

Press Release  
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## **“Doyle’s Change of Heart on Property Taxes Just in Time for Valentine’s Day,” Schultz Says**

(Madison) Senate Majority Leader Dale Schultz (R-Richland Center) tonight claimed victory for Wisconsin property tax payers and legislative Republicans saying Governor Doyle’s epiphany on property tax relief proves the GOP agenda finally forced the governor’s hand.

“There were those who doubted the seriousness of Wisconsin’s property tax payers,” Schultz said. “As it turns out, taxpayers have driven the message across party lines. They’re paying too much in taxes. They want real relief, and they won’t settle for folks who aren’t willing to work toward that end.”

But Schultz said there’s still a long way to go. He said he was deeply concerned with how the governor planned to fund his proposed budget.

“On one hand the governor claims to be joining with Republicans to work for tax relief, but on the other he rolls out a budget that just doesn’t add up,” Schultz said.

Schultz said the budget lacks credibility because it adds over a billion dollars in new spending to the already \$1.6 billion dollar deficit. Schultz said Doyle is trying to spend his way out of debt, and that simply can’t be done.

“We can’t continue to raid one-time funding sources or rely on hopeful gimmicks to balance the budget,” Schultz said. “This budget does nothing

to address this state's growing structural deficit, and it's irresponsible fiscal policy."

Schultz said the bottom line, despite resistance from legislative Democrats, is that now the debate is not *whether* we'll have property tax relief, but rather *how much* relief taxpayers get and how to responsibly pay for it.