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Contact: Sen. Dianne Hesselbein (608) 266-6670

HESSELBEIN RESPONDS TO REPUBLICANS' REMOVAL OF MORE THAN 500 PROVISIONS OF GOVERNOR EVERS' BUDGET PRPOSAL

MADISON – Today, the Republican members of the Joint Finance Committee voted to remove hundreds of provisions from Governor Evers' proposed 2023-25 state budget. Programs like funding paid family leave, expanding broadband access and legalizing marijuana and many more were summarily dismissed as the committee voted.

"This is part of what makes the budget process so confusing for Wisconsinites to follow," said Hesselbein. "We see provisions with broad support like Medicaid expansion, common-sense gun safety proposals, and investments in clean water and energy introduced by the Governor and removed by the Joint Finance Committee. After today's action, the JFC Republicans will begin the process of adding things back in with their own changes.

"Governor Evers created a budget with input from people all across Wisconsin. It is a reflection of our state's values and our hopes for the future. We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to invest some of our \$7 billion surplus back into our state to support families, teachers, health care professionals, business people, and so many others. For the Republicans to immediately toss that aside, ignoring the voices of Wisconsinites, is incredibly frustrating and discouraging."

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