



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

April 3, 2020

President Donald Trump
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Donald Trump,

Across the nation, states like Wisconsin are challenged to find the essential tools to fight the spread of COVID-19 and treat Americans already infected with this novel virus. Wisconsin is in dire need of medical supplies in this national emergency. Many businesses in our state have stepped up on their own to help provide needed equipment but we need the full spectrum of resources that our country can provide to address this pandemic. As elected leaders, we are urging you to authorize all functions of the Defense Production Act (DPA). Requiring General Motors (GM) to build ventilators will not meet the demand alone and will not fulfill America's needs.

It is clear that during this crisis, swift and decisive action is needed at the federal level to overcome the rapid spread of this disease. We require the full capacity of American industry and federal resources to provide for the national defense as the current situation escalates by the day. Our state requires federal assistance to respond to the needs of our communities. The following is not an exhaustive list but underscores the importance of implementing the DPA immediately:

- **Supplies for Test Kits**—Our best defense in slowing the spread of COVID-19 is widely and aggressively testing. While Wisconsin is continuously bolstering its testing capabilities, we are still unable to achieve the testing capacity we desperately need due to supply shortages. Implementing the DPA would allow our state and states across the nation to have access to swabs and the necessary chemical agents needed to efficiently administer these critical tests.
- **Personal Protective Equipment**—Critical healthcare providers across our state are facing dangerous shortages in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Our healthcare workers are providing critical care around the clock as Wisconsin continues to see an increase in COVID-19 cases. This disease is highly communicable and without proper protection, these workers are exposing themselves and potentially putting their families

and communities at risk. Wisconsin urgently needs CDC recommended NIOSH-approved N95 respirators, gowns, gloves, and face shield/eye protection to be distributed to our healthcare providers who are in dire need. The DPA would greatly help in these efforts.

- **Ventilators**– COVID-19 is an aggressive upper respiratory disease that often requires mechanical respiration intervention for those who fall most ill. Currently, Wisconsin cannot support all who are projected to need mechanical ventilation. If aggressive steps aren't taken now, healthcare providers will be forced to choose who will get ventilation based on projected best outcomes. The federal government must step in to ensure that ventilators are hastily made and distributed to the places that need them most. Further action is needed outside of GM's capacity to build and deliver ventilators.
- **Price gouging and competing bid protections**- Wisconsin should not have to compete in bidding with other states for essential supplies in fighting COVID-19. Likewise, price gouging and hoarding of materials such as these must be prohibited under the DPA.

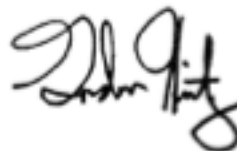
In addition, Governor Tony Evers sent letters on March 21st, 26th and 28th to Administrator Peter Gaynor of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to outline more supplies needed in addressing the COVID-19 outbreak in Wisconsin. These initial requests represent the immediate needs of agencies and healthcare providers to continue to perform their daily duties. We know that these needs will only increase in the coming weeks. We hope that these requests are being met and we believe that invoking the full authority of the DPA would assist in those efforts.

Wisconsin is known for our resiliency and together we will make it through this crisis. Right now our healthcare professionals are on the front-lines of this epidemic and they need immediate support. To save lives and protect our community against this growing public health threat we urge you to use your emergency powers to authorize the DPA to mass-produce and effectively distribute the necessary medical equipment to our state.

Sincerely,



Dianne Hesselbein
79th Assembly District



Gordon Hintz
54th Assembly District



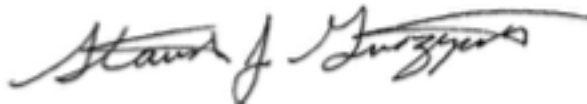
Steve Doyle
94th Assembly District



David Bowen
10th Assembly District



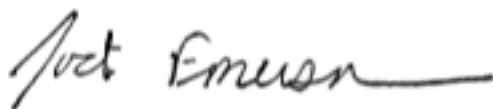
Jimmy Anderson
47th Assembly District



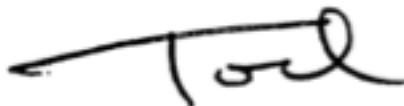
Staush Gruszynski
90th Assembly District



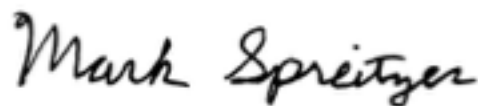
Amanda Stuck
57th Assembly District



Jodi Emerson
91st Assembly District



Tod Ohnstad
65th Assembly District



Mark Spreitzer
45th Assembly District



Robyn Vining
14th Assembly District



LaKeshia Myers
12th Assembly District



Sondy Pope
80th Assembly District



Evan Goyke
18th Assembly District



JoCasta Zamarripa
8th Assembly District



Jonathan Brostoff
19th Assembly District



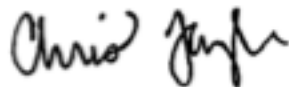
Jason Fields
11th Assembly District



Marisabel Cabrera
9th Assembly District



Gary Hebl
46th Assembly District



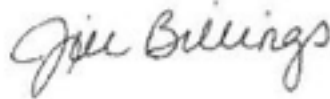
Chris Taylor
76th Assembly District



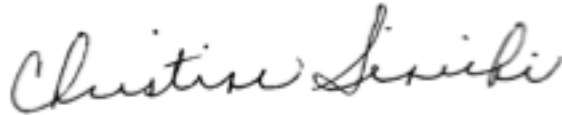
Dave Considine
81st Assembly District



Greta Neubauer
66th Assembly District



Jill Billings
95th Assembly District



Christine Sinicki
20th Assembly District



Don Vruwink
43rd Assembly District



Katrina Shankland
71st Assembly District

