



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Cuts v. Kids: Budget Places Politics Above Policy**

MADISON- Late Tuesday evening, the Wisconsin State Assembly passed the 2021-2023 Wisconsin State Budget. Wisconsin's 57th Assembly Representative, Lee Snodgrass (D-Appleton) released the following statement.

*As I said in my floor speech, if this budget was a Dickens' novel it would be called a "Tale of Two Budgets or Cuts versus Kids." Given the 4.4 billion state revenue surplus and the opportunities to receive an additional 1.6 billion in federal dollars via the full expansion of Medicaid, we literally could have had it all and then some. We could have funded much needed initiatives from infrastructure to healthcare to education and provided a tax cut for middle class families. The budget the Governor proposed allowed Wisconsin to invest in a litany of much needed initiatives but instead of making these investments, the Republicans put forth a budget that took on greater debt and made a shell game out of school funding.*

*The GOP budget is 100% a revenge budget, invested not in the people of Wisconsin but in playing political games to try and stick it to the Governor. Republicans are so hell bent on preventing the Governor from having a "win", but the problem with that attitude is that the Governor's budget was not a "win" for the Governor, but a win for Wisconsin's children, business, families, workers, schools. When you spend all our energy trying to find ways to kneecap the Governor, the collateral damage is everyday Wisconsinites.*

*In short, Gov. Evers' budget showed what was possible for WI - it would have addressed challenges, created opportunity, and transformed communities like Appleton, Menasha and Fox Crossing. The budget that passed squandered federal resources and wasted huge opportunities that would have benefited our state. While I wanted to vote yes on a budget that was both practical and visionary, I had to vote no on this budget because of the absolute deficit in money for classrooms and the amount of borrowing it had, in order to avoid spending. This budget was morally and fiscally deficient.*

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