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Rep. Melotik Votes to keep the Brewers in Milwaukee until at least 2050!

Madison – State Representative Paul Melotik (R-Grafton) voted in favor of <u>AB438</u> and <u>AB439</u> that would fund American Family Field renovations and ongoing maintenance costs. Most people don't know this, but the State of Wisconsin owns American Family Field! It's not owned by the Brewers, so if the team were to leave, yet again, we would have an empty stadium on our hands with no good use. That's one of many reasons the State Assembly voted to support keeping the Brewers in Wisconsin yesterday.

I was proud to support a deal that will keep the Brewers here through 2050 and it benefits everyone in Wisconsin. Part of the deal will get the field winterized so it can be used in the off season to host other sporting events, concerts (we have seen some big names perform here like Pink, George Strait and Kenny Chesney to name a few). These additional events will bring people to Milwaukee that will visit restaurants, stay in hotels and support the local economy including businesses in the 24th Assembly District!

There are several factors that go into funding the deal. First, the Brewers are contributing over \$100 million in new money. Second, the state will be contributing by using the income tax generated from the players who play at the stadium. For example, when the Brewers play the New York Yankees (who has one of the biggest payrolls in the MLB) the state receives income tax from the Yankees players and staff for that game. This is revenue the State would lose if the team were to leave. The amount the State will pay is roughly \$15 million a year, and as the players salaries increase, the additional money will be revenue for the state.

Finally, both the City of Milwaukee, and Milwaukee County will each contribute \$2.5 million annually as they both see great benefits from having the team in their community. This is done by reducing the 1.75% administrative fee that is assessed on sales tax collected by the Dept. of Revenue to 0.75%. Milwaukee will use the money they'd receive with this change to pay for their portion of the stadium funding. What's great about this change is that by lowering that administrative fee, every county in Wisconsin that assess a sales tax will keep more of the sales tax collected in their county, totaling over \$7 million for 2025. This means that the counties in the 24th Assembly District, and across the state will actually be receiving more money because of the Brewers deal.

THIS IS A HOME RUN FOR BOTH MILWAUKEE AND THE STATE OF WISCONSIN!

