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## Rep. Johnson Works for Local Governments on Funding Issues

*Republican Shared Revenue Plan Helps All, Not Just Some*

**Madison** - Representative Scott Johnson (R – Jefferson) appeared at the rollout of the Assembly GOP’s historic plan to update Wisconsin’s shared revenue funding formula. As part of the plan, 20% of the state sales tax revenues would be directed exclusively to local governments, \$227 million in brand new funding would be provided for law enforcement, fire, EMS, public works, and transportation. This would double the state reimbursement for officer training costs and repeal the personal property tax.

The Assembly Republican’s plan creates a new Local Government Segregated Account totaling over \$1.5 billion, including this \$227 million of NEW funding for local governments. Both the existing money and the new money will be tied to future GROWTH in Wisconsin’s sales tax. This new funding most directly impacts municipalities by shrinking the gap between size-dependent aid. However, EVERY local government will see at least a 10% increase in shared revenue.

“There is much discussion still to be had, and areas to make adjustments to, but it is good to see a solid plan brought forward from hard work amongst local, county, and state officials.” stated Rep. Johnson. “I want the good people of the 33<sup>rd</sup> to see how we have worked together to address this challenge.”

The plan’s focus on public safety ensures the State of Wisconsin upholds its responsibility to protect its citizens. Under the new Innovation Fund, local governments that contract for services can qualify for assistance. The Funding Assistance Program (FAP) is receiving an additional \$15 million to provide funds for service providers to be used for ambulances, vehicle equipment, and durable medical supplies. The state will also double its reimbursement for law enforcement training and reduce regulatory burdens placed on rural EMS crews.

Rep. Johnson said, “The commitments made in this proposal will provide significant increases to keep our communities safe, ensuring law enforcement services will be properly provided and not subject to cuts. This plan, of monumental proportions, gives local governments the ability to provide their people the care they need during emergencies. I look forward to helping advance this plan for our state.”

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