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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 31, 2021

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Rep. Duchow Announces Priorities for Federal Stimulus Dollars

Madison, WI – Representative Cindi Duchow (R-Delafield) joined her Assembly Republican colleagues in announcing how legislative Republicans would like to see part of the \$3.2 billion in state discretionary funds from the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 prioritized to assist Wisconsinites impacted most by the pandemic. This announcement comes after the governor vetoed the Truth in Spending Act which provided legislative oversight of those funds.

“Governor Evers has repeatedly chosen to act unilaterally in his response to the COVID-19 pandemic rather than working with the Legislature to create a plan to spend these funds,” said Rep. Duchow. “The priorities we’ve outlined are areas where we can work with the governor on things we agree on, while also addressing issues that we feel he has ignored.”

In addition to allocating \$500 million of these federal funds to expand broadband, Republicans also discussed plans to give \$1 billion back to taxpayers in the form of direct payments to homeowners, many of which struggled to make ends meet during the pandemic. Republicans also announced plans to correct the underfunding of our long-term care facilities and their workforce. Despite the fact that nearly 50% of Wisconsin deaths from COVID-19 occurred in long term care facilities, the governor allocated less than 10% of the newest federal aid to provide assistance there.

“Our goal continues to be supporting those who care for our most vulnerable populations and assisting families who have had a long, difficult year,” said Rep. Duchow. “I hope the governor gives serious consideration to our suggestions and works with us to ensure that Wisconsin continues to recover from this pandemic as quickly as possible.”

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Representative Duchow represents the 99th Assembly District which includes the communities of Chenequa, Delafield, Dousman, Hartland, Merton, Nashotah, Oconomowoc Lake, Ottawa, and Wales; and portions of Genesee, North Prairie, Oconomowoc, and Summit.