



SCOTT FITZGERALD

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER

July 18, 2017

To: Assembly Speaker Robin Vos
Re: Wisconsin State Budget

On behalf of my caucus, I am pleased to offer the Senate Republican proposal for Wisconsin's Biennial Budget to the Assembly.

The attached document contains our complete proposal for the Biennial Budget, including all items already approved by the Joint Committee on Finance and the proposed Senate position on all outstanding items. We acknowledge that this is a working document and is likely to be adjusted before it reaches final passage, but we believe that the attached proposal addresses the key areas of disagreement between the houses and are confident that a final product will be quickly resolved upon agreement on these issues.

Today, Senate Republicans are offering a solution that continues to invest in Wisconsin's infrastructure while maintaining the conservative pledge not to increase the burden on our state's taxpayers. We understand that infrastructure is key to growing business in Wisconsin, and our budget keeps the state's major projects on track while holding bonding at a responsible level.

After several weeks of diligent work with the members of our caucus, we believe the proffered solution presents a reasonable compromise on the major outstanding issues. Furthermore, we have confirmed that Governor Walker believes this proposal meets his key priorities of funding k-12 education, holding the line on property taxes, and insuring sound investments in transportation without raising taxes.

We hope that you will give this proposal fair consideration and that we can move forward with approval of a budget that puts more money into Wisconsin's schools, invests in our state's infrastructure, and continues to lower the tax burden on our residents.

Scott Fitzgerald
Wisconsin Senate Majority Leader