

# JFC Democrats: Invest in Wisconsin's future, Republicans still stuck in the past

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MADISON, WI – Today, the Joint Committee on Finance took action on state agencies that are well-positioned to ensure Wisconsin's infrastructure is set up for success now and in the future. With a historic surplus of nearly \$7 billion, Wisconsin has the ability to invest in building our infrastructure in a fiscally responsible way, creating jobs through building projects and tourism, and expanding access to broadband. Yet, after hearing from Wisconsinites from around the state about the need for internet access, Republicans left out the key \$750 million investment in the state broadband expansion grant program proposed by Governor Evers.

After today's executive session, Democratic members of the Joint Committee on Finance provided the following statement:

**“Today, Republicans missed an opportunity to use our historic surplus to invest in our state's infrastructure, create jobs, promote tourism, and expand broadband access. Unfortunately, these essential steps to stimulate economic development and ensure Wisconsin remains an attractive place to live, work, and visit were rejected by the Republicans on the committee.**

**By opposing the governor's forward-thinking investments, JFC Republicans voted against over 16,000 good-paying construction jobs and left Wisconsin's rural communities behind by providing zero additional dollars to expand basic internet access. As the Democratic members of the Joint Committee on Finance, we stand committed to building a prosperous and vibrant Wisconsin. ”**