



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Rep. Neubauer: Statement on the  
2021 State of the Tribes Address**

MADISON – Today, President John D. Johnson Sr. of Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians delivered the 17th annual Wisconsin State of the Tribes address at the Wisconsin State Capitol. Rep. Greta Neubauer (D-Racine) released the following statement in response:

“Thank you to President Johnson for delivering this year’s State of the Tribes address. It is always an honor to attend the address and hear from leaders from Wisconsin’s eleven sovereign tribal nations,” Rep. Neubauer said. “Today was a valued opportunity to strengthen relationships between our state and tribal leaders, and to find common ground on issues we can work to address together.

“President Johnson highlighted the impact of tribal members and tribal nations throughout the state of Wisconsin, from serving in our nation’s military to driving economic development to the tribes’ strong response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He shared the critical importance of addressing racial disparities in sentencing, fighting against drug overdoses and addiction, and ensuring that Wisconsinites have access to mental health care, behavioral health, and drug treatment and diversion programs. President Johnson spoke of the importance of infrastructure and the role of the sovereign nations in providing critical resources not only to tribal members, but to the surrounding communities, alongside the critical need to care for our air, land, and water with the next seven generations in mind.

“President Johnson also shared comments surrounding the long histories of Wisconsin’s tribal nations, which inform our relationships and cooperation today, and misconceptions surrounding tribal governments and rights. In the weeks and months to come, I look forward to finding areas where we can collaborate and cooperate on mutual priorities to ensure a brighter future for every person in Wisconsin.”

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