

A Home Run for Wisconsin

Lawmakers introduce legislation that will keep Brewers in Wisconsin until at least 2050

For Immediate Release September 18th, 2023

Contact: Senator Dan Feyen (608) 266-5300

Representative Rob Brooks (608) 237-9160

Madison, WI – Today, Senator Dan Feyen (R-Fond du Lac), and Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) released the following statement after introducing legislation that will provide funding for maintenance, rehabilitation, and upkeep of the 22 year old Brewers stadium.

"After months of negotiation with the Brewers and the Stadium District, conversations with local leaders, and thorough research, we are excited to introduce legislation that directs funding for stadium maintenance and keeps the Brewers in Milwaukee through 2050.

"Under our bill, the state will contribute \$386.5 million solely for the improvement, repair, or maintenance of American Family Field. An additional \$25 million will be invested for the winterization of the stadium, allowing for expanded use of the stadium during the winter months. This state funding will come directly from the income tax generated within the stadium district. Unless you play for the Brewers or work in their front office, your tax dollars will not go to maintain the stadium.

"Our proposal will also extend the Brewers lease in Milwaukee until 2050. According to the non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau – income tax generated within the stadium district estimated to total \$666.5 million through the end of this lease. Keeping the Brewers in Wisconsin will net the state roughly \$242.9 million in income tax collections between now and 2050. That's without accounting for state and local sales tax, local room tax, and excise tax on alcohol sales.

"Under our bill, the city and county of Milwaukee will combine to contribute \$202 million over the length of the lease. This bill will also more than double the Brewers rent and guarantees a \$100 million investment from the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club.

"There are likely to be changes and amendments to the final bill we will vote on, but what is introduced today provides the framework for these continued conversations."

"It is cheaper for the taxpayers to keep the Milwaukee Brewers than to risk them leaving. This is a solid plan that will keep the Brewers in Milwaukee through 2050 and enables the stadium district to harness millions of dollars in revenue generated directly from the team's activities, bolstering their ability to remain rooted in Wisconsin." – Assembly Speaker Robin Vos