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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 15, 2023

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Rep. Myers Responds to Urban Milwaukee Article Alleging "Double Dipping"

MADISON—Rep. LaKeshia Myers (D-Milwaukee), in response to a recent Urban Milwaukee article questioning her employment as a legislator and educator, released the following statement:

"I am disappointed, but not surprised, at the shoddy reporting of Bruce Murphy. Rather than facts, Murphy trades in speculation, innuendo, and politically motivated attacks. It's unfortunate to see the pseudo media weaponized in this way.

Murphy characterizes the fact that I work two jobs as "double dipping" and deceptive. Millions of Americans, and hundreds of legislators, who are currently working two or more jobs in order to make ends meet, would likely disagree. I am employed in two public sector positions, as an educator and legislator. A cursory review of my Statement of Economic Interests clearly provides that information. Frankly, Murphy's article wreaks of race-baiting and culture wars.

The truth is that, in both my employment capacities, I pay into the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS), so there is no threat of a double pension. The facts are that my legislative record and district engagement speaks for itself. In just two short terms, I have passed a number of bills into law, hosted annual college fairs, blood drives, held quarterly district meetings, produced weekly legislative updates, and written a weekly newspaper column.

However, I am most proud of my record of responsive constituent service and support of the district I serve. I have managed to do this while battling kidney failure, an organ transplant, a rejection of that organ, and daily dialysis. Mr. Murphy questioned missed committee meetings and my work ethic, well now he has an answer.

This article was nothing more than a pre-emptive strike. I have expressed an intent to run for the State Senate, should Sen. Taylor get elected to the Milwaukee Municipal Court. Not everyone likes an independent thinker and Murphy was used as a hired gun. Too bad he was shooting blanks."

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