



DAN FEYEN

STATE SENATOR

18th Senate District
(608) 266-5300
Sen.Feyen@legis.wi.gov

PO Box 7882, Madison, WI 53707-7882
<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/18/feyen>

Senator Feyen's Statement on the Passage of the 2019-21 Wisconsin Budget

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Contact: Emelia Rohl
(608) 266-5300

MADISON- Senator Dan Feyen (R-Fond du Lac) released the following statement on the 2019-2021 biennial budget passing the Senate:

"The hardworking families of Wisconsin will experience the successes of this budget for years to come. I am proud of the historic and responsible investments we are making in education, healthcare and transportation.

Our budget invests an additional \$500 million into K-12 education for a grand total of \$12.3 billion in education funding, setting the record as the largest actual dollar investment in the history of our state.

We've heard from countless people about the need to fund our local roads. This budget includes a 137% increase to the Local Road Improvement Program, providing a boost of \$90 million in additional funds to repair and replace local roads. We also invested \$66 million more in General Transportation Aids to counties, cities, villages and towns to improve maintenance and expedite construction. We provided new revenue sources for sustainable funding that will cost the average citizen almost \$30 less per year than a gas tax increase. This budget also guarantees funding for the Highway 23 project which is a critical need in the 18th Senate District!

There is a number of correctional facilities in the 18th Senate District and we recognize the selfless service correctional officers provide every day. In this budget, we give much needed raises to all correctional officers, implemented a long-term pay progression scale, instituted a length of service bonus system, and provided a 14% increase in starting wages to provide a recruitment incentive.

Thanks to years of careful budgeting, we are able to invest into healthcare without expanding government and increasing welfare. This budget includes a \$588 million GPR investment into the health services and more than doubled Governor Evers' investments in Family Care, nursing homes and personal care centers. We have also held down insurance premiums for all Wisconsinites by providing \$72 million more to the Wisconsin Healthcare Stability Plan.

This budget provides \$516.2 million in tax cuts to hardworking families without raising taxes on anyone else. Years of responsible budgeting have come to fruition and given us the ability to put more money back in the pockets of taxpayers. I am excited to see the benefits my constituents and the 18th Senate District as a whole will reap from this budget!"

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