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***PRESS RELEASE***

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**Connect the Dots: Governor's Vetoes Hurt Rural Families**

*Governor Evers Slashes Rural Wisconsin with Veto Pen*

**Madison:** Last week, the legislature voted to pass a budget which makes significant investments in Wisconsin's schools, health care, and infrastructure. Unfortunately, before signing the budget on Wednesday, Governor Evers made several changes that negatively impact rural Wisconsin.

Specifically targeted for elimination were several provisions championed by Senator Patrick Testin (Stevens Point), including funding set aside for cleaning up nitrate contamination in wells, and a scholarship program designed for dental students who agree to work in underserved areas. These provisions were either eliminated entirely or altered significantly.

"Today, Governor Evers' used his veto pen to cut funding that would have helped rural families; said Senator Testin. "With that pen, he slashed through years of his rhetoric and lip service to show how he really feels about those of us who don't live in Madison or Milwaukee."

Another blow for rural Wisconsin was the Governor's elimination of \$15 million in local road aids – money that would have been used to bolster infrastructure in towns, cities, and villages.

"Our initial budget made significant and specific investments in Wisconsin's roads, but the Governor has chosen to reduce this allocation, and place decisions on spending in the hands of bureaucrats," said Sen. Testin. "To say I'm disappointed is an understatement."

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