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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Biennial Budget Option for Local Governments Signed into Law

Madison, WI – Earlier today, Gov. Tony Evers signed Assembly Bill 193 (AB 193) into law as 2019 Act 42. The proposal authored by Rep. Rick Gundrum (R – Slinger), Rep. Rob Brooks, Sen. Dale Kooyenga, and Sen. Chris Kapenga seeks to provide cities, counties, towns, and villages with more flexibility in their fiscal management by allowing these local units of government to transition to a two-year budget cycle. Under current law, Wisconsin’s local governments are only authorized to adopt a budget on an annual basis. Rep. Gundrum issued the following statement regarding the enactment of AB 193:

“I’m pleased to see AB 193 cross the finish line and get signed into law. I’m confident that the framework established under the bill will benefit the local governments that decide to take advantage of the newly-created biennial budget option. While there were a number of distinctions between my experiences serving at the county and municipal level, one of the most striking similarities was the constraint that the annual budget cycle placed on being able to conduct more effective long-range planning and program review.

Through a two-year budget cycle, local governments will be in a better position to allocate more time toward measuring the performance of their programs and services, thus creating more opportunity to find efficiencies and improve their day-to-day operations.”

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