

For Immediate Release Contact: Rep. Rick Gundrum June 30, 2021 (608) 264-8486

Rep. Gundrum Votes for 2021-2023 Budget

Madison, WI – Rep. Rick Gundrum (R-Slinger) voted yesterday for the 2021-2023 Wisconsin State Budget. After voting for the budget, he released the following statement:

"I am very pleased with the 2021-2023 state budget. Every budget provides the State Legislature an opportunity to realistically and responsibly invest funds from Wisconsin's taxpayers. The budget put forward by the Joint Committee on Finance does just that.

"Whenever there is an excess of tax revenue, it should be our duty as state legislators to return the extra taxes back to the taxpayers. The historic \$3.4 billion tax cut allows Wisconsinites to keep more of what they earned. This has been the long-term strategy of Wisconsin Republicans and it has reaped long-term benefits. The typical Wisconsin family will receive \$1,200 in income and property tax relief. We are investing \$200 million to eliminate the personal property tax. It also collapses the 6.27% income tax rate to 5.3%.

"One of the areas that was of most concern to me in Governor Evers' proposed budget was the structural deficit. The structural deficit, essentially, is the calculation by the Legislative Fiscal Bureau (LFB) to give lawmakers an indication of the starting point for the next budget. Under the governor's proposal, the structural deficit was projected to be \$1.3 billion. The proposal by the Joint Committee on Finance is projected to be \$286 million. While I do not like structural deficits, this amount is a much healthier alternative to the governor's proposal.

"As chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care, I am happy to see crucial investments in the assisted living facilities. Nearly \$440 million will be spent on long-term care facilities and the caregiving workforce. As Wisconsin's elderly population steadily grows, we need to ensure they receive the quality care they deserve.

"I hope Governor Evers signs this budget into law."

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