

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Rep. Rob Brooks

January 13, 2023 (608) 267-2369

Representative Brooks Introduces Flat Tax Legislation

Madison, WI—Today, Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) and Senator Devin LeMahieu (R-Oostburg), released LRB-1501, legislation establishing a flat individual income tax rate of 3.25 percent beginning in taxable year in 2026.

Since 2011, the legislature has reduced taxes by a cumulative \$22 billion, including eliminating several taxes entirely. By putting taxpayers first, state and local taxes as a share of personal income have fallen to the lowest level since 1970. Despite these efforts, Wisconsin's tax code remains uncompetitive and mediocre.

"Wisconsin's individual income tax rates are particularly uncompetitive. Only nine states have an individual income tax rate higher than Wisconsin's top tax rate of 7.65 percent. I introduced this legislation to reduce the burden placed on hard working families by exorbitant rates," Representative Rob Brooks stated.

Every state between New York and California has a lower top individual income tax rate than Wisconsin, except Minnesota. Even worse, thirty-one states have a top individual income tax rate that is lower than Wisconsin's third tax bracket rate of 5.3 percent. As a result, Wisconsin's income tax on the middle class is higher than the individual income tax rate in more than half the states in our republic.

"With inflation crippling household budgets, the last thing hard working families need is to give the government more of their money. LRB-1501 allows Wisconsinites to keep more of their hard-earned money, simplifies the state's income tax code, and will make Wisconsin a more desirable place for families, individuals, and businesses to relocate.

###