

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 4, 2021 Contact: Rep. Greta Neubauer, (608) 266-0634 Rep.Neubauer@legis.wisconsin.gov

Rep. Greta Neubauer Responds to Assembly Republican Vote Against Public Health

MADISON – Today, the Wisconsin State Assembly passed Senate Joint Resolution 3, overturning the statewide public health emergency order and mandatory mask order, largely along party lines. Shortly after the Assembly Session concluded, Governor Tony Evers issued another public health emergency order and mandatory mask order, effective immediately and running through March 20th, 2021. Representative Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) issued the following statement in response:

"Today's Assembly vote to repeal the statewide mask mandate was dangerous and wrongheaded, putting the health and lives of Wisconsinites at risk.

"Wisconsin is in a race to get people vaccinated as quickly as possible, while new variants of COVID-19 already threaten our communities. The mask order has been our only statewide tool to reduce the spread of COVID-19 while our vaccinators work. Overturning the mask mandate puts our communities, our health, and our economic recovery at risk.

"I'm deeply disappointed that so few Republican Representatives stood up for public health and safety today. If the Speaker and his allies truly oppose only the Governor's actions and not a statewide mask order, they could have implemented one through the legislature at any point in the last ten months, along with comprehensive COVID relief. Instead, they filed lawsuits and hid behind arguments against the Governor, while Wisconsin families, workers, and small businesses struggled.

"I'm glad Governor Evers acted quickly to reinstate a statewide mask order, but I hope my colleagues will come to their senses and act in good faith to combat this pandemic instead of playing politics with public health."

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