

Press Release:

January 19, 2017

Contact: Rep. Travis Tranel - 608-266-1170

Priorities: Rural Roads & Education

Madison, WI – Representative Travis Tranel (R- Cuba City) released the following statement after the Legislative Fiscal Bureau increased the projected budget estimates by 450 million dollars:

“These new estimates confirm that our responsible approach to growing the economy is working. I am committed to making Wisconsin taxes more affordable, yet also urge my legislative colleagues and the Governor to use this opportunity to address the real problems facing all of rural Wisconsin.

This is the time to get serious about fixing our town and county roads. We have not seen any significant investment in rural roads in far too long. Some of our town roads have deteriorated to the point where farmers can no longer drive their tractors down them at 20 miles per hour. This is simply unacceptable.

Our rural schools are under extreme financial pressure. They have significantly more challenges than their more urban and suburban counterparts, mainly because of declining enrollment. It is time for the state to recognize it is going to cost more to educate a child in a rural environment than an urban one, and fund them accordingly. It is disingenuous at best for the legislature to claim it is cutting property taxes, when rural district after rural district is forced to go to referendum simply to cover operating costs.

Rural Wisconsin has played a big part in returning state government to Republican control. I look forward to working with my colleagues to make sure we address the needs of rural Wisconsin in a meaningful and substantial way. The status quo is simply no longer acceptable.”

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