



John Nygren

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 89TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Nygren Statement on Introduction of Sparsity Aid Increases

Madison--State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette), Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Finance, released the following statement following the introduction of sparsity aid increases:

“The proposed 2017-19 budget included a provision that increased sparsity aid to help support small, declining enrollment schools. After thoughtful review and analysis, the Joint Committee on Finance voted to remove the Governor's proposal to increase sparsity aid. At the time, we believed that this alone was not the appropriate way to fund smaller declining enrollment schools and that a long-term approach is more appropriate.

“Instead, we adopted provisions that rewarded districts for sharing administrative functions and entering into collaborative agreements. We also provided relief for low-spending, frugal districts, many of which are rural schools. These reforms would have provided more resources for the classroom, increased educational opportunities for students, and would have provided an environment for rural schools to flourish.

“I have been in discussions with the administration on ways we can work together to address this issue. The goal of making education funding more sustainable, equitable and effective while decreasing property taxes is a common goal that we all share. I look forward to continuing to work with Governor Walker to ensure that all students get the world-class education that they deserve, regardless of geographic location.”

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