



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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June 18, 2015
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Assembly Leaders Ask Co-Chair to Walk Statements Back

Madison...Speaker Robin Vos (R-Rochester) and Rep. John Nygren (R-Marinette) released the following statement in regards to the budget negotiations and comments made by Senator Alberta Darling (R-River Hills), the Senate Joint Finance Committee co-chair. Recent reports have the co-chair saying false statements claiming that the Speaker and Assembly Republicans want to “delay the Zoo Interchange to put pressure on the Senate to go along with a hike in the gas tax or registration fees.”

“Throughout the budget process, Assembly Republicans have put forth a position that the state must pay up front for its road improvements and not just run up the state credit card.¹ However, we have been clear that we would not support an increase in the gas tax. As soon as it became known that the governor changed his position and would not support an increase in registration fees, that option was taken off the table.² To say that Assembly Republicans are now pressing for both of these revenue enhancers would be incorrect. In fact, Alberta Darling is being disingenuous in making that characterization.

“As Assembly Republicans move forward in the budget discussions, we want to ensure that any transportation reductions are felt equally across the state. Under the Senate plan, outstate legislators would feel the brunt of the cuts and many in our caucus don’t feel that option is fair. We are advocating for the best possible budget for all of Wisconsin and not just one area of our state. By working together, I know that we can arrive at solution in the near future.”

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¹ <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/vos/eupdates/Pages/Road%20Work%20Ahead.aspx>

² <https://twitter.com/jessieopie/status/608332024840093696>