



MICHAEL J. SHERIDAN
**SPEAKER OF THE WISCONSIN
STATE ASSEMBLY**

For Immediate Release
May 7, 2009

Contact: Rebekah Sweeney
(608) 266-7503

Sheridan Statement Regarding New Deficit Estimates

MADISON - State Assembly Speaker Mike Sheridan (D-Janesville) released this statement following Governor Doyle's briefing on the preliminary April revenue estimates and their impact on the 2009-11 state budget:

"The national economic meltdown has devastated state budgets across the country, and Wisconsin is no exception. These new estimates clearly worsen our already severe budget emergency, and solving this unprecedented crisis will require tough choices, sacrifice and leadership. Every option must be on the table, including deeper spending cuts and finding smart ways to do more with less.

"The Legislature will not be immune to these spending reductions. Already, we have cut 5% from our operating budget, totaling \$1,418,064 in taxpayer money. But more savings will be necessary.

"While our budget gap has grown, the cause remains the same: Wisconsin's deficit is a symptom of our nation's economic downturn. That is why the Democratic Agenda to grow our economy by creating jobs, supporting businesses and expanding opportunity and prosperity for every Wisconsinite is the most important part of the plan to pass a balanced, responsible budget in the short and long term."

###