

WisDems: Howard Marklein voted to give billions to Foxconn while shorting our roads and schools

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MADISON — Howard Marklein’s latest re-election ad makes several glaring omissions from his time in the legislature. A quick look behind the curtains makes the facts clear: Howard Marklein voted to give billions of taxpayer dollars to a foreign corporation while shorting priorities for hardworking Wisconsinites.

CLAIM: Howard Marklein *“kept [his] word to look after your tax dollars”*

REALITY: Marklein voted to give \$4.5 billion of taxpayer money to Foxconn, a Chinese corporation with a [history](#) of broken promises. This \$4.5 billion giveaway is the [largest](#) state taxpayer handout to a foreign corporation in U.S. history. Under the best-case scenario, it will be at [least 25 years](#) until Wisconsin taxpayers could potentially break even on their investment, if at all.

CLAIM: *“We’ll be spending more on things that matter here at home: education...”*

REALITY: One of Marklein’s first acts in public office was to vote to [slash](#) \$800 million in funding for Wisconsin’s classrooms. Seven years later, funding for public education remains [below](#) what it was in 2009. Wisconsin [spends](#) about \$1,000 less per pupil than before Marklein took office and [ranks below](#) six other Midwest states.

CLAIM: *“We’ll be spending more on things that matter here at home:...transportation”*

REALITY: As part of Republicans' \$4.5 billion taxpayer giveaway to Foxconn, Marklein [voted](#) to divert \$90 million in funding for local road projects to Foxconn. Thanks to the neglect of Republicans like Marklein, the financial burden of Wisconsin's crumbling roads has fallen to Wisconsin taxpayers — local government "wheel taxes" have [nearly tripled](#), and Wisconsinites in some parts of the state are paying [upwards](#) of \$2,100 on car repairs because of the poor conditions of Wisconsin's roads.

The facts couldn't be clearer: Howard Marklein has neglected and short changed Wisconsin priorities while doling out billions of taxpayer dollars to a foreign corporation.