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June 3, 2015
For Immediate Release

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Laurel & Hardy Would Recognize This Bad “Big Business” State Budget Deal

Madison – Today State Senator Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement in response to the Joint Finance Committee’s “another fine mess” they’ve gotten themselves into with the current state budget:

Laurel & Hardy’s 1929 classic film Big Business featured the hapless duo with a big business plan: to sell Christmas trees in July door-to-door in sunny Los Angeles. This business plan fails because the customers won’t buy their trees.

This image came to mind as the details of the all the items that were secretly slipped in the state budget began to be made public. The Republican majority in the legislature is trying to sell a Christmas tree to folks who don’t want it.

Putting a long wish list of special-interest gifts underneath the state budget Christmas tree without public debate and scrutiny in order to buy votes to pass the budget is terrible public policy.

Wisconsinites are very unhappy about this scheme and are pushing back; even members of the Republican majority are beginning to recognize this and are holding their noses and saying this stinks, and they don’t want to be forced to pass a budget with so many controversial and far-reaching items that should be handled with public hearings, public input, and public support.

Through mayhem and bedlam, Laurel & Hardy learned that you can’t force unwilling consumers to buy your Christmas trees. Republicans are finding out that their “Big Business” is bad business for Wisconsinites.

Senator Carpenter’s press releases are available for review at
<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/sen03/news>

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