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Childcare Crisis Finally Addressed

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Rep. Goeben's Childcare Initiatives Key Component of State Budget

Madison – Representative Joy Goeben (*R-Hobart*) voted in favor of the 2025-2027 State Budget, which included key components of her childcare initiatives which she has been championing for two legislative sessions. She shared the following statement regarding the new childcare measures:

"I was deeply honored and humbled to have key components of proposals I have authored the last two sessions addressing our childcare crisis receive support in our state budget," shared Rep. Goeben.

One of the key childcare initiatives in the budget, as proposed and championed by Rep. Goeben, is the "Get Kids Ready" plan which invests \$66 million in GPR to ensure 4-year-olds are prepared for kindergarten, while remaining in a childcare setting.

"This will give parents the option of finding the best environment for their child to begin their educational path, setting them up for success no matter what option they choose in the future. At the same time, this investment will ensure our childcare providers can keep their doors open and deliver care for children of all ages.

"I am grateful to my colleagues for working together to craft these initiatives in a way that will provide meaningful solutions and funding for our childcare providers and give parents options in childcare. The initiatives in the budget will not only help our childcare providers and centers, but in doing so, will help our workforce to remain vibrant and strong.

"This budget was the result of long hours of negotiations and compromise, made especially difficult given the influx of one-time federal dollars, and a variety of priorities for that money. I am grateful we were able to come up with a resolution to these issues and I look forward to the governor signing it into law," concluded Rep. Goeben.

The 2025-2027 State Budget includes a \$1.5 billion tax cut, invests \$500 million in special education funding, and increases funding for courts including Brown County.

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