



**PATRICK TESTIN**  
STATE SENATOR

***PRESS RELEASE***

Contact:

Senator Patrick Testin  
(608) 266-3123

January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Further Investment in WI's Workforce Key to State's Development**

*Senator Testin's Perspective on Governor Walker's State of the State Address*

**Madison, WI** – Earlier today, Governor Scott Walker presented his seventh annual State of the State address. The Governor touted Wisconsin's decreasing unemployment rate, which has hit 4.1% - a fifteen year low, and noted that property taxes, as a percentage of personal income, are the lowest they've been in seven decades. Senator Testin (Stevens Point) agreed that Wisconsin is moving forward, yet believes that more work lies ahead.

"My focus is on building a 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce," said Testin. "I was glad to hear the Governor talk about increasing investments in workforce development, and I want to see us further encourage cooperation between local businesses, tech colleges, high schools, and students. By growing partnerships at the local level, we can build a workforce that reflects the strength of every community across the state."

Testin was also encouraged to hear the Governor talk about making more meaningful investment in rural broadband expansion.

"Connection is key on several different levels. I'm committed to bringing high speed internet to rural areas, bridging the skills gap by investing in workforce development, and strengthening the bonds in our communities by tapping into the strength of hard-working families across Wisconsin."

###