



ROBERT BROOKS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 60TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT: Rep. Rob Brooks

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(608) 267-2369

Rep. Rob Brooks publishes article on “Better Bottom Line” initiative

Madison, WI—Representative Rob Brooks (R-Saukville) had an article published in this month’s edition of “Stateline Midwest,” a monthly journal produced by the Midwestern office of the Council on State Government, relating to his “Better Bottom Line” initiative.

My “Better Bottom Line” initiative, introduced in 2016 and fully funded in the 2017-19 biennial budget, improves employment outcomes for young adults with disabilities, allowing them to contribute to Wisconsin’s economy. The “Better Bottom Line” initiative provides a \$1,000-per-pupil incentive payment to school districts that are able to demonstrate that they are preparing their students with disabilities for the workforce or post-secondary education or training courses.

“This proposal helps students with disabilities continue to be strong players in the workforce and will provide school districts with the tools they need to help their students flourish,” Representative Rob Brooks stated. “Improving Wisconsin’s economy and addressing our workforce needs continues to be one of my top priorities,” Representative Brooks opined.

“Better Bottom Line” gained significant support from school districts, educators and students, statewide, but the proposal received just \$100,000 in the 2015-17 biennial budget. School districts that were successful in meeting the goals of the initiative received just \$75 per pupil, instead of the originally proposed and announced incentive payment of \$1,000 per student.

When the 2017-19 budget season approached I worked diligently with disability advocates, school districts, local businesses, and workforce development groups to formulate a plan to obtain more funding for this program.

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The article can be read it: <https://www.csgmidwest.org/policyresearch/0518/rep-brooks.pdf>

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