

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Krug, Testin Call on Evers for Immediate Action on Verso Mill

A bill authored by Rep. Krug and Sen Testin that would help restart the Verso Mill, a regional economic driver, looks to be on track to become law soon, based on governor Evers signaling support.

The bill authors look forward to the Governor's action on their proposal, and hope that he will not carry through his threat to tie the assistance to a plan to take people off their private health care plans and put them on welfare.

"The fact that the Governor sees the importance of the mill to Central Wisconsin, is tremendous," said Krug. "Unfortunately, the gamesmanship of which pot of money to use, which is part of the Evers package, is ridiculous. I call on him to just make it happen with federal money – the way we suggested it happen – and use the one-time federal money to make a one-time loan so the mill can re-open."

Senator Testin agreed that the Governor ought to deal swiftly with the mill – and not tie the project to unrelated policy issues.

"These families impacted by the mill closing are not bargaining chips," noted Testin. "The Governor has the ability to direct federal funds now, and he should do so. The fate of these families should not be tied to a broader political agenda."

Both legislators noted that in the event the Governor fails to act rapidly, they will continue to advocate for the legislation that they introduced last week to help the mill re-open.

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