

Sen. LeMahieu: Votes for state budget

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Madison - Today, the Senate approved the 2019-21 state budget. The proposal lowers the tax burden while increasing funding for education, infrastructure, and providing care for the vulnerable. When combined with separate legislation (AB-251) passed today, the Senate approved more than \$450 million in income tax relief for Wisconsin families.

“The Legislature’s two year budget lowers taxes for hard-working families while still funding core priorities like education, infrastructure, and healthcare,” stated Sen. Devin LeMahieu (R-Oostburg).

Additionally, the budget makes a historic \$156 million investment into local roads. This includes a 10% increase for general transportation aids and uses surplus dollars to provide a \$90 million one-time boost to fix and repair local roads in Towns, Counties and Municipalities.

“Thanks to prudent budgeting and a strong economy, Wisconsin has a surplus,” continued LeMahieu. “This budget invests a portion of that surplus into asphalt and concrete to repair local roads.”

Other highlights from the budget include a \$25 million increase in technical education paired with a \$12.5 million increase in worker training programs to help fill the workforce demands of a thriving economy, a \$71 million increase in nursing home reimbursement to assist in serving the elderly, and a record \$291 million investment from the projected surplus into the state’s Rainy Day fund.

“Our unemployment rate is at or below 3% for the last sixteen months. Wisconsin’s growing economy has created a \$700 million surplus. This gives the Legislature the opportunity to invest in Wisconsin while providing relief to taxpayers,” concluded LeMahieu.

Senator Devin LeMahieu (R-Oostburg) represents the 9th Senate District, which includes portions of Sheboygan, Manitowoc, and Calumet Counties. He is a Member of the Joint Committee on Finance.