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JANESVILLE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 21, 2021

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Rep. Conley: Statement on GOP Proposal to End Federal UI Supplement

MADISON – This week, Wisconsin Republicans announced legislation that would end Wisconsin’s participation in four federal unemployment programs designed to provide extra assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, Rep. Conley (D-Janesville) issued the following statement:

“To help unemployed individuals return to the workforce, we should be addressing the underlying problems Wisconsin workers face. We need to resolve child care challenges in order for workers to be available for jobs. Cutting off UI benefits at the beginning of summer, which is the hardest time to locate child care, is far more damaging to families than if they were to continue until September when schools open.

“It is incredibly disingenuous to claim that a \$300 federal UI supplement is why employers are having trouble filling open spots. This is not a new issue. Wisconsin families need this money, and the \$650 million in federal benefits flows directly into local economies through consumer spending. Instead of needlessly cutting these federal dollars, we should invest in real solutions, like ensuring people have safe working conditions, access to affordable, high-quality childcare and raising the minimum wage.”

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