



JON PLUMER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 42nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release
March 30, 2021

Contact: Rep. Jon Plumer
(608) 266-3404

Rep. Plumer Supports Republican Priorities for Federal Aid

MADISON, WI – Rep. Plumer (R – Lodi) joined fellow Republican members of the legislature at the Capitol today to announce their priorities for how federal stimulus funds should be spent. Wisconsin will receive \$3.2 billion in federal aid from the recently passed American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. The legislature had previously passed legislation to give provide for more oversight of how these funds were spent, but Governor Evers vetoed that bill on Monday of this week.

“Making sure these funds are spent wisely and in areas of need is our responsibility to the taxpayers as elected officials,” said Rep. Plumer. “While I agree with some of the governor’s priorities for spending, he completely missed the mark on others. These funds should be targeted to benefit those who have struggled the most during this pandemic.”

The Assembly Republican Caucus is proposing that a significant portion of these new federal funds be directed to help Wisconsin families. This is the taxpayers’ money and they are best stewards of it. Sending direct payments to homeowners would help those who have struggled to make ends meet during this pandemic. Many Wisconsinites experienced difficulties in paying property taxes this past year and these aid payments will go a long way in assisting them.

Governor Evers’ proposed spending plan also woefully neglected funding for long term care facilities. Nearly 50% of Wisconsin deaths from COVID-19 occurred in long term care facilities, but the governor allocated less than 10% of the newest federal aid to provide assistance there. It is essential that the state help those who dealt with the brunt of this pandemic.

One area of agreement with the governor is using some of the funds for broadband expansion, although he did not go far enough in his proposal. Republicans are proposing that \$500 of federal aid be spent on this priority. COVID-19 exposed a massive gap in internet access in our state. Nearly overnight, Wisconsin schools and businesses were forced to adapt to remote models. Using federal funds to help close the gap in internet access is a common sense solution.

“This last year has been a struggle for many in Wisconsin,” said Rep. Plumer. “I hope the governor listens to our priorities and uses these funds to help those who have struggled the most.”

###



JON PLUMER

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 42nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT