

# FRED A. RISSER

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## Wisconsin State Senator



**For Immediate Release**  
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### **Republicans Continue to Ignore Governor's Calls for Special Sessions**

MADISON – Today the Republican controlled state legislature refused to meet for a special session called by Governor Evers.

For the fourth time since Governor Evers' election, Republicans have refused to meet in special session on pressing issues in Wisconsin. Previous special sessions related to gun violence, boosting Wisconsin's small farm economy and increased funding for public schools. Governor Evers' proposals have consistently drawn majority support from Wisconsinites.<sup>i,ii,iii,iv</sup>

"People always ask me why it's so difficult to have bi-partisanship. Well it's difficult when one party continues to not show up. Governor Evers has asked Republicans to show up and work on important issues. Democratic Senators and Assemblypersons have shown up to work on these issues. But we can't find compromise and bi-partisan solutions if one side refuses to even begin negotiations."

Referring to Governor Evers' most recent special session, which would have delayed Tuesday's elections and ensured every registered voter (who had not already cast an absentee ballot) would receive a ballot in the mail, Risser said, "People should not have to make a life or death decision when deciding whether or not to vote. Delaying the election in the interest of public health should not be a partisan issue."

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<sup>i</sup> Governor Evers' Special Session on gun violence - Marquette polling from August 2019 found that 80 percent of Wisconsinites, including 75 percent of gun owners, support universal background checks. 72% of GOP, 87% of Dems supported universal background checks. 74% of GOP, 89% of Dems supported red flag laws.

<sup>ii</sup> Governor Evers' Special Session on Agriculture – no polling available.

<sup>iii</sup> Governor Evers' Special Session on school funding- Marquette poll results from February 27, 2020, 55 percent of respondent's favored increased public school funding as opposed to 41 percent who favored a reduction in property taxes.

<sup>iv</sup> Governor Evers' Special Session on the April 7<sup>th</sup> election – Marquette poll results from March 29, 2020 indicate 51 percent of adults say the date should be moved and only 44 percent saying it should be held as scheduled.