

Sen. Vukmir and Rep. Hutton: A call for full repeal of the state's prevailing wage law

Posted on Tuesday, Apr 11, 2017

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Vukmir, Hutton circulate bill to save taxpayers money on government projects

MADISON, Wis. – Sen. Leah Vukmir, R-Brookfield, and Rep. Rob Hutton, R-Brookfield, Tuesday reintroduced a bill that would repeal Wisconsin's prevailing wage law for state projects following the announcement the initiative was removed from the budget.

“As lawmakers we have a responsibility to manage the transportation budget efficiently,” Vukmir said. “It’s unrealistic to do so without the accessibility of all tools. Repealing this burdensome red tape will ensure the use of taxpayer dollars are maximized.”

“Two years ago we passed prevailing wage reform for local governments,” Hutton said. “It is now time to finish what we started and pass full prevailing wage repeal. As we look at the transportation budget this spring, we must ensure taxpayers are receiving the best value for their tax dollars.”

In the 2015-17 budget, the prevailing wage requirement was repealed for local governments, including towns, cities, counties and school districts beginning on Jan. 1, 2017. Now local governments can receive competitive bids for projects that don't include unreasonably high prevailing wage costs.

In 2015, Vukmir and Hutton authored the bill that would repeal the wage

requirement from all state and local projects. This session's proposal completes that original goal.