

TAXES

Our Tax Reforms our Working

- Republicans have cut taxes by more than \$8 billion since 2011
- Tax burden in WI is the lowest in 50+ years
- Taxes will be lower in 2018 than they were in 2010 for the average homeowner
- Largest rainy day fund in state history
- Responsible budgeting: looking back at our state's past 10 budgets, the condition of the general fund has never been better
- Wisconsin's state-local tax burden is now 0.3% below the national average
- WI is now out of the top 10 worst states for business tax climates
- Our state's bond rating has been upgraded

Responsible Governing

- Decreased size of Government—reduced number of state employees by over 400 and spent nearly \$500 million less than the proposed 2017-19 state budget
- Special Session on Welfare Reform will help prevent fraud and abuse in public benefits and will help get people back to work
- One of the best funded retirement systems in the country

Simplified Tax Code

- No new income or sales tax
- Repealed a portion of the personal property tax
- Repealed 4 different taxes

Gave Surplus Back to Taxpayers

- \$100 per Child Tax Rebate
- Sales Tax Holiday

Referenda Reform

- Reforms municipal levy limit referenda to make them more transparent and accountable to taxpayers
- Limits the scheduling of school referenda to regularly scheduled elections to hold school districts accountable to taxpayers.

Sources:

¹<https://www.ssc.wisc.edu/~nwilliam/MAC.htm>

²<https://www.bls.gov/eag/eag.wi.htm>

³<https://walker.wi.gov/fact-sheets/fact-sheet-manufacturing-wisconsin>

⁴<https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Publications/WIAgStatistics.aspx>

⁵https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/2018/180615_bls_data.htm

⁶<https://www.wmc.org/news/press-releases/manufacturing-agriculture-tax-credit-crucial-to-middle-class-job-expansion/>

MYTH: Manufacturing and Agriculture Tax Credit is too expensive and is corporate welfare

- A report from UW-Madison found that the MAC accounted for a total gain of nearly 21,000 manufacturing jobs (a 4.6% increase) and over 42,000 total jobs (a 1.8% increase) in Wisconsin. This is well worth the investment to grow our economy.¹
- The MAC rewards production in Wisconsin's two largest economic sectors. The manufacturing industry employs more than 488,000 people in our state² and contributes \$56 billion to our economy³ while agriculture accounts for 413,500 jobs and contributes \$88.3 billion to our economy annually.⁴
- WI Ranks 2nd Nationally in Manufacturing Jobs Added Over Year.⁵
- More than 88 percent of MAC recipients in 2017 were small businesses that had incomes of less than \$1 million last year.⁶

MYTH: Child tax rebate and sales tax holiday is a gimmick

- This is the result of a state budget surplus of almost \$400 million due to responsible fiscal management and a strong economy. This is money that belongs the WI taxpayers.
- 557,835 child tax rebate claims submitted to DOR and more than \$85 million was returned to parents, guardians, and grandparents with dependents.
- Wisconsin residents should keep more of their hard-earned money in their pockets. The Child Sales Tax Rebate and the sales tax holiday were just a part of our ongoing efforts to reduce taxes on Wisconsin citizens.

MYTH: We should be spending state dollars on education and health care, not tax cuts

- We **have** invested in education and healthcare
 - Historic investment in education; a typical classroom will see an increase of \$8,340
 - Passed WI Healthcare Stability Plan, fully funded Medicaid and SeniorCare, funded mental health initiatives. *[see healthcare TPs for more]*
 - Since 2010, we've increased income tax deductions used by families to help offset the costs of health care, child care and education
- It's not government's money to begin with. Surplus funds should always go back to whom it belongs—the taxpayers—so they can spend it on their own priorities
- Democrats will always oppose any kind of tax. They want to keep as much of your money as possible to spend on their own priorities