



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
GARY HEBL
46TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Game Tape Shows a Bad Budget for Wisconsin

By Rep. Gary Hebl

Like every red-blooded Badgers fan, I was disappointed to hear that Bo Ryan plans to step down as head coach of the UW men's basketball team after next season. Bo has built this team into a national powerhouse.

As a successful coach, Bo knows the importance of looking at the game tape. It's critical to look at the "highlight reel" to learn as much as you can about what you're up against.

So, now that the 2015-17 state budget has passed the legislature, let's go to the game tape. Let's look at what Assembly Republicans prioritized in this budget.

- Republicans cut funding to Wisconsin's premier economic driver, the UW system, by \$250 million.
- Once again, Republicans stuck their fingers in the eye of public education in favor of unaccountable private voucher schools.
- Time and again, Republicans rejected hundreds of millions of dollars in federal Medicaid funds – funds that would insure 80,000 more Wisconsinites while saving the state money.
- The budget committee slipped in unprecedented authority for payday lenders. Assembly Republicans doubled down on their support for this predatory industry.
- The budget eliminated local control of shoreland zoning regulations. Assembly Republicans rejected Democrats' attempts to reinstate local control.

- The budget cut the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund. Assembly Republicans rejected Democrats' attempts to restore this funding.
- Republicans worked to lower wealthy Wisconsinites' tax burdens while turning a cold shoulder to working families.
- Republicans refused to consider important changes to the floundering Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.
- Republicans fired 30 science/education positions at the DNR, further politicizing Wisconsin's environmental regulator.
- If not for public pushback, Republicans would have slipped in a sweeping repeal of Wisconsin's legislative sunshine law.

This is a sad highlight reel. It looks more like a blooper reel. These changes will have long-lasting, negative effects on our state.

Rep. Gary Hebl represents the 46th Assembly District, which includes the cities of Sun Prairie and Stoughton, the village of Cottage Grove, and the townships of Cottage Grove, Dunkirk, Pleasant Springs, and Sun Prairie.

Contact Rep. Hebl with any questions or concerns you may have at (608) 266-7678 or via email at Rep.Hebl@legis.wi.gov.

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