

Rep. Kitchens: Assembly approves state budget

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(Madison) – Wisconsin taxpayers could soon see the largest tax cut in the state’s history. On Thursday, the Wisconsin State Assembly approved the 2023-25 State Budget. State Representative Joel Kitchens says the plan is responsible while investing in important priorities.

“This is a budget that works for everyone in Wisconsin. It is responsible, makes our state more competitive with our neighbors, and is sustainable for the future,” Kitchens said, “While no budget is ever perfect, this one is certainly better than the plan offered by Governor Evers. His plan took a \$7 billion surplus and created a budget deficit, raised taxes by \$2 billion, and grew the size of government by 800 positions. That’s frankly irresponsible and unsustainable.”

The budget approved by the Legislature cuts taxes by \$4.4 billion, including \$600 million in property tax relief. K-12 schools are receiving more than \$1 billion. The plan also targets \$30 million for mental health initiatives and \$50 million to support the Right to Read Act which was authored by Representative Kitchens.

“We aren’t just throwing money at problems, this budget delivers real solutions,” Kitchens said, “Investing \$50 million to improve the way kids are taught to read in our state is one of the most important items in the plan. That money will go a long way in retraining teachers and improving curricula that will turn our reading scores around.”

We are investing \$3 billion in healthcare to lower costs for consumers. The transportation budget also includes \$53.75 million to fix local bridges and \$150 million for Agriculture Road Improvements. These are significant investments in our transportation system that will help keep our roads, bridges, and waterways safer.



Representative Kitchens represents Door, Kewaunee, and part of Brown County.