



Senate Democrats

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Weekly Democratic Radio Address: Wisconsinites Deserve the People's Budget

MADISON, WI – Senator Jon Erpenbach offered the Democratic weekly radio address on the Joint Committee on Finance concluding budget deliberations today.

The audio file of this week's address can be found here:

<https://sen32-shilling.cms.legis.wisconsin.gov/media/1273/sen-erpenbach-radio-address-wisconsinites-deserve-the-peoples-budget.mp3>

A written transcript of the address is below:

"Hi, I'm state Senator Jon Erpenbach with this week's radio address.

"Governor Tony Evers wanted a budget that gives the next generation a legacy to be proud of. He went around the state, listened to people, and then developed a responsible, balanced proposal based on what he heard from Wisconsinites. He invested in our health care, classrooms, local roads, and he made good on his promise to improve access to clean drinking water.

"The people's budget is a sustainable investment in our future and would have made great strides towards undoing years of damage caused by Republican politicians.

"Day after day in Joint Finance, the GOP took the fully-funded and sustainable plans put forth by Democrats and slashed, removed, or destabilized important programs. The number one example has been their refusal to expand Medicaid. There is overwhelming public support to accept the \$1.6 billion in federal funding that would save Wisconsin taxpayers 325 million state dollars. Unfortunately Republicans ignored the will of the people and opted for a plan that covers fewer people at a higher price tag.

"This budget comes down to priorities. Democrats believe that we should be taking care of our kids, finding a long-term solution for our transportation budget, and expanding opportunities for everyone in our state. On the other hand, Republicans have made it clear that they want to put massive and ineffective tax breaks for the wealthy before our roads, schools, and health care.

"As we wrap up Joint Finance budget deliberations, it is important for Wisconsinites to remember what could have been with Governor Evers' budget. Wisconsin deserves better than what Republicans have put forward. Wisconsin deserves a budget that works for everyone. The People's Budget."

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