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## Sen. James Statement on Senate Passage of 2023-25 Budget

**Madison** –<u>Sen. Jesse James</u> (R- Altoona) issued a statement after the Wisconsin State Senate passage of the 2023-25 State Budget bill:

"Last night on the senate floor we passed a strong budget, made for Wisconsin. We cut taxes by over \$4 billion dollars, allocated \$1.5 billion for our roads, and put over \$1 billion into our schools.

"We also secured some much-needed investments for the 23<sup>rd</sup>. A huge win was securing the \$231 million needed to finish UW Eau Claire's Science Building, which will help our area workforce shortage. I was also grateful to see that our Lake Altoona sediment collector and Meat Processor Grant Programs budget motions were passed.

"This budget process was not easy. All of Wisconsin wanted a 'piece of the pie' of the surplus we had. I can tell you with the hundreds of emails, calls, texts, and meetings we had, this surplus would have been spent five times over.

"I take my position seriously when it comes to our people in the Chippewa Valley and the 23rd Senate District, and did my best to compete with the 131 others also advocating for their people. I know I did the best that I could for you all back home.

I applaud the efforts, the decisions, and the extremely difficult, long days of the Joint Finance Committee members. I am proud of the fiscally responsible budget crafted by the JFC and passed by the Senate last night, and I believe that Wisconsinites will feel the benefits of these wise decisions in the years to come."

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The 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District encompasses parts of Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Marathon, and Wood counties.