



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
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INFORMATIONAL COLUMN

**REAL ESTATE TRANSFER FEE EXEMPTION**

MADISON - Like most mid-western states family bonds are strong. Families grow up together, are raised in the same towns and often go into business together. Traditionally Wisconsin law has safeguarded many of these business relationships, especially when children go into business with their parents. However, when siblings start a business together they are often left unprotected by the law.

Current Wisconsin law provides an exemption from the real estate transfer fee for the transfer of real estate between husband and wife. The real estate transfer between parent and child is also exempt from the real estate transfer fee. Unfortunately, those same protections don't extend to siblings.

The exemptions that are given currently should be allowed for transfers between siblings as well. I believe extending the law to include transfer fee exemptions for transfer of real estate between siblings is important. This would allow siblings to gain the same benefits that other family members currently gain.

Recognizing the strong family associations that Wisconsin is known for confirms that we value a certain level of respect in our families. Requiring family members to pay a fee for real estate transfer undermines this positive value.

The current law has been successful. The bill I am proposing would only improve an already beneficial law. Furthermore, it would grant families in Wisconsin additional resources to save money.

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