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Senator Mark Spreitzer Slams Republican Vote Removing Provisions from State Budget

MADISON - Today, Republicans on the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC) voted to remove hundreds of provisions from Governor Tony Evers's 2025-2027 state budget proposal. JFC Republicans passed a motion on party lines to return the budget to the "base budget" - or the current levels set in the 2023-2025 budget. Republicans also passed a motion that permanently removed 612 proposals put forward by Governor Evers including proposals to fund the Child Care Counts program, expand BadgerCare, legalize and tax marijuana, provide meals for students at school, and provide critical property tax relief for Wisconsinites.

After the vote, Senator Mark Spreitzer (D-Beloit) released the following statement:

"Today, rather than allowing for robust conversation and debate on the proposals put forward by Governor Evers and Democrats, Republicans chose to slash hundreds of proposals and start the budget process from square one.

"In the midst of economic uncertainty, Republicans chose to remove proposals to fund the Child Care Counts program, expand BadgerCare, legalize and tax marijuana, provide meals for students at school, and provide critical property tax relief for Wisconsinites. These proposals would help everyday Wisconsinites keep more money in their pockets and provide important support to the next generation of Wisconsinites.

"Our state is facing a child care crisis. Without the Child Care Counts program, parents will face rising prices and fewer options as childcare providers close. We must work together to address this crisis. If they are rejecting Child Care Counts, my Republican colleagues must bring forward a serious alternative that will not leave parents and children behind.

"As I held listening sessions throughout the 15th Senate District, I heard loud and clear that our district wants to see robust investments that support our state and help its residents to thrive. I will continue to use the clear feedback I received in those meetings to guide me as this process continues and as I fight for the best budget for our state. As the budget process continues, I hope that my colleagues will recognize the importance of supporting working Wisconsinites and their families and will work with Democrats to pass a bipartisan budget that addresses their needs."

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15th SENATE DISTRICT