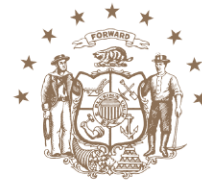




SONDY POPE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
80TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 8, 2017

Contact: Rep. Sondy Pope
608-266-3520

REP. POPE: ASSEMBLY REPUBLICAN K-12 FUNDING PLAN MISSES THE POINT

MADISON, Wis. – Representative Sondy Pope (D-Mt. Horeb) responded to a K-12 education funding proposal introduced by Assembly Republicans earlier this week. Assembly Republicans released this plan because of a dispute with Governor Walker and Senate Republicans on how they want to fund education.

“If Republicans actually cared about education as much as they claim to, they’d be talking more about our kids and teachers and less about property taxes,” said Rep. Pope. “This fight is more about Assembly Republicans being able to campaign on lowering property taxes than it is about the well-being of our schools.”

Assembly Republicans disagree with the Governor and Senate on the amount of per pupil aid in the budget and the amount of revenue limit authority that should be given to low-spending districts.

“Republicans are simply distracting the public with a false choice. They are battling over funding that can be spent in classrooms versus holding the line on property taxes, implying that Wisconsin must pick one or the other,” Rep. Pope said. “The truth is, we as a state, can do both. In the past few sessions I, along with my Democratic colleagues, have introduced ‘Fair Funding’ - legislation that would increase revenue limits, increase the low-revenue ceiling and hold the line on property taxes. It is our intention to release this bill in the near future. If Republicans really care about education, they would be wise to seriously consider it.”

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