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July 9, 2015

HAND DELIVERED

Governor Scott Walker
115 East Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Walker,

While I have concerns about many parts of the 2015-2017 state budget that was passed this week, I write today to respectfully urge you to veto several sections of the bill. Specifically, I ask that you veto the proposals prohibiting wineries from holding a Class B liquor license, creating a special needs voucher program, and overriding local and county shoreland zoning measures.

My district, the 81st Assembly District, is home to a number of outstanding local wineries. They represent a rapidly growing industry in our state, and allowing them to hold a Class B liquor license would help them expand their businesses even further by hosting events like weddings and banquets. Prohibiting them from holding this type of license, as would be the case under this budget provision, would only hinder their growth and hurt our local economy.

Furthermore, a special needs voucher program would do very little to help our children with unique educational needs. In fact, this provision in the budget would likely result in our students with special needs falling through the cracks instead of receiving the comprehensive, accountable assistance they deserve. As a former educator for students with special needs, I know how much damage a special needs voucher program will do.

Finally, I ask that you not allow the state to overrule local shoreland zoning decisions. In caring for our state's natural resources, one size does not fit all. The best policy to protect our shores is different for each area, from Baraboo to Milwaukee to Ashland. Our local communities know how to care for their own environments, and this budget provision will only hurt their ability to do so.

Again, I hope you will take the values and interests of the people of the 81st Assembly District and our state to heart as you review this budget, and I urge you to veto the provisions above. Thank you for this opportunity. Please contact me if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Dave Considine'.

Rep. Dave Considine
81st Assembly District