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## **Governor Announces Special Session for BadgerCare Expansion**

*Rep. Hesselbein and Sen. Erpenbach join Governor Evers touring free health clinic in Middleton*

MADISON - Today, Governor Tony Evers visited Benevolent Specialists Project Free Clinic in Middleton. Governor Evers toured the clinic and then announced the signing of Executive Order #116 calling for a special session of the legislature to expand BadgerCare in Wisconsin. Representative Dianne Hesselbein (D-Middleton) introduced the governor prior to the signing.

**“I am pleased to be here at Benevolent Specialists Project Free Clinic right here in the Good Neighbor City,”** began Rep. Hesselbein. **“Part of being a good neighbor is taking care of one another, and that’s why we are here today. This pandemic has highlighted the inequalities in our health care system. Families across Wisconsin are having to choose between a healthcare bill or putting food on the table and paying rent. Wisconsinites are just one health crisis away from a financial breaking point. We need to be honest that we have to work hard to change our healthcare system so that it works for everyone.”**

Governor Evers called for a special session of the legislature to consider expanding BadgerCare and accept Wisconsin’s share of federal healthcare funds. The governor wants to expand BadgerCare and invest the \$1 billion in cost savings realized under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) into Wisconsin’s economic recovery and more than 50 projects and economic development initiatives across the state.

**“It is refreshing to have a Governor working for the people of Wisconsin,”** Rep Hesselbein continued. **“Let’s work together to get people the healthcare they need and make the financially responsible decision to take the funding that is available to our state.”**

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