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Rep. Duchow Opposes Governor's Illegal Immigrant Tuition Plan

Madison, WI—State Representative Cindi Duchow (R-Delafield) spoke out today in opposition to Governor Tony Evers' plan to give illegal immigrants a significant reduction in their college tuition while offering no such benefit to military veterans.

The Governor has proposed in-state tuition for illegal immigrants if they have attended high school in the state for three years. Meanwhile, veterans must be residents for five years and maintain a C average to be eligible for tuition benefits. The 100% tuition remission for a veteran's in-state tuition is less than 1/3 the dollar amount of the new in-state tuition benefit to an illegal immigrant.

"I in no way support giving illegal immigrants a break on college tuition. Instead of giving benefits to illegal immigrants, we should be making sure that our veterans' tuition needs are being met," Duchow said. "Because of their service & sacrifice, I believe it is important that our veterans are treated with dignity and respect. The Governor's tuition plan for illegal immigrants does just the opposite."

Under current law, only Wisconsin residents are eligible for in-state college tuition. State residents get a significant reduction in tuition costs. The Governor has proposed that in-state tuition at the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Technical College Systems be extended to illegal immigrants.

"This proposal is another example that proves Governor Evers' proposed budget isn't bipartisan at all. Rather, his only interest is advancing his own radical agenda and his wish list of policy items that will move Wisconsin backwards," Duchow said. "The Joint Finance Committee should remove this policy item from the state budget. I believe that an issue of this magnitude should be considered on its own merits as standalone legislation."

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Representative Duchow represents the 99th Assembly District which includes the communities of Chenequa, Delafield, Dousman, Hartland, Merton, Nashotah, Oconomowoc Lake, Ottawa, and Wales; and portions of Genesee, North Prairie, Oconomowoc, and Summit.