

Representative Barca and Senator Shilling Mislead Taxpayers; Voucher Schools Save Taxpayers \$142 million.

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For more information
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Madison- State Representative Janel Brandtjen (R- Menomonee Falls) has taken issue with two democratic lawmakers that have expressed concern over the amount of money spent on the school voucher program.

According to a non-partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau (LFB) memo dated August 31st addressed to Senator Shilling, the state of Wisconsin has spent slightly over one billion dollars on voucher programs since 2011. Representative Barca issued a press release on the first day of school voicing his opposition to the voucher program citing the numbers from Shilling's LFB memo.

The state of Wisconsin spends over 6 billion dollars a year on K-12 education. Voucher programs have saved millions dollars by sending children attending failing schools to voucher schools at a fraction of the cost. That savings is passed along to school districts across the state, as it is added back to the general school aid formula. For the Menomonee Falls School District that translates to an additional \$779,841.00 last year alone.

"The fact of matter is voucher schools have saved the taxpayers millions of dollars and provides clear choices for parents and students," Brandtjen said. "We have an obligation to our constituents to provide accurate information so that they can make informed decisions and that includes the voucher program," Brandtjen added.

According to a LFB memo, dated April 22nd, school voucher savings was \$142.4 million dollars in 2014 - 2015 alone. The accumulated savings over multiple years is astronomical. To see the savings in 2014-2015 for your school district [click here](#).

Below is a partial list of school districts in Shilling's Senate District that receive a portion of the savings from the voucher programs. The top three districts alone save nearly \$1.4 million. The Kenosha School district in Representative Barca's Assembly district saves over \$1.4 million.

Shilling's District	Amount saved in 2014-2015
La Crosse	919,440
Onalaska	331,584
West Salem	144,615
Total	1,395,639
Barca's District	
Kenosha	1,474,083