



PAUL FARROW

STATE SENATOR

PRESS RELEASE

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Senate Passes 2015-2017 State Biennial Budget

Late night Extraordinary Session sees the passage of the state's two-year spending plan.

Madison – With the Extraordinary Session of the State Senate adjourning a bit after midnight and debate lasting just short of nine hours, the State Senate passed the 2015-2017 State Biennial Budget (Senate Bill 21) by a vote of 18-15.

The debate on the budget started with the senate restoring the budget's Wisconsin Public Records provision to current law and eliminating a provision which changed aspects of the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS). Senate Republicans also added a provision that added a partial repeal of the state's prevailing wage law, which had been a point of contention over the last number of weeks.

“If tonight proved anything, it is that members of the State Senate and members of each political party have a deep appreciation and admiration for this great state. We clearly disagree on a number of issues, but tonight's debate was a discussion we as a body needed to have and one that brought out the best in each and every one of us,” said Senator Paul Farrow (R-Pewaukee). “The budget process is extremely difficult and it consumes the time and energy of every legislator. This budget is not perfect, and the passage of a perfect budget will never happen, but I am hopeful that the legislation we passed tonight will prioritize our spending and allow us to continue moving our state forward.”

The State Budget Bill now heads to the State Assembly, where it is expected to be passed by the end of the week and signed by Governor Scott Walker soon after.

Senator Paul Farrow represents the 33rd Senate District of Waukesha County.

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