

Rep. Mursau: Statement on budget passage

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Madison ... Representative Jeff Mursau (R-Crivitz) joined his Assembly colleagues in voting for the 2017-2019 state budget in the Wisconsin State Assembly.

"I take my vote on the two-year budget very seriously," said Mursau. "I always balance whether the overall package will positively impact my district and protect the average taxpayer. After much deliberation and careful consideration I cast my vote in support of the budget because it does both."

Among the many highlights in the two-year state budget package are:

- Largest investment in K-12 education in state history
- Doesn't increase sales, property or income taxes
- Freezes tuition for another two years for in-state undergraduate students and increases financial aid by \$15 million
- \$11 million increase in worker training grants
- Lowest level of transportation bonding in over a decade
- Increases aid for local roads
- Fully funds Medicaid to help provide medical care for poor and elderly populations
- Protects the state's fully funded pension

"While there are more positives in the budget than negatives, I am disappointed that the Forestry Mill Tax was repealed," expressed Mursau. "However, I am encouraged the Governor and the legislature fully funded the forestry account and I trust this commitment to the industry will continue in future budgets."

The budget bill will now head to the state Senate for consideration before going to Governor Walker to be signed into law.