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Contact: Rep. Jonathan Brostoff, (608) 266-0650

Statement from Rep. Brostoff on Passage of Republican Budget

Where Governor Evers Gave us the “People’s Budget,” Republicans Default to Partisanship Yet Again

MADISON – In response to last night’s passage of Republicans’ amended version of Assembly Bill 56, the state budget for the 2019-2020 biennium, Rep. Jonathan Brostoff (D-Milwaukee) released the following statement:

“Governor Evers’ ‘People’s Budget’ was the result of months of consultation with the people of Wisconsin, and included proposals with broad bipartisan support among everyday Wisconsinites: Medicaid expansion, proper funding for our schools, access to clean water, redistricting reform, legalization of medical marijuana, much needed transportation funding, and beyond. In spite of that, Republicans decided that they knew better than their own voters and stripped or watered down those proposals in the budget they put before us last night. Last night, we were forced to vote on the Republican Budget - the people of Wisconsin deserved a vote on the *People’s Budget*.”

After his election last November and again after his inauguration in January, Governor Evers made a point to visit communities across the state, and listened to Wisconsin voters regardless of political affiliation about their budget priorities. As a result of those listening sessions, Governor Evers crafted the “People’s Budget,” a budget that would have provided historic investments to healthcare, education, and transportation funding, among other needed improvements in Wisconsin. Furthermore, the “People’s Budget” would have introduced a number of progressive proposals with broad support among Wisconsinites.

“To add insult to injury, Republicans in the Legislature are trying to take a victory lap with this subpar budget, pointing out that it spends more than past Republican budgets have. What Republicans are all too willing to gloss over though, is that year after year of reckless spending cuts by former Governor Walker and his allies in the Legislature have set that bar pitifully low. In our country and in our state, it seems like there are few things more Republican these days than making a mess, doing the bare minimum to clean it up, and then claiming to be Mr. Clean himself.”

OFFICE: State Capitol, P.O. Box 8952, Madison, WI 53708 ★ PHONE: (608) 266-0650

TOLL-FREE: (888) 534-0019 ★ E-MAIL: Rep.Brostoff@legis.wisconsin.gov ★ WEB: <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/19/brostoff>