



DIANNE H. HESSELBEIN

STATE SENATOR • SENATE DISTRICT 27

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**Statement by Senator Dianne Hesselbein, Democratic Senate Leader,
on 2025-2027 Budget Agreement**

I have been at the table fighting hard on behalf of Senate Democrats to help hammer out a bi-partisan budget agreement. Remember where we were a week ago: Republicans proposing \$87 million in cuts to the UW, a mere 5% increase in reimbursement for special education, and no direct payments to childcare providers. Elections matter: the fact that Democrats gained four Senate seats and are close to taking the majority means that Senate Democrats were able to make this budget agreement better for the people of Wisconsin.

Through tough negotiations, compromise and spirited discussion, we now have an agreement that, while not perfect and not the budget Democrats will craft when we are in the majority, addresses the priorities Wisconsinites have clearly expressed: fund our public schools, make childcare more affordable, and invest in the UW System.

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