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Date: March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

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## Representative Emerson Statement on Anti-Trans Legislation

MADISON – Today, Wisconsin Republicans announced legislation to discriminate against transgender student athletes in organized school sports. The bill’s author, Rep. Barb Dittich (R-Oconomowoc), seeks to prevent transgender athletes from participating in school athletics alongside their peers.

Representative Jodi Emerson (D-Eau Claire) issued the following statement in response:

*“I am appalled by Republicans’ continued efforts to undermine the rights of LGBTQ+ Wisconsinites. All students should have the right to participate in school sports in a way that is consistent with their gender identities. This discriminatory bill will not become law, but its introduction alone sends a harmful message to young people in our state, perpetuating traumatizing and offensive stereotypes against trans youth.*”

*“I want trans students in the 91<sup>st</sup> District to know that they are valid, that they belong in our classrooms and in all school sports and activities, and that they will always have my support. I oppose this act of discrimination in the strongest possible way, and I will continue to fight for the rights of our LGBTQ+ community.”*

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