



CINDI DUCHOW

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 99th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

(608) 266-3007
Toll-Free (888) 534-0099

Rep.Duchow@legis.wi.gov
P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952

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Contact: Rep. Cindi Duchow
(608) 266-3007

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Rep. Duchow Disappointed in Governor's Budget Plan

Madison, WI—State Representative Cindi Duchow (R-Delafield) was disappointed in Governor Tony Evers' state budget that was presented to a joint legislative session Thursday night at the State Capitol.

"Tonight was our first look at the budget and despite working with a divided government this session, I was hopeful that we could find common ground and work together on issues that matter to the people of Wisconsin," Duchow said. "Governor Evers' budget proposal proves that he isn't interested in bipartisanship at all. Rather, his only interest is in advancing his own agenda. His wish list of policy items and tax increases will move Wisconsin in the wrong direction."

Earlier this year, Rep. Duchow joined her Assembly Republican colleagues in voting for a middle class tax cut that would help Governor Evers keep one of his campaign promises. The Governor vetoed this tax cut in favor of a plan that would increase the burden on our job creators, one that would hurt our state's strong economy and likely drive businesses elsewhere.

"The people of Wisconsin deserve better than excessive government spending and the tax increases it would demand. Under the Governor's proposed budget, spending would be increased by 8 percent. Wisconsin already has some of the highest taxes in the nation and we need to do all we can to put more money back in the hands of our state's hardworking taxpayers," said Duchow. "This budget does just the opposite and I will work with my colleagues to cut the unnecessary spending and the tax increases this proposal calls for."

In addition, the Governor's budget includes numerous controversial policy items that are divisive and have little chance of making it through the legislature. For example, Governor Evers wants to give more money to abortion provider Planned Parenthood and include the legalization of marijuana for medical purposes.

"Abortion is not healthcare and I will not support a budget that includes funding for Planned Parenthood," Duchow said. "My constituents have strong opinions both for and against the legalization of marijuana in Wisconsin. This is a major public policy issue that's too large to be discussed in the budget. It deserves consideration on its own merits as a standalone bill."

The state budget will now be considered by the Joint Committee on Finance. The committee will be holding public hearings on the spending plan throughout the state.

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Representative Duchow represents the 99th Assembly District which includes the communities of Chenequa, Delafield, Dousman, Hartland, Merton, Nashotah, Oconomowoc Lake, Ottawa, and Wales; and portions of Genesee, North Prairie, Oconomowoc, and Summit.