



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Statement on Sen. Jacque's Positive COVID Test

MADISON – Today, it was reported that Senator Andre Jacque (R-De Pere) has been hospitalized after testing positive for COVID-19. Rep. Jodi Emerson (D-Eau Claire) issued the following statement in response:

*“My thoughts are with Sen. Jacque and his family at this time. I wish him the best and hope he has a full and speedy recovery. I also urge anyone who may have been infected or exposed by Sen. Jacque’s irresponsible behavior to schedule a COVID test and follow appropriate precautions.*

*Last Wednesday, I attended a Government Accountability Committee hearing at which Sen. Jacque presented a bill. Sen. Jacque did not wear a mask while testifying, nor were any social distancing precautions in place. Just as Sen. Jacque and his Republican colleagues have resisted all common-sense safety measures to prevent the spread of the pandemic in Wisconsin, they have now exposed themselves, their colleagues, and the public to this deadly virus.*

*It is astonishing that, while Sen. Jacque tested positive on Friday, I and many others who were in the committee hearing room last week learned about it by reading the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel this morning, four days later. Because Republican legislative leaders refuse to require masks or utilize contact tracing, everyone who was in the hearing room is now at risk. Republican leaders should have immediately contacted members and attendees rather than withholding this information.*

*As someone who is immunocompromised, I am at especially high risk from COVID. On behalf of myself and others who are at higher risk, I implore all Wisconsinites to wear masks in public and get vaccinated. I applaud Dane County for again requiring masks indoors and encourage other counties to do the same. Most Wisconsinites have been responsible and followed these common-sense precautions. The small minority who refuse to do so, and the irresponsible politicians who egg them on, demonstrate their callous disregard for their neighbors and dishonor the memory of the thousands of Wisconsinites this virus has already taken from us.”*

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