



July 9, 2015

HAND DELIVERED

Governor Scott Walker
Office of the Governor
115 East State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Walker,

As you consider Wisconsin's 2015-2017 Biennial Budget, I request and urge you to veto a number of items that will do lasting damage to our state and its citizens.

Since the first public hearings on this budget, I have heard consistently from seniors, people with disabilities, and their advocates that FamilyCare, IRIS, and Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) work, and that these programs should be continued in their current form. The budget approved by the Legislature eliminated immediate changes to these programs, but left uncertainty about their future.

I have heard loud and clear from the constituents I represent in Green and Rock Counties who would be most directly affected by these changes. Green County currently utilizes FamilyCare and IRIS, while Rock County, at its request, will transition to these programs under this budget. I request that you veto changes to these programs, so that residents in Rock and Green Counties, and throughout the entire state, may be certain of continued access to, and input in, their healthcare.

I urge you to veto the provision relating to shoreland zoning adopted by the Joint Finance Committee. This provision will prevent counties and the Department of Natural Resources from setting community-specific shoreland zoning standards. This provision loosens shoreland zoning standards and washes away local control. Your veto will preserve current standards, and help prevent harmful runoff from polluting our lakes, rivers, and streams.

Additionally, I urge your veto on several provisions in Motion #999, as approved by the Joint Finance Committee, which will negatively affect hardworking families. These items were not in your budget proposal, but instead inserted in the middle of the night with no public hearing or legislative debate outside of the Joint Finance Committee.

The Joint Finance Committee also expanded the authority of payday lending companies to sell insurance, annuities, financial services, or other merchandise. Loosening restrictions for payday lenders allows leniency for predatory practices, trapping many of our low-income residents in compounding interest and spiraling debt.

45TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

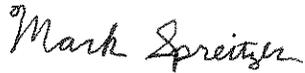
State Capitol: PO Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708 (608) 266-1192
Toll-free: (888) 534-0045 FAX: (608) 282-3645 E-mail: Rep.Spreitzer@legis.wisconsin.gov
Follow me on Twitter @RepSpreitzer or at Facebook.com/RepSpreitzer

The #999 Motion also includes a provision that changes language relating to wages for our working families. This provision unwisely repeals references to a "living wage" in statute, replacing it with "minimum wage." I fear this change will only lead to further drive down wages for working people, who are already struggling enough.

Finally, I request that you rid the budget of the harmful "One Day of Rest in Seven" provision. This is a gross misnomer. The provision purports to allow employees to voluntarily choose to work without one day of rest each week, but in reality, will be used to coerce people into ever-increasing work hours, at the expense of their health and safety.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues and for the well-being of our state and all the wonderful, hard-working people who call Wisconsin home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark Spreitzer".

Mark Spreitzer
State Representative
45th Assembly District