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[00:00:13] **Speaker 1** All right. Now that it appears our Senate colleagues are hard at work and that both bills are going to make their way over here, we've had a chance to review the Senate amendment. It seems like it's pretty much in line with what we thought we just caucused on. And I think most of our members are generally supportive of some of the changes that were made. Of course, as I've said before, and I'll say it again, many of our members still have heartburn about the idea that the voters are not the ones deciding that it was part of a broader agreement. So I think most of us are in a pretty good place on that. I do think we wanted to take a minute just to talk about not the back and forth and the things inside the Capitol that many of us who work here find interesting. But really the context and the idea behind the bills that are being debated today and why over the course of the next several months and hopefully over the course of the next several decades, they will make a huge positive difference for the people that we are fortunate enough to represent as elected officials in the state of Wisconsin. So there's really two parts of this. I'm going to first turn it over to Representative KURTZ, who's the architect of all of the good work on. Sure. Everybody to talk again about that. And then Jesse Rodriguez, who has probably been one of our champions for school choice. Mark Warren, we'll talk about some budget things and then we'll take any questions. So I'll turn it over first to Representative.

[00:01:28] **Speaker 2** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know, it's interesting. I've talked about this before and I'll talk about it again. You know, it's been a long, hard road since August that I had that conversation with Senator Fritz Koski about the need to help. And the reason why I got involved with this is to help rural communities. This package that we are going to revisit today and pass is going to help the entire state. It's not just going to help rural communities. It's going to help urban. And it's something that I could not be prouder. I appreciate the leadership of the speaker of the Assembly. I truly believe if it was not for his tenacity, we would not be here today making a monumental investment in the state of Wisconsin in our communities so that they can help themselves with their fire, police, emergency services, their transportation infrastructure, and of course, any other type of infrastructure that they want to improve on in their own communities. I want to thank my staff. I want to thank Fiscal Bureau, Ledge Council. This is a monumental task that could not be done without them and all the tremendous support of them. So once again, very appreciative of the Senate. Finally getting getting where we need to be and looking forward to getting this back to our wonderful assembly so we can pass on this. So without further ado, my wonderful colleagues, Representative Brooks.

[00:02:56] **Speaker 3** Thank you. Hello, everyone. Good afternoon. Today, Republicans simply Republicans are going to take up S.B. 330, which provides increased funding for choice charter schools. You know, Assembly Republicans have always been committed to helping fund our schools, and we've done this in other budgets for the choice in charter schools. And we're going to continue to do this through this proposal that we have today. So we have always felt that empowering parents make make the best decision for their children is important to all of us. As we know in working in in in Milwaukee, in the school choice movement, we know that parents choose to make a decision that is best for their children. And this proposal today helps to those parents continue to do that. We want our children to succeed regardless of whether whether they choose to go to a public, a choice or a charter school. And by passing this proposal today, what we're doing is increasing funding so that we can close the gap between public, private and charter schools. So it's a good day for education, for education, and I'm very happy to support this today. Up next is Representative Baum.

[00:04:18] **Speaker 4** So these two bills before us today are historic investments in two important areas of local government and our school choice voucher program. We couple that with investments like the ones made last night in transportation and public education, health care in the coming days. And we have a budget filled with investments made for Wisconsin that will also include significant tax reform and action coming soon from the committee as well. That, we know is a document that Governor Evers should be eager to sign when we get this to him in the next couple of weeks. That will invest in all of Wisconsin. And it's something that I think, you know, the collaborative effort and the compromise that these bills and this package brings together with all of that. Your work is something that will have a lot of bipartisan support, I would hope, because these bills have it and they're major components of it and will be just a great made for Wisconsin budget that the governor should be eager to sign. With that, the speaker can take your questions and.

[00:05:25] **Speaker 1** Get shot.

[00:05:27] **Speaker 5** Across to the speaker of the House today. You do for sure have to ask.

[00:05:31] **Speaker 1** Oh yeah I 100% sure. Yeah.

[00:05:34] **Speaker 6** The 1,000,000,000 million for public school and that was handled in finance last night. It's going to be in cash advance. You're not going to 1 billion today.

[00:05:41] **Speaker 4** Right. You know, part of the compromise said that as the education package was approved last night in the committee, and so that's already part of the budget.

[00:05:51] **Speaker 7** Speaker, Since we last spoke, the governor said that he would not sign a budget that has a $32 million budget because of your system. Is that something that you're open to negotiating?

[00:06:01] **Speaker 1** No. You know, what's interesting is I said I wouldn't vote for a bill that didn't have a referendum requirement. And here we sit today without a referendum requirement because part of being in office is the give and take of saying what's in the best interests of the entire state. Sometimes you can believe in something very fervently, but at the end of the day you weigh the totality of the bill and you say on balance it's much better than it is to have it passed in that. Now, if for some reason, which I can't imagine, he would veto the largest investments in public schools, the largest investments in generations for our local governments, more money for, you know, just about every priority he has. If he would choose to veto the budget, we would probably come back sometime in October. And we take up the budget in October. And he would be the one that would have to explain to people why they are going months without the dollars coming in, because we believe what we believe. Look, I mean, if he wants to if he wants to veto the entire budget, because we're going to choose not to spend on something that clearly our caucus has talked about and it was in support. I actually brought it up to our caucus today. We had a discussion on what our strategy should be, and we were unanimous in saying that if the governor would make a mistake and try to pick one thing out of a $80 billion budget to say we have to spend money how he sees fit, that's that's not going to work.

[00:07:13] **Speaker 6** On Amazon Fields, Senator Carpenter said he expects the bill will be voted on as early as this month. Is that true? And I know negotiations are ongoing and that's part of the package they negotiated.

[00:07:22] **Speaker 1** So we continue to work with all four caucuses to find something that can generate support from both Republicans and Democrats. There is no doubt in my mind that this bill will not pass unless people from all four caucuses vote for it. It can't be just Republicans, can't be just Democrats. So I think we are nearing a consensus. We're not at a point where we even have language that is just kind of conceptual. But yes, the goal would be to try to have something on the governor's desk before the 4th of July so that we have the certainty to know, is this going to work or not? And I'm optimistic we can get there. Hopefully things will break down.

[00:07:55] **Speaker 6** For that deal. Brancaccio So that you.

[00:07:58] **Speaker 1** Don't have those yet way too early. But the most important thing is that I think all 4:00 pieces are engaged. I think they want to try to find a solution that keeps the team here, and we want to do it in a way that maximizes the ability for a good deal to be cut for the taxpayers, not just a blank check.

[00:08:15] **Speaker 5** One more question, Mr. Bond. During updates on whether each of you will be before finance tomorrow and your reaction to the governor, is that change what you're doing in the coming days?

[00:08:24] **Speaker 4** No, I mean, I think the speaker covered well the reaction of the governor. And at this time it's not noticed for tomorrow. I mean, it'll come up in the coming days.

[00:08:33] **Speaker 7** Thanks, everybody.

[00:08:34] **Speaker 5** Do you think?