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For Immediate Release April 27, 2023

## **Assembly Republicans Unveil Shared Revenue Proposal**

Madison – Rep. Jerry O'Connor (R-Fond du Lac) and his Assembly Republican colleagues made an announcement alongside local officials to give more state aid to local governments.

"Today is an exciting day for Wisconsin and for the governmental units/taxpayers in the 52<sup>nd</sup> District! After listening to constituents and meeting with local officials to find a consensus, we are making historic investments in local government, Rep. O'Connor said. "The legislation focuses on innovation and public safety- directing funds to help our rural communities, suburbs and cities meet the financial challenges of the next decade."

20% of state sales tax revenues (\$1.5 billion +/-) will be devoted to local governments. This will result in every local government seeing at least a 10% increase in shared revenue. "This correction in the funding formula is long overdue. In the 52<sup>nd</sup> District, we will receive millions in new dollars for our townships, villages, city, and county.

Over \$500 million in new money will be directed toward local government innovation and public safety. The proposal includes \$300 million for an Innovation Fund to encourage efficiencies, cost savings, and consolidation. If local governments come together and provide a service more efficiently the state will provide a financial incentive.

Another part of the proposal includes \$227 million for law enforcement, fire, EMS, public works, and transportation. "Public safety has been, and continues to be, a top priority for Republicans," said Rep. O'Connor. "The long term consistent, dependable commitments made in this proposal will provide significant increases to keep our communities safe, ensuring law enforcement services will be poorly maintained and not subject to cuts."

The proposal triples the funding for existing grants to local governments to upgrade their 911 systems and provides significant increases for EMS providers to go towards ambulances, equipment, and durable medical supplies. The reimbursement funds for officer training are being doubled.

Another win will be the elimination of the Personal Property Tax (PPT) paid by businesses. In turn, the State will reimburse those local governmental units impacted by the loss of PPT funds. This is a win-win for both businesses and local governments.

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The 52nd Assembly District includes the City of Fond du Lac; the villages of Eden and Oakfield; the Townships of Fond du Lac, Empire, Eden, Byron, Oakfield, Lamartine and Eldorado