



ROBERT WITTKKE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 62nd ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release
Contact: Representative Robert Wittke

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(608) 266-0731

STATEMENT

Rep. Robert Wittke Supports COVID-19 Expanded Relief Bill Assembly Bill 1 Gives Tools Governor Requested to Fight COVID-19

“COVID-19 has affected everyone in our state. We have lost loved ones, children have been kept from school, elderly have been isolated from their families, and livelihoods were devastated by business closures and lost jobs. I’m pleased that today we passed Assembly Bill 1 (AB 1) to provide new tools to fight this health emergency.”

“AB 1 responds to critical needs my constituents have raised like: Establishing an essential caregiver designation for nursing homes and assisted living facilities so families can visit their loved ones and relieve some of the devastating isolation; Relieving the Unemployment Insurance backlog that has caused great harm to thousands; Creating liability laws to ensure businesses, schools, and good actors are protected from frivolous lawsuits.”

“This bill contains more than forty items – many requested by the governor - here are a few other items included in AB 1:

- \$100 million in funding for COVID-19
- Extending the elimination of copayments for COVID tests and vaccines including permanent coverage for vaccinations under SeniorCare
- Supporting our hospitals dealing with COVID surges and building up workforce capacity and other critical areas of need
- Protecting Wisconsinites from government overreach by requiring legislative oversight of any new COVID dollars the state receives; Prohibiting employers, DHS, and local health officers from mandating the vaccine; Allowing local health officers two business days to take action against outbreaks of COVID-19 after which the local governing unit must vote to continue the decision of the health officer; Local public health officers and DHS may not close places of worship

After months of work, I am pleased to have begun the session passing Assembly Bill 1.”

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Representative Wittke represents Wisconsin’s 62nd Assembly District which includes a portion of the City of Racine, the Village of Caledonia, North Bay, Raymond, Wind Point, and the Town of Norway.