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# BOB JAUCH

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## WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

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Contact: Sen. Jauch  
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**Jauch: Doyle Shows Leadership in .08 Debate**

*Northern Lawmaker joins Governor's call for Senate Republicans to finish their work,  
avoid \$3 million loss of federal funding*

**Madison**—"Republicans need to call the Senate into extraordinary session and finish the people's business that should have been completed two nights ago," State Senator Bob Jauch (D-Poplar) said today.

Jauch made his comments following a press conference in which Governor Doyle called upon the Senate to reconvene in extraordinary session to pass .08 legislation to comply with federal law. If the provision does not pass by July 15, Wisconsin will lose nearly \$3 million in federal highway funding.

"Governor Doyle is protecting the state's fiscal interests and offering the leadership that was lacking in the State Senate when Republicans adjourned the session without bringing the bill to a vote," Jauch said. "The Governor had included the .08 provision in his state budget, but Republican leaders have dragged their feet and now the State is at risk of losing federal dollars," he continued.

"The same Republican leaders who just handed the Governor a budget that is \$1.16 billion dollars in the hole are now needlessly throwing away another \$3 million of federal highway money. It is either the height of fiscal irresponsibility, or reflects an inability to govern," the northern lawmaker asserted.

Jauch chided the Republican majority for their flimsy excuse that the Democrats were at fault for failing to pass the legislation. "The Republicans failed to pass the bill in a standing committee where they have the majority and then failed to put the bill in front of the Senate when they had the opportunity. Instead of accepting responsibility for their inability to govern, the Republicans predictably want to blame the Democrats as though we were in charge," Jauch said.

The northern lawmaker acknowledged that he, along with most Legislators, does not like the fact that Washington D.C. is using blackmail to tell state government what to do. "However, we can't afford to stand on principle while throwing away millions of dollars at a time when our state is facing such a dire fiscal crisis," he said.

"It was wrong of the Republicans to fail to bring the bill to the floor and it is wrong for them to blame Democrats for their mistakes," Jauch said. "The right thing to do is follow the Governor's leadership and come back to Madison next week to correct their mistake and qualify Wisconsin for the additional \$3 million in federal funds," he concluded.

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