



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 3, 2019

Contact: Matt Egerer, 608.266.5504

Barca to Serve as Secretary of Department of Revenue

MADISON - Today Governor-elect Tony Evers and Representative Peter Barca (Kenosha/Racine) announced that Representative Barca will serve as Secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

"It is a distinct honor to be selected and to serve as a cabinet secretary for our next governor, Tony Evers," Representative Barca said. "I am thrilled for the opportunity to oversee this critical state agency, which impacts so many facets of our state and our economy. My priorities as a legislator have always been economic development, helping to stimulate family supporting jobs, expanding the middle class, and assisting small business growth. The state's Revenue Department plays a critical role in all of these aspects and I believe I can best help to achieve these goals as the Secretary of Revenue."

Representative Barca served as a state legislator from 1985 to 1993, when he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. Barca returned to the legislature in 2009 and served as Assembly Minority Leader for seven of the past eight years, where he passed a wide range of bills and worked to improve and strengthen the legislative process. This included working with the speaker to develop an MOU and to create productive bipartisan task forces. He was re-elected in November by a margin of 79 – 21%.

"I thank the many voters in the greater Kenosha-Racine area who have placed their trust in me for so many years and provided me the honor to represent their interests and values in the State Legislature and in Congress," Representative Barca remarked. "I look forward to serving both those who have been my constituents and all of our citizens across the state as Revenue Secretary."

Following his time in Congress, Representative Barca served for nearly five years as the Midwest Regional Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration during the Clinton Administration. He also was appointed to lead the National Regulatory Fairness Program, an initiative aimed at making regulatory enforcement more small business friendly. Representative Barca later spent nearly a decade as vice president and then president of Aurora Associates International, an international project management company that conducted international development projects in more than 25 countries. Prior to that he had served as CEO of a non-profit organization focused on employment and training, housing, and rehabilitation services.

“I believe the Evers Administration will be successful in addressing key state issues I have always valued, including the important goal of providing tax relief to the middle class,” Barca said. “I am proud to work with a governor I have great respect for and to play a substantial role in achieving the goals he articulated in the campaign and to make progress for our great state.”

###