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STATE SENATOR

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Sen. Testin responds to Gov. Evers' State of the State address

'Wisconsin deserves better than this'

MADISON, Wis. – Sen. Patrick Testin (R-Stevens Point) released the following statement in response to tonight's State of the State address where Gov. Tony Evers neglected to mention that he has been obstructing the Legislature's efforts to correct the problems in Wisconsin, many of which were created by him:

“It has become blatantly obvious that Gov. Evers is more concerned with pointing fingers and scoring political points than actually governing and helping the people of Wisconsin without emptying their pocketbooks. To address the workforce shortage in our state, the governor wants taxpayers to fund a new state agency. Legislative Republicans would rather make the state more business-friendly by providing tax relief. Those attempts have failed thanks to Gov. Evers' veto pen.

“Gov. Evers also claims Wisconsin is facing a looming child care crisis and that inaction by Republicans is to blame. However, the governor's primary solution is to blindly throw money at the Child Care Counts program without having any real plan of action.

“Legislative Republicans have offered proposals to actually fix the issue without taxing residents out of their homes. For example, we have introduced bills that would change state regulations to boost child care providers' capacity, create a revolving loan fund program and establish a child care reimbursement account. We have also proposed expanding the child and dependent care tax credit so families can better afford to have children and stay in the workforce. Yet, Gov. Evers has either vetoed or promised to veto every single one of those measures.

“The governor may say that he wants the Legislature to bring forward ideas to tackle the child care crisis, but it is quite clear that he is only interested in his own ideas. Throughout the night, Gov. Evers' remarks sounded more like a stump speech than a State of the State address. I heard very little about policy items that would result in the governor working with the Legislature. Wisconsin deserves better than this.”

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