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Murphy Statement on State Budget

MADISON, WI — The State Assembly is expected to adopt the Joint Committee on Finance version of the two-year state budget today.

State Representative Dave Murphy (R–Greenville), Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities chair, issued the following statement regarding the budget:

"The legislature's budget will benefit each and every person in Wisconsin, immediately and long into the future. As we emerge from the devastation of COVID-19 and forced economic shutdowns, we are truly blessed to have the economic resources to provide the hardworking people of Wisconsin with the state budget they deserve.

"The average Wisconsin family will realize more than \$1,200 in savings. This budget delivers one of the largest tax cuts in state history. The \$3.4 billion in tax relief includes \$2.3 billion in income tax reductions, \$650 million in property taxes reductions, and elimination of the personal property tax on businesses.

"Beyond the tax relief that people deserve right now, our budget delivers critical services when they are needed most. Our investment in accessible, quality health care will ensure more affordable dental services and increase the number of dementia care specialists.

"Our investment in high speed internet infrastructure will nearly triple with a \$130 million allocation toward broadband expansion grants.

"K-12 education will benefit from historic state funding levels in addition to a massive influx in federal funds. Our state investment in education prioritizes and rewards in-person instruction, increases state support for special education to the highest level ever, and increases school choice payments.

"Although the University of Wisconsin undergraduate resident tuition freeze will expire, I am leading the effort to implement a permanent cap on annual increases limited to inflation.

"I'm incredibly proud of the budget that we crafted with input from thousands of people across Wisconsin. While this budget represents a true team effort, I know that if we had a governor willing to communicate and work with legislators of both parties, there is so much more we could accomplish. I'm hopeful that in the future we will have such a governor."

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