

GOP leaders send tax cut bill to Evers, moving up timeline to act

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GOP legislative leaders Thursday sent the Republican version of the middle-class tax cut to Tony Evers, moving up the timeline for the gov to act on the bill.

The action triggers a window of seven days, not including Sundays, for Evers to sign the bill, veto it or allow it to become law without his signature.

Without the action, the legislation wouldn't have gone to Evers until April 25.

Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, R-Rochester, late Thursday afternoon tweeted the bill had been sent to Evers, and Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald, R-Juneau, tweeted, "Middle-class families shouldn't have to wait until the end of the budget process to pick up whatever scraps are left. We have a surplus, let's give them a tax cut today - sign this bill @GovEvers."

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Evers has sent numerous signals that he will likely veto the bill and believes the tax cut should be addressed in the budget.

Under the GOP bill, changes in the withholding tables wouldn't take effect until January 2020, and some see today's move as an attempt to force Evers' hand ahead of his budget, which will be introduced Feb. 28.

A Vos spokeswoman said the bill was sent to the gov early because "There's no reason to wait. The middle class families of Wisconsin have every right to know whether a tax cut is coming their way so they can budget accordingly."

An Evers spokeswoman didn't immediately return a call and text seeking a response.