted today to approve COVID-19 Relief legislation. Sen. Mary Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) supported the bill and is eager to see the implementation of this legislation:

“The people of Wisconsin have undergone a lot of difficulties throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and we have seen a great deal of hardship. An overwhelming amount of Wisconsinites have had to struggle to receive unemployment as businesses have had to close, and our children have had to alternate between learning virtually at home and heading back to the classroom. This extensive bill will work to provide relief for people throughout Wisconsin, help us to combat this virus, and allow the state’s economy to continue reopening.”

Senator Felzkowski continued, “Wisconsin has been shut down for almost 10 months, and with the release of the vaccines, there is no reason for our state’s economy to remain closed. Since it is vital for all of us that our local businesses remain open or face closing for good, especially in the Northwoods, I fought to ensure that businesses have a civil liability exemption from COVID-19 claims filed against them.”

The liability exemption provision will encompass not only businesses, but also schools, churches, and other entities. This means that if someone believes they contracted COVID-19 while in school or church, the school district or church does not need to fear legal action.

Other provisions include:

- Requiring the Department of Workforce Development to create a plan to address the backlog of unemployment claims
- Extending the hours of unemployment insurance call centers
- Allowing coverage of vaccinations under SeniorCare
- Allowing nursing home and assisted living facility visitation by essential visitors
- Requiring school boards provide a report on virtual instruction during the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school year

The bill now awaits a vote by the Assembly, before heading to Governor Evers’ desk to be signed into law.

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