



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Leaders Respond to Tony Evers' Tax Gimmick

“On the two-year anniversary of the Kenosha riots, Tony Evers distracts voters with a shiny object.”

Madison... Today, Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu (R-Oostburg) and Assembly Speaker Robin Vos (R-Rochester) responded to Governor Tony Evers' plan to spend the projected state surplus on various tax policy changes. The Leaders released the following statement:

"It's been fascinating to watch Tony Evers' election-year conversion on taxes. He wanted to raise taxes by \$1 billion in his budget. Now, he wants to cut taxes as the political winds change," **said Leader LeMahieu.** "If the governor is serious about providing financial relief to Wisconsinites, he could fund it immediately using federal ARPA dollars. Instead, he's using a state taxpayer surplus to create political division."

The [last report from the nonpartisan Legislative Audit Bureau in June of 2022](#) showed Governor Evers has \$2.2 billion in unspent ARPA funds and \$86 million in unspent CARES Act funds. Although originally meant for COVID relief, the U.S. Treasury has broadened the allowable uses of the funds. Governor Evers has sole control over these federal funds.

"We're not going to jeopardize future budgets in the midst of a recession to fund a tax gimmick," **said Speaker Vos.** "If the projected surplus materializes, we will cut taxes for everyone. We will not pick winners and losers like Tony Evers does with this vote-buying ploy."

"Today marks the two-year anniversary of the devastating Kenosha riots which destroyed businesses, burned entire city blocks, and resulted in the loss of life," **said the Legislative Leaders.** "Releasing a tax gimmick is simply a shiny object to distract voters from his failed leadership."

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