



TOM TIFFANY

STATE SENATOR • 12TH SENATE DISTRICT

Contact: Senator Tom Tiffany
Phone: (608) 266-2509

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Finance Committee Votes to Invest in Education

Madison...State Senator Tom Tiffany (R-Hazelhurst) released the following statement after the Joint Finance Committee approved a motion to increase funding for K-12 education over the biennium:

“Public education has been my top priority throughout the budget process. I understand the importance of funding our public education system and investing in our children. Today, we restored funding in the first year of the biennium and added an additional \$100 per student in the second year. This equates to an added investment of more than \$200 million to our public schools over the biennium while remaining fiscally responsible and not increasing property taxes.”

“Additionally, the Joint Committee on Finance increased sparsity aid and high cost transportation aid – categorical aid programs that rural schools rely on. The committee approved Governor Walker’s proposal to provide \$8.4 million in additional sparsity aid over the biennium. The committee also added \$5.0 million in high cost transportation aid over the biennium. Additional funding to these two programs will help many Northwoods schools. ”

Sparsity aid provides additional funding to small, rural districts, meeting certain eligibility criteria including population and district size. The high cost transportation program provides aid to districts with higher per pupil costs if they also meet eligibility requirements.

“I want to thank my colleagues on the Joint Finance Committee for their support for rural school districts with their vote to increase both sparsity and high cost transportation aid.”

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