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# JOEL KITCHENS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 1<sup>ST</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

## **Rep. Kitchens Supports Increase in School Aid *Budget Committee Approves Increased Investment of \$200 Million***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2015

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**Madison** – Representative Joel Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay) issued the following statement regarding the announced plan of the budget-writing Joint Finance Committee (JFC) to reject proposed cuts to public education and invest more than \$200 million over the biennium in Wisconsin’s K-12 schools:

“As a parent of three and a longtime school board member in our community, I know firsthand the importance of investing in our public education system. Coming into this office, I’ve made finding ways to invest in K-12 education my top priority.

“I am proud to say that this budget will not only restore the proposed funding by \$150 per pupil in the first year of the biennium, but it adds an extra \$100 per pupil in the second year. That’s an added investment of \$200 million over the course of the biennium.

“I applaud the members of JFC for taking into consideration the input my colleagues and I have provided and for finding a way to not only restore proposed cuts, but to go beyond and increase funding for Wisconsin students. I look forward to finding ways to continue to improve our state budget and working with my colleagues to make it the best it can be.”

The 2015-17 state budget is expected to be voted on by the state Assembly in June before being signed into law by Gov. Scott Walker.

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