



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 2, 2015

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Budget Bill Clears Joint Committee on Finance

MADISON – On Thursday, the budget-writing Joint Finance Committee (JFC) approved the 2015-2017 State Budget. JFC Co-chairs State Senator Alberta Darling (R-River Hills) and State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette) issued the following statement regarding passage of the budget:

“The budget we passed continues to move Wisconsin in the right direction. It’s important to protect our state’s hard-working taxpayers, and we are happy to report that this budget does not raise sales, income, or property taxes.

“Our top priority this budget season has been investing in public education. We have increased funding for K-12 and we are targeting education reforms to where they are needed most. Wisconsin students are our state’s future leaders, and it’s vital to invest in their educational foundation.

“In addition to investing in K-12 education, we have taken steps to ensure the academic quality of our UW System is maintained. Not only were we able to restore \$50 million to the system, but we protected Wisconsin students by approving a two-year tuition freeze. These efforts, along with additional flexibilities, help prevent avoidable costs from being shifted to students and their families.

“We have protected Wisconsin’s long term care programs for our most vulnerable populations. SeniorCare and FamilyCare will continue to be valuable resources for the people of Wisconsin. It’s critically important to ensure that elderly and disabled people throughout our state continue to have access to the services they need.

“We have done our due diligence and improved upon the governor’s recommendations this budget season. With prudent fiscal budgeting and bold reforms, we have made decisions that will continue to move Wisconsin forward.”

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