

State of Wisconsin -- Office of the State Treasurer

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Treasurer works to provide clarity in the state's budget process

As the legislature begins to formally review the Governor's budget proposal, the Office of the State Treasurer is taking steps to add transparency to the process for state taxpayers. The Office of the State Treasurer's website now features a guide to the Wisconsin Budget Process. Included in the guide are a timeline and explanation of the budget process as well as an outline of the role the Treasurer plays. This new resource will provide more transparency and encourages citizens to engage in this important process.

"Taxpayers deserve to know how the government spends their money, and the first step is providing transparency on how Wisconsin's budget is crafted. The budget is a statement of our values and how our hard-earned tax dollars are spent," said Treasurer Godlewski.

The website is just the latest example of the State Treasurer's commitment to serving as Wisconsin's fiscal watchdog. This is the first of several tools the State Treasurer will roll out to increase government transparency. The office is developing a report that will highlight and break down government spending, helping taxpayers see where their dollars are being spent.

The website also provides a series of budget advocacy sheets explaining the State Treasurer's positive impact on issues critical to Wisconsinites including Conservation, Education, Retirement, and Student Loan Debt. Wisconsinites who care about these issues are encouraged to advocate for the 'People's Budget,' which includes additional resources for the State Treasurer's office that will allow it to advocate for Wisconsin taxpayers. Each sheet offers a draft letter supporting the budget that can be shared with elected officials.

"Wisconsinites voted overwhelming to ensure that they would continue to have a critical fiscal watchdog, and now it's time to allow our office to tap into our existing resources so we can continue to operate at the highest standard. This office doesn't use a single taxpayer dollar. It's common sense to let us use our own revenue to restore this office and serve the people." Treasurer Godlewski continued.

The website of the Office of the State Treasurer can be found at www.statetreasurer.wi.gov.

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Established in 1848 in our state's constitution, the State Treasurer is Wisconsin's chief financial officer. The Treasurer signs the state's checkbook, advocates for improved financial and investment management strategy, and acts as the state's fiscal watchdog.