



---

# SCOTT ALLEN

REPRESENTATIVE • 97<sup>TH</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release

June 7, 2017

Contact: Rep. Scott Allen

(608) 266-8580

## **Budget Transparency Act circulating for co-sponsorship**

**Proposal gives citizens, legislators time to contemplate budget items**

Representative Scott Allen is now circulating the Budget Transparency Act for co-sponsorship. The bill requires that finance committee proposals be distributed to members of the Joint Committee on Finance and posted online at least 48 hours before the committee may consider or take executive action on any item.

“Wisconsin has a reputation for open and transparent government and we should strive to keep it,” said Rep. Allen. “This simple, good-government bill empowers legislators on both sides of the aisle as well as taxpayers to consider the impact of policy and fiscal matters.”

While the Joint Committee on Finance has followed a notice procedure for the most part, there have been circumstances where the committee has departed from previously-noticed options and has made decisions with financial or policy impacts without prior notification. This bill would apply to all matters that the committee would consider.

Absent an emergency or minor substantive change, any motion that a committee member would like to introduce would need to be prepared, distributed, and posted on the Legislative Fiscal Bureau’s website at least 48 hours before a vote.

“This proposal is crafted to ensure the committee can accomplish its work in the public view, without throwing a wrench in the works,” said Rep. Allen. “Good ideas will make it through this legislative process. Bad ones should at least face public scrutiny before legislators vote.”

###

*The 97<sup>th</sup> Assembly District includes portions of the City of Waukesha  
and the Towns of Waukesha, Genesee, and Mukwonago.*