

Protect Our Care: Sen. Olsen blocks Badgercare, \$146 million in direct healthcare investment in his own district

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MADISON, WI – Today, the Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee voted down a key budget provision proposed by Gov. Tony Evers. Republicans—including Sen. Luther Olsen—voted to remove the funding for a Badgercare expansion from the state’s budget.

Adopting the proposal would bring more than **[\\$1.6 Billion](#)** in direct healthcare investment to Wisconsin, making a significant impact in individual communities across the state.

For example, in counties that make up Sen. Olsen’s district alone, new investments, funded by federal tax dollars their constituents already paid, would include;

- **[\\$15.8M](#) for the district’s hospitals**
- **[\\$5.46M](#) for long term care**
- **[\\$2.96M](#) for dental care**
- **[\\$3.05M](#) for behavioral health**

- **[\\$3.69M](#) for combating childhood lead poisoning**

All in all, Sen. Olsen today voted NO on a total of **\$146 million for his own district**, choosing to side with Republican Party bosses in Madison rather than his constituents in Senate District 14.

A recent Marquette Poll found that **70 percent** of Wisconsinites support Governor Evers' plan to expand state's Medicaid program, and a **separate study** found that access to Medicaid would drastically increase economic mobility among Wisconsinites.

In addition, **a new report** released yesterday found that providing expanded access to Badgercare under this plan would help to fight the opioid crisis in Wisconsin and lower premiums for the individual market by **7-11%**.

When will Sen. Olsen stop playing politics with his constituents' health care, and start doing what's right?