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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rep. Snyder Votes for Broadband Expansion

Also Closes Loophole to Ensure City of Wausau Held Harmless

Madison... Today, Representative Patrick Snyder's (R-Schofield) voted to pass a number of bills that will benefit residents of Marathon County. The first bill, Assembly Bill 371, will improve the Broadband Expansion Grant Program to speed up the broadband expansion across Wisconsin. This bill will allow the Grant Program to prioritize getting high speeds of 100 mbps down / 20 mbps up to all parts of Wisconsin lagging behind.

Rep. Snyder said:

“Improving access to high quality broadband has long been one of my priorities in Madison. Access to high speed internet unlocks the potential of people and businesses across Marathon County allowing them to actively engage in modern markets, education, and entertainment. These improvements will ensure that the increased funding towards broadband expansion provided for in the budget will be used in the manner to most effectively provide broadband to those who need it.”

Assembly Bill 56 will benefit the City of Wausau and other municipalities across the state that are facing issues due to an unintended interpretation of a 2017-19 budget provision related to an exemption of certain items from the personal property tax as related to Tax Incremental Districts (TID). Closing this loophole will ensure that the City of Wausau is held harmless.

“Local municipalities should never have to sacrifice revenue due to a loophole or an unintended interpretation in Madison. Closing this loophole will ensure that the City of Wausau is held harmless and recoup \$113,421.39 from the state.”

Among the other bills passed today are:

AB 120 – would ensure that communities across Wisconsin that “defund the police” see an equivalent reduction in shared revenue from the state to offset the cut.

AB 374 - would ensure that Wisconsin counties and municipalities see their fair share of a potentially imminent settlement in federal court with opioid manufacturers. Under the bill all funds received will be used for opioid addiction mitigation and treatment.

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