



*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

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Contact: Rep. Spreitzer, 608-266-1192

## **State Assembly Approves Bucks Arena Deal** *Rep. Spreitzer supports a good deal for Wisconsin*

MADISON – Today, Rep. Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) released the following statement after voting to approve a deal to help finance a new arena in Milwaukee:

“Today’s vote secures a good deal for the people of Milwaukee, a good deal for the people of the 45th District, and a good deal for the people of Wisconsin. I am proud to support this investment in Milwaukee and the entire state of Wisconsin.

“This deal will create consistent, living wage jobs, now and for decades to come. This is an investment in Wisconsin’s workforce, and it will provide ongoing dollars that we can and should invest in hardworking families across our state. That’s a win for Wisconsin residents.

“This deal will bring in nearly twice the revenue that it costs. Coming on the heels of disastrous Republican budget cuts, that’s money we can’t afford to leave on the table. The \$3 million yearly return on our investment, a sum only likely to grow, should be used to invest in our public schools, our UW system, and our natural resources. That’s a win for Wisconsin taxpayers.

“I understand the positions of fellow legislators and constituents who opposed this deal. As first proposed, this was a bad deal for taxpayers. However, bipartisan negotiations made this deal better. We have dramatically reduced the state cost of this arena, shifting more responsibility to the Milwaukee area, to the owners of the Bucks, and to the fans who buy tickets to see the Bucks play. It is now too great a payoff for taxpayers for me to oppose it.

“If the Milwaukee Bucks were to leave Wisconsin, our state would only stand to lose. While not perfect, I am convinced that the taxpayers of Wisconsin and the 45th District win with this deal.

“Keeping a major sports team in this state, and building a world-class venue for other events, will help keep Wisconsin on the map as a major travel destination and serve as a catalyst for economic development, investment, and job creation. It will only add to the numerous other features that make Wisconsin such a great place to visit, to live, and to raise a family.”

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### **45<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT**

State Capitol: PO Box 8953, Madison, WI 53708 (608) 266-1192  
Toll-free: (888) 534-0045 FAX: (608) 282-3645 E-mail: [Rep.Spreitzer@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Spreitzer@legis.wisconsin.gov)  
Follow me on Twitter [@RepSpreitzer](https://twitter.com/RepSpreitzer) or at Facebook.com/RepSpreitzer