



John Nygren

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 89TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Green Bay Tourism Center Enumeration Reaction

Madison--State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette), released the following statement:

“Today, Governor Evers expressed his support for legislation to enumerate \$2 million for the ‘Experience Greater Green Bay Visitor Center’ in the next state budget. I am thankful for his support of northeastern Wisconsin in this endeavor, considering the Legislature included funds for this project, and many others around the state, in the 2019-21 budget. Unfortunately, Governor Evers chose to veto funding specifically for local projects in the budget. As a result of his veto, Gov. Evers unnecessarily delayed this important project.”

Tourism is and will remain one of the largest economic drivers for northeastern Wisconsin. According to the Greater Green Bay Convention and Visitors Bureau, in 2018, Greater Green Bay's tourism industry employed about 12,143 full-time equivalent residents. In 2018, traveler expenditures in the Greater Green Bay region (Brown County and Algoma) contributed \$43.5 million in local taxes.

“In today's world, tourism is a dog-eat-dog game. Wisconsin as a whole has so much to offer. It's unfortunate that Governor Evers put this project on hold. In what is becoming a pattern, this is the second item originally vetoed from the budget by the Governor which he now claims he supports and wants credit for. First, funding for mental health and now dollars for this tourism center. The Governor continues to put politics before people. Additionally, the bill's authors, Representative Staush Gruszynski (D-Green Bay) and Senator Dave Hansen (D-Green Bay) failed to support this project in the budget but is now calling it a bipartisan effort.”

“I would like to thank the Greater Green Bay Convention and Visitors Bureau for all their hard work and passion in making northeastern Wisconsin a great place to work, live, and raise a family.”

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