

Sen. Darling, Rep. Nygren: Joint Committee on Finance passes budget bill

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Madison: On Wednesday, the budget-writing Joint Finance Committee (JFC) approved the 2017-2019 State Budget. JFC Co-chairs State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette) and State Senator Alberta Darling (R-River Hills) released the following statement regarding passage of the budget:

“We are proud that this budget will continue to move Wisconsin in the right direction. From day one, it was important to us to take the Governor’s proposed budget and improve on it. Together, we have crafted a budget that puts Wisconsin working families first.

“Our top priority is to provide our children the education that they deserve. By providing an additional \$639 million directly into the classroom, our budget will have an immediate impact on the lives of children and educators in our state. Historic investments like this give children and educators the tools they need to succeed in school and in life.

“In addition to ensuring a quality education for our children, we have once again protected the taxpayer. This budget does not raise sales, income or property taxes. Property taxes will once again be lower than they were in 2010 when Governor

Walker took office. We are giving families the power to keep more of their hard-earned money.

“As the budget process comes to a close, it is clear that prudent fiscal budgeting and common sense reforms have created a budget that will continue to move Wisconsin forward. We are setting aside almost \$200 million dollars, combined with the rainy day fund, to help protect taxpayers if there are any economic challenges in the next two years.

“Wisconsinites deserve to take pride in their budget, and we believe this budget gives them just that. We would like to thank all of the service agencies that have put in countless hours and effort to help this process run smoothly.”