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## **Statement on Legislative Priorities for Federal COVID Relief Funds**

**Madison-** State Representative Tyler Vorpagel (R-Plymouth) issued the following statement following the passage of legislative priorities for Wisconsin's federal COVID relief funds.

"Today, Legislative Republicans voted to support a package of legislation that prioritizes the more than \$3 billion in discretionary federal relief funding sent to Wisconsin. We believe it is crucial to get these one-time funds to the areas where they will help the most: aid to households, long-term care facilities, broadband expansion, helping small businesses, and boosting rural economies.

"The Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch are two co-equal branches of government that have always worked together to approve state spending, which is why I voted for legislation previously so that we all had a seat at the table. The Governor chose to veto that bill, taking unilateral spending power for himself. The package we passed today, once again, gives the Governor an opportunity to make a good faith gesture and recognize the Legislative Branch should have a say in how the state spends money.

"There is certainly some overlap with the Governor in the areas we want to prioritize with these federal dollars. Helping small businesses, investing in tourism and broadband expansion are all areas we can easily find common ground. There are also areas and ideas we believe should also be a part of the plan, like investing in long-term care to take care of our most vulnerable population and sending aid to homeowners after the difficult past year. It is important to assist those hardest hit during this pandemic, helping them and our state continue to recover."

*Representative Tyler Vorpagel (R-Plymouth) serves the 27<sup>th</sup> Assembly District which includes Kiel, Cleveland, Elkhart Lake, Howards Grove, Plymouth, Kohler, and Sheboygan.* 

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