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## **Response to the Governor's Budget Address**

Madison, WI – Gov. Tony Evers delivered his third Budget Address to a joint session of the legislature. State Sen. Duey Stroebel (R – Cedarburg) issued the following statement in response:

"This evening, Gov. Evers announced his reckless plan to immensely grow government and spend over \$8.5 billion in additional state taxpayers' money, including adding over 800 new full-time government employees. While the majority of his liberal spending proposals come as no surprise, I am disappointed Evers pushed the radical agenda to freeze enrollment in the state's school choice program. No agenda is bipartisan or prokid when it attacks the ability of parents to make educational decisions for their kids."

"There has been much discussion about our projected \$7.1 billion surplus, which is in part due to conservative fiscal policy and controlling frivolous government spending by the Legislature over the last decade. However, the surplus is not "free money." It includes one-time federal COVID money that cannot support the checkbook-busting permanent increases Evers proposes. Even this surplus wasn't enough because Evers had to propose raising taxes on job creators to pretend his numbers worked."

"In the upcoming months JFC will craft an actual, responsible state budget. The Legislature will listen to the public over the next several months and take their comments into consideration. At the end of the day, we must look to fund our priorities and obligations rather than spend irresponsibly. Just like the last two budgets, we will keep money in the pockets of hardworking taxpayers and invest in the future."

Senator Stroebel represents the 20th Senate District which includes parts of Ozaukee, Washington, Fond du Lac, Calumet and Sheboygan Counties.

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