



JOAN BALLWEG

STATE SENATOR • 14TH SENATE DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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June 6, 2024
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Senator Ballweg Celebrates Finance Committee Releasing Funds for Wisconsin's First-Ever "Opportunity Fund"

Madison... State Senator Joan Ballweg joined her colleagues on the Joint Committee on Finance in voting to release \$5 million in funding for the state's first opportunity fund.

"Throughout my first term in the Wisconsin State Senate, I have served as Chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Tourism. While serving in this role, I have created a great relationship with Secretary Sayers from the Department of Tourism," said Ballweg. "I am glad my colleagues on the finance committee joined me in voting to release these funds to the the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation so they can work in collaboration with the Department of Tourism to attract large-scale, national events to the state."

Today's vote by the Joint Committee on Finance follows the enactment of 2023 Wisconsin Act 169 which provides the framework for the Opportunity Fund Program to operate. Authored by Senator Ballweg, Act 169 will allow for the state to invest in local communities and organizations as they apply to host large scale events like the 2025 NFL draft in Green Bay and potential future events like the NBA All-Star game.

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To reach Sen. Ballweg with questions or comments, please call (608) 266-0751 or email Sen.Ballweg@legis.wi.gov. Follow the 14th Senate District by liking the Wisconsin State Senator Joan Ballweg Facebook page (www.facebook.com/WISenBallweg).