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Senate Candidate Diane Odeen Speaks Out Against Education Cuts

HUDSON, WI – Recently, legislators in Minnesota approved a bill that would allow those entering the teaching profession student loan forgiveness of up to $5,000 over five years, which will encourage more young professionals to enter the education field.

“Our Minnesota neighbors understand that a great education is the key to a strong economy,” said River Falls City Council member and State Senate Candidate Diane Odeen in a statement. “That starts with having quality teachers who are respected by their legislators for the valuable role they play in our communities.”

Additionally, a memo that came out last week from the bipartisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau showed that funding has increased by $911 per pupil for private voucher schools over the last six years, while public school students have seen their general state aid cut by $210 per pupil.

“While Minnesota continues to build a strong public education system that encourages their best and brightest to become teachers, Wisconsin Republicans have repeatedly cut public education funding and opposed student loan debt relief,” Odeen noted. “Many individuals who want to be teachers are turning towards other professions because they are afraid of the student loan debt they would incur by obtaining a degree in that field.”

“Families in western Wisconsin have watched as our neighbors across the border work to provide every student with the education they deserve. We owe it to the well-being of our state to create an environment where every child has the chance to go to a great school with great teachers,” Odeen concluded.

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