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# ROBIN J. VOS

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SPEAKER OF THE WISCONSIN STATE ASSEMBLY

September 27, 2019

Governor Tony Evers  
P.O. Box 7863  
Madison WI 53707  
**HAND DELIVERED**

Dear Governor Evers,

It came to our attention that a mistake has been made in the selection of the date for the special election that you recently ordered for the vacant 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District seat in northern Wisconsin. Because the general election was called for Monday, January 27, it would require a primary election on a Jewish holiday. You may not have realized that Monday, December 30 is the final day of Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights. It's considered one of the most joyous Jewish holidays and the final day is the culmination of the eight-day celebration. The 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District is home to a number of synagogues and Jewish communities.

Consider this letter a formal request to change the date of the special election so that the anticipated primary would not be held during Hanukkah. It is unnecessary to require Wisconsinites to exercise their civic duty to vote on a day they have set aside for a religious purpose. In the Wisconsin State Assembly, we have made accommodations to ensure floor sessions do not interfere with religious holidays. Our Constitution allows us to freely practice a religion if we so choose and as public servants we must treat people of all faiths with the same dignity and respect.

Just this week you tweeted, in connection with a disturbing news story, that "Hate and antisemitism have no place in Wisconsin. I stand in support of the Racine Jewish community and with Jewish Wisconsinites across the state."

Please stand by your word. I respectfully demand that you find a new date for the upcoming special election in Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robin J. Vos", written in a cursive style.

Robin J. Vos  
Assembly Speaker