

Dear Governor Evers,

We want to thank you for your leadership during the past couple weeks related to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been thoughtful, responsible, and smartly aggressive, as you take the actions necessary to reduce spread of the illness and keep Wisconsinites safe.

We urgently ask you to apply that same approach to voting. **Please take action now to reduce the risk of our residents, members of our staff and our election workers, and to avoid unnecessary disenfranchisement of voters.**

In almost all communities across Wisconsin, in-person absentee voting will start on Monday, and continue for the next two weeks. Based on our experience in the last few days, it is almost certain that large numbers of people will show up at government buildings to vote this way. The health risks involved will become a bigger issue with even more coming to vote on the actual Election Day, April 7.

Please offer us solutions to prevent this from happening.

Your office has been presented with a number of options for protecting citizens' health and rights to vote by various local government organizations. But as yet we have not seen a sufficient response from the state.

Advice and orders from federal, state and local public health professionals is clear: Limit personal contact, especially in large groups (more than 10 currently). Please give us the tools to live by this when it comes to voting.

We recognize concerns about disenfranchisement, and we fully support our rules around elections in normal situations. But these are not normal circumstances -- and the potential for disenfranchisement is actually **higher** if we proceed like we are. Many people will stay away from the polls for fear of contracting COVID-19, or spreading it, unless something changes.

Please do not force citizens to choose between getting sick, or voting. Act now.

In good health,

CO-SIGNED BY LOCAL LEADERS TBD