



July 15, 2015
For Immediate Release

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(Madison, WI) – Over the last several weeks, hundreds of my constituents have contacted my office or spoken with me at events regarding a new arena for the Milwaukee Bucks. People on both sides of the issue have made well intentioned and thoughtful arguments for their point of view and these conversations have enhanced my understanding of the issue.

After reflecting on these conversations and reading a wide array of articles about both this specific arena project and the impact of other arena projects across America, I have decided to support the final deal to build a new arena in Milwaukee.

The final deal strikes an important balance between limited public funding and a strong financial commitment by the team owners, as well as those attending events at the arena in the future. By making an investment at the state level, we can take advantage of the rising salary cap in the NBA and capture an expanding income tax base. This will allow us to fund priorities like K-12 education and infrastructure in future budgets without increasing taxes on middle-class families.

I would not have supported state financing for an arena without a meaningful commitment from the team owners and those who plan to attend games. That is why I was happy to see the financial investment by the team as well as the inclusion of a ticket surcharge in the final deal.

I look forward to the Milwaukee Bucks continuing to be an important partner for the city of Milwaukee, Milwaukee County and the state of Wisconsin.

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