

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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School Funding and Property Tax Relief in Jeopardy

MADISON, WI – Senator Jennifer Shilling (D-La Crosse) released the following statement after Republicans announced a shortsighted plan that ignores the Governor's proposal to invest surplus funds in Wisconsin public classrooms and lower property taxes:

"It's disappointing that Republicans are rejecting \$130 million in property tax relief for Wisconsin homeowners. Worse yet, they are depriving Wisconsin students the opportunity of a quality education by ignoring Gov. Evers' special session to invest in classrooms, special education, mental health care, and rural schools. If we want to re-establish Wisconsin's reputation as a leader in K-12 education, we need to retain quality teachers, invest in modern facilities and meet high education standards."

Despite overwhelming public support for Governor Evers' 2019-21 budget that restored funding back into classrooms, Republicans blocked proposals to invest \$1.4 billion more into local classrooms and cut over \$500 million in special education funding. Republicans additionally cut \$46 million to mental health services and significantly reduced funding for rural sparsity aid.

Media Note: See email attachment for a memo from the nonpartisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau highlighting investments to Wisconsin school districts under Governor Evers' proposal.

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