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REP. PLUMER SUPPORTS COVID-19 RELIEF LEGISLATION

MADISON, WI – Today Representative Jon Plumer (R – Lodi) voted in favor of comprehensive legislation to help those who have been affected by the on-going pandemic. Assembly Bill 1, which was passed this afternoon on a party line vote, contains numerous provisions to help combat the spread of COVID-19 and to bring relief to families and businesses that have been affected.

"COVID-19 has touched everyone in this state," said Rep. Plumer. "Families have lost loved ones, many schools have been shuttered for almost a year, and businesses have been devastated. The relief provided by this legislation will go a long way in helping Wisconsinites."

The legislation passed today makes available \$100 million in state funding to fight the virus and ensures all Wisconsinites will have access to testing and vaccines. Hospitals are also being provided with the funds they need to better serve COVID patients and increased flexibility with their workforce. Additionally, the legislation makes it easier to for families to visit their loved ones who reside in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Too many workers in our state faced unacceptable delays of weeks and months while waiting to receive unemployment benefits following the Governor's order to close businesses. This bill requires Governor Evers to develop a plan to reduce the unemployment insurance claim backlog to pre-pandemic levels. Other reforms in the bill include legislative oversight of federal COVID money received by the state and more input by local elected officials on business and school closures.

"We're all in this together," said Rep. Plumer. "I'm glad we were able to take this step to provide relief to Wisconsinites who have been negatively impacted by this virus."

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