



# MARY FELZKOWSKI

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 35<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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## Rep. Felzkowski Reacts to Governor's Signature of Wisconsin Budget

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Madison-** Rep. Mary Felzkowski (R-Irma) released the following statement today after Governor Evers signed the 2019-21 biennial state budget into law:

“Throughout the budget process, Assembly Republicans held over 200 listening sessions across the state and heard directly from over 40,000 Wisconsin citizens in our budget surveys. The budget that we crafted and I voted for prioritized schools, roads, and access to affordable healthcare, and does so without raising taxes or expanding welfare.”

In our budget, we substantially increased funding for nursing homes, personal care workers, and direct caregivers, above and beyond what was in the Governor's budget to ensure that our state's most vulnerable are receiving the quality care they need. I am pleased to see that the Governor agreed with this investment by signing this increased funding into law.”

While I am happy to see that the Governor chose to keep our conservative budget largely intact, I am troubled by some of the provisions he chose to veto. I am so disappointed to see that he chose to veto \$15 million in funding for local transportation aids. Rural communities, like those in my district, desperately need that funding to fix our roads.”

Our budget included \$15 million in bonding for a crisis center in Northern Wisconsin that would create deeply needed regional access for those struggling with mental health. Governor Evers' partial veto directs that funding to Mendota Treatment Center in Madison. He also chose to remove \$2.7 million in funding that would have expanded the state's ability to utilize telehealth, a health care delivery mechanism that can really benefit Wisconsinites that do not have immediate access to providers.”

When I met with Governor Evers at the beginning of this session, I implored him not to forget about rural Wisconsin. Overall, the budget that we sent to Governor Evers' desk makes great strides for the Northwoods. Unfortunately, it seems these vetoes demonstrate where our communities fall on his list of priorities in comparison to Madison and Milwaukee. ”

Despite the Governor's 78 line-item vetoes, our state has a budget that invests in our kids, supports Wisconsin families with access to high-quality, affordable health care, and puts money back in the hands of the hard-working taxpayers. I will continue to fight for the Northwoods to make sure those in my district have a voice here in Madison.”

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*Representative Felzkowski represents the 35th Assembly District which includes portions of Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Oneida, and Shawano Counties.*