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For Immediate Release

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State Senator Kathy Bernier

## **Governor Must Follow State Law**

(Madison)... State Senator Kathy Bernier (R-Lake Hallie) issued the following statement in response to the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling on Governor Evers' emergency order authority:

“Earlier today, our state Supreme Court announced their ruling that Governor Evers exceeded his legal authority, and therefore acted unlawfully, when he issued multiple public health emergencies related to COVID-19. The Supreme Court agreed with the point I have been making for some time: state law is very clear that any Governor, no matter his intentions or the underlying circumstances, has only 60 days to use emergency powers. After 60 days, only the Legislature has the authority to extend such orders. This has now been confirmed for the second time by the Supreme Court.

“Just as I said after our vote earlier this year to overturn the then most recent illegal order, this decision is not about the content of the mandate, but it is about the rule of law. As more people become vaccinated, there are still times when CDC guidelines should be followed. **I will continue to follow CDC guidelines when appropriate and in the strongest terms, I urge residents of the 23rd Senate District to do the same.**

“It is important to note that municipalities and private entities still have the right to set their own rules in response to health emergencies. However, I am confident that the overwhelming majority of Wisconsinites will continue to make the best decisions for themselves and their family's health, regardless of statewide orders.”

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