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GMC BOARD SUPPORTS PROPERTY TAX RELIEF, INCREASED REVENUE FOR MILWAUKEE COUNTY

Board issues support letter calling for committee hearings for Senate Bill 471/ Assembly Bill 521

MILWAUKEE – This week, members of the board of directors of the Greater Milwaukee Committee (GMC) sent a letter to [Wisconsin Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald](#) and [Wisconsin State Assembly Speaker Robin Vos](#) in support of [Senate Bill 471](#) / [Assembly Bill 521](#).

The legislation would give Milwaukee County voters the power to decide if Milwaukee County and its 19 municipalities should be allowed to generate revenue, in the form of a one-percent sales tax increase, to provide property tax relief, while adequately funding public services, maintaining facilities, and investing in the future through a binding referendum process.

“There is a great need to provide property tax relief to Milwaukee County taxpayers,” said Julia Taylor, President of the GMC. “At the same time, there is also a critical need to maintain funding for Milwaukee County and its municipalities. This legislation does both.”

The letter also encouraged senate and assembly leadership to schedule committee hearings in 2019 for the legislation, a critical next step in the legislative process.

“There is broad support for this legislation – both for the property tax relief it will provide and the increased revenue that will be available to invest in our future,” said David Lubar, Chairman of the GMC. “We are not asking the state for more funding, we are asking the legislature to allow a referendum so Milwaukee County voters can have a direct say in this important matter.”

The legislation is an offspring of the Move Forward MKE initiative, a Milwaukee County-wide coalition of local governments, business leaders, and community leaders who recognize that local problems are best solved with local solutions. To learn more about the initiative, visit <https://www.moveforwardmke.com/>.

ABOUT THE GREATER MILWAUKEE COMMITTEE

The Greater Milwaukee Committee, founded in the late 1940's, is a private sector civic organization whose mission is to make Milwaukee the best place to live, learn, work, play and stay. By focusing on the issues of tomorrow, today, our cross-sectoral member network of almost 200 of Milwaukee's business leaders engages in a variety of programs and initiatives in the areas of innovation and talent, economic prosperity, and creative placemaking. Learn more at <https://www.gmconline.org/>.