

RACHAEL A. CABRAL-GUEVARA

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 55TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Rep. Rachael Cabral-Guevara Votes for Return-to-Work Legislation

Madison, WI - Representative Rachael Cabral-Guevara (R-Fox Crossing) voted today for legislation that she co-authored which will encourage the return of individuals to the workforce. The <u>bill</u> ends Wisconsin's participation in federal unemployment compensation enhancement programs, which has been one of the primary reasons many are not returning to work.

"Business owners and constituents across my district have all delivered one message over the past several weeks: 'we need workers'," said Rep. Cabral-Guevara. "While I recognize there was a need for these enhanced programs last year, it is time for folks to return to work. That is why I was proud to co-author this legislation."

This bill ends Wisconsin's participation in the following federal programs:

- Pandemic unemployment assistance (PUA) program
- Pandemic Emergency Unemployment compensation (PEUC) program
- Federal pandemic unemployment compensation (FPUC) program
- Mixed earner unemployment compensation (MEUC) program

The federal supplement provides an additional \$300 per week on top of state benefits, which 25 states have already opted-out of. In addition, this legislation ensures the restoration of work-search requirements that were suspended by Governor Evers last year.

"Starting wages across nearly every sector in our area have shot up dramatically," Rep. Cabral-Guevara said. "Beyond that, many companies are offering huge sign-on bonuses and other incentives. There is no reason we should continue paying people more to stay at home, essentially forcing companies to compete against the government."

According to an <u>SR Poll Results</u> report, 71 percent of voters favor ending the enhanced federal unemployment payments. This includes 67 percent of independents and 59 percent of Democrats. If signed into law, the Wisconsin unemployment compensation program will return to its pre-pandemic operations and continue providing a safety net for those who need it.

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The 55th Assembly District covers parts of Winnebago and Outagamie Counties, including the towns of Clayton, Greenville, Neenah, and Grand Chute, the village of Fox Crossing, and the cities of Neenah and Appleton.