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MADISON – Today, Governor Tony Evers appointed deputy secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), James Bond, to fill the vacancy created by former Secretary Mary Kolar's retirement. Senate Democratic Leader Melissa Agard (D-Madison) released the following statement:



"Wisconsin veterans and their families sacrifice so much for our communities, our state, and our country and deserve to be adequately supported throughout their life. As a disabled veteran with over ten years of service to the DVA, I am confident that Secretary-designee James Bond will be a dedicated leader and fierce advocate for Wisconsin veterans and their loved ones. Furthermore, this is a historic appointment in Wisconsin as James Bond will serve as the first openly LGBTQ secretary in any of the state's cabinet agencies.

"I am looking forward to working with Secretary-designee James Bond during the 2023-24 legislative session on behalf of Wisconsin's veterans and their families. I know he brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to this position and will serve our state's population of veterans with the utmost integrity."