



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Dianne Hesselbein

79TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

February 5, 2019

CONTACT: Alex Joers, alex.joers@legis.wisconsin.gov (608) 266-5340

Rep. Hesselbein Affirms Governor Evers' Plan to Close Dark Store Loophole

Madison – Today, Governor Tony Evers announced his plan to close the dark store loophole in the 2019-2020 biennial budget. The 'Dark Store Loophole' allows large corporate retailers to base their tax assessments on their value as a vacant store rather than a store in operation. This loophole grants corporate retailers millions of dollars while shifting property tax burden on home owners and small businesses. Assembly Assistant Democratic Leader Dianne Hesselbein (D-Middleton) released the following statement in response:

"I am encouraged by Governor Evers' efforts to finally close the dark store loophole that has unfairly shifted a massive tax burden on the residents in our communities. Nearly 60 municipalities across Wisconsin have had to refund big-box stores at the expense of home owners and small businesses owners. Hard working Wisconsinites have asked for a solution to this unjust corporate tax break and I am proud to stand by Governor Evers as he announces his plans to close this loophole. Last session Republican leaders decided against taking action on closing this loophole. I'm glad we have a Governor that realizes the importance of making sure this loophole is closed once and for all."

###