

# DATCP: Secretary releases statement on budget

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MADISON - As Governor Tony Evers signed the 2019-2021 biennial state budget, Secretary-designee Brad Pfaff of the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) commended his actions Wednesday.

“The budget Governor Evers signed today is a down payment on the People’s Budget and the priorities of the people of our state, including our farmers and rural communities,” Pfaff said. “For several years, Wisconsin farmers have faced a triple whammy of low commodity prices, trade uncertainty, and challenging weather. These conditions have caused significant financial and emotional stress for the agriculture community across our state. Governor Evers and I recognize that, and the budget he signed today is a better budget for those family farmers and the rural communities they call home.”

Among other provisions, 2019 Wisconsin Act 9 contains:

- A record \$48 million to expand broadband service to underserved areas
- \$8.8 million for a Dairy Innovation Hub in the University of Wisconsin System to encourage research and innovation in our dairy industry
- An additional \$200,000 for promoting Wisconsin foods to local buyers in local markets

“As farmers know better than anyone, there is always more work to be done. Thanks to the work of the people of our state and Governor Evers, the budget he signed is a solid step forward on the road ahead,” added Pfaff. “I look forward to continuing to work with the Governor and the people of our state who are counting on us to roll up our sleeves and get things done.”

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