### FELZKOWSKI FLYER



WISCONSIN'S 12TH SENATE DISTRICT

## JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE BUDGET UPDATE

Yesterday, the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC) held an executive session to vote on budget provisions, closing out the following agencies:

- Department of Workforce Development (DWD)
- Environmental Improvement Fund
- Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS)

### **Key Takeaways:**

- So far, 33 agencies out of 62 are closed.
- Addressed challenges in the meat processing industry by approving 4 new State Meat Inspector positions and created a Meat Processor Grant program.
- Increased the Dairy Processor Grant program to \$400,000 each year.
- Provided \$750,000 in segregated funds (funds collected by and for specific purposes) annually for local ATV and UTV trail and project aids.
- Provided \$200,000 in segregated funds for country snowmobile aids.
- Provided an additional \$2 million for local youth apprenticeship grants.
- Our next Executive Session will be held on Tuesday, June 8th. See the <u>JFC notice</u> for more information on what departments are on the agenda.

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Senator Mary Felzkowski State Capitol - 415 South P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707

Sen.Felzkowski@legis.wi.gov (608)266-2509 June 3rd, 2021 Page 2

# PUBLIC HEARING ON MY VACCINE PASSPORT PROHIBITION BILL

On Wednesday, I testified in favor of my bill, *Assembly Bill 299*, which deals with prohibitions on vaccine passports in Wisconsin.

The bill would prevent any government entity or business from requiring any person to provide proof that the person has received a vaccine against COVID-19 or its variants in order to receive services, access any building, or participate in any function of that business.

Representative Tyler August and I are pursuing this bill as a simple but necessary protection of our personal freedoms.

I continue to encourage everyone in Wisconsin to make medical decisions for themselves based on what is best for their own health.

If a person chooses not to receive a vaccine, especially one that is still in the experimental stage, because they are not comfortable or cannot for health reasons, they should not be forced to do so to access basic life activities.

The Assembly Committee on Constitution and Ethics heard a total of five bills concerning prohibitions of vaccine passports in different facets of life.

You can view the meeting agenda <u>here</u>.

### JUNE DAIRY MONTH

The month of June is celebrated as National Dairy Month.

The Wisconsin dairy industry generates \$45.6 billion each year for the state's economy.

## JEM GRANT AWARDS TO THE 12TH SENATE DISTRICT

I am very excited to announce that five Joint Effort Marketing (JEM) grants have been awarded by the Department of Tourism to communities throughout the 12th Senate District. Congratulations to the recipients of these grants!

Northern Wisconsin ATV/UTV Traveler Development Project - \$38,000

Rhinelander Area Destination Branding Campaign - \$39,550

#welovethenorthwoods Northwoods of Wisconsin COVID-19 Regional Marketing Campaign - \$39,550

Crandon Rocks Labor Day Weekend - \$39,550

Dirt City Duel in Lena - \$6,500

JEM grant funds are available to non-profit organizations for the promotion of Wisconsin tourism events and destinations.



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# DNR FREE FUN WEEKEND IS JUNE 5TH - 6TH

This weekend is the perfect time to get outdoors and find your adventure in Wisconsin. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is hosting the 9th annual *Free Fun Weekend* June 5-6. Park admission fees, fishing licenses and trail passes are waived for all visitors.

Wisconsin is home to 49 state parks, 15 state forests, 44 state trails, 84,000 miles of rivers and streams, roughly 15,000 lakes and so much more. Before heading to a state park, trail or waterbody near you, here are some helpful things to know:

#### **State Parks**

- Admission stickers will not be required.
- All state parks will be open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- Drive-up windows, playgrounds, bathrooms and observation towers are open.
- Stand-alone concession facilities are open to the public at 50% capacity.
- Due to high demand, some properties may reach their pre-determined capacity limits.
   When this happens, properties will close until existing visitors leave, and capacity is reduced.

#### Trails

• Trail passes will not be required for both residents and non-residents.

#### **Fishing**

- Residents and non-residents will not be required to have a fishing license or trout/salmon stamps.
- All 2021-2022 fishing regulations apply, including bag and length limits.



### MEMORIAL DAY RECAP



Harshaw Memorial Day event with former State Senator Dave Zien(center) and Representative Rob Swearingen(right)



Summit Lake Memorial Day Ceremony



Niagara Memorial Day Remembrance