



## Media Release

*For Immediate Release*  
February 15, 2023

Contact: Rep. Katrina Shankland  
Office: (608) 267-9649

### **Rep. Shankland: Governor's Budget Makes Significant Investments Moving Wisconsin Forward**

MADISON – Following Governor Tony Evers' 2023-25 state budget address, Rep. Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) released the following statement:

"Tonight, Governor Evers delivered a comprehensive budget address detailing thoughtful proposals to tackle our state's most pressing challenges. The governor's budget significantly invests in and uplifts Wisconsin's hardworking families, seniors, small businesses, and everyday people. As the Legislature takes up the budget, we have a vital opportunity to ensure that communities and local economies thrive for years to come."

"A major issue impacting communities in Portage County and beyond is stagnant shared revenue payments from the state to local governments for funding of vital services, including public safety. For years, as we have seen local governments turn to referenda, I have emphasized the importance of increasing shared revenue. I am thankful Governor Evers agrees. His proposed plan to direct 20% of the state's sales tax to local communities, along with an initial \$576 million boost to shared revenue funding, will ensure our local government services, including public safety, are adequately funded while helping to hold the line on property taxes."

"In addition to shared revenue, I was excited to see many of the issues I have prioritized while serving in the Legislature addressed in the governor's budget. He announced sizable funding to support veteran employment, education, and mental health services, a robust plan to invest in broadband, and a 10% middle-class tax cut that would deliver \$1.2 billion in tax relief."

"I was also thrilled to see an increase of \$2.6 billion in funding for our public schools, the largest investment in K-12 schools and education in state history. Governor Evers' plan would also expand access to student mental health services, address educator staffing shortages, and more. The governor's proposals would significantly impact the quality of life for my constituents, and I hope my colleagues across the aisle are willing to work together to deliver real results for Wisconsin residents."

"Governor Evers has laid out a strong foundation for members of the State Assembly and State Senate as we begin our work on the 2023-25 biennial budget. Many of the funding priorities included have broad support among Wisconsin voters and lawmakers, regardless of party affiliation. I look forward to putting partisan politics aside and working diligently to advance these crucial investments through the budget process."

###