



# DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF WISCONSIN

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## **Governor Doyle's Budget Protects Education, Property Taxpayers**

MADISON – Joe Wineke, Chair of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin, released the following statement today on Governor Jim Doyle's signing of the 2005-2007 biennial state budget:

"I applaud Governor Doyle for his leadership, and for his commitment to ensuring that our state budget reflects the values of the people of Wisconsin. Today, Governor Doyle signed into law a budget that meets his promise to cut spending, cut taxes, protect and fund public education, and freeze property taxes.

"Republicans will have a hard time arguing Governor Doyle's property tax freeze is not a freeze. Under the Governor's freeze, the average property tax bill will not increase at all next year – and will actually decrease by \$5 the following year. If that's not a freeze, I don't know what is.

"The real difference between the Governor's freeze and the Republican freeze is that Governor Doyle has used his veto power to ensure that a freeze both provides property tax relief and protects our public schools – instead of cutting them.

"I commend Governor Doyle for signing a responsible budget that provides meaningful tax relief, freezes property taxes, and invests in Wisconsin priorities, from education to the environment to health care."

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