JIM PIWOWARCZYK
STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 98TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT
(608) 237-9198
Rep.Piwowarczyk@legis.wisconsin.gov
P.O. Box 8953
Madison, WI 53708-8953

For Immediate Release
November 16, 2026

Contact: Rep. Jim Piwowarczyk
(608) 237-9198

Piwowarczyk Calls for Special Session to Return $2.6 Billion Surplus to Taxpayers Before Jan. 3

Lawmaker contrasts taxpayer rebates of up to $1,000 and $2,000 with DPI's $2.75 billion budget request

MADISON – State Rep. Jim Piwowarczyk (R-Hubertus) is calling on Gov. Tony Evers and legislative leaders of both parties to convene the Legislature before Jan. 3 and pass his bill returning Wisconsin's entire projected $2.6 billion surplus to taxpayers.

Piwowarczyk's bill, LRB-6935, would send rebates of up to $1,000 to individuals and up to $2,000 to married couples who owed state income tax for 2024. The nonpartisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau estimated Nov. 11 that the projected $2.6 billion balance would cover rebates of that size.

"The money is there, the bill is drafted, and this Legislature serves until January," Piwowarczyk said. "I am asking Governor Evers and Legislature to come together and get this done."

The governor can call a special session at any time, as Evers did in May for a surplus package. The current session runs until noon Jan. 4, when Gov.-elect David Crowley and the new Legislature are sworn in.

On Nov. 13, State Superintendent Jill Underly released a Department of Public Instruction budget request for roughly $2.75 billion in new school and library aid. Incoming Democratic legislative leaders have said they would likely direct surplus money to school aid.

"Wisconsin families are in an affordability crisis, and DPI's answer is a $2.75 billion request that would swallow most of the surplus," Piwowarczyk said. "We can return this money to the taxpayers who earned it, or we can hand it to DPI. I trust families to spend it better than a state agency will."

"Democrats ran on affordability. Here is their chance to prove it before they are even sworn in," Piwowarczyk said. "A rebate could pay off debt, cover Christmas gifts or pay the property tax bill arriving next month."

A Marquette Law School poll found 80% of Wisconsin adults wanted the Legislature to pass May's surplus package, which included smaller rebates and failed in the Senate, 15-18.

"Taxpayers have waited all year for leaders to act on this surplus. There is still time," Piwowarczyk said. "If Governor Evers does not call a special session, I will reintroduce this bill on the first day of the new session."

###

Representative Piwowarczyk represents the 98th Assembly District, which includes parts of Washington and Waukesha Counties