

# ***PRESS RELEASE***

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## **Legislators Applaud Investment in Rural Physician Residencies**

*Budget provision parallels bill introduced by members of the Rural Wisconsin Initiative last session*

**Madison, WI** – Earlier today, Governor Walker released details of his planned funding boost to the UW System. Included in the plan was a \$200,000 allocation to the Wisconsin Rural Physician Residency Assistance Program (WRPRAP) – a program that helps bolster rural Wisconsin’s healthcare workforce. Rural legislators applauded this investment, which closely parallels a Rural Wisconsin Initiative (RWI) bill introduced last session as AB797 which was authored by Rep. Ed Brooks, Rep. Kathy Bernier, Rep. Romaine Quinn, Rep. Travis Tranel, and Sen. Tom Tiffany.

“I’m pleased to see that the Governor has integrated a piece of the Rural Wisconsin Initiative into the budget,” said Rep. Brooks. “This proposal will help ensure that all Wisconsinites have access to quality care providers, regardless of where in the state they call home.”

Last session, more than twenty rural representatives signed on to support the Rural Wisconsin Initiative, a package of bills that focuses on improving health care, technology, workforce and educational opportunities in rural Wisconsin. For more information on the proposals and the supporters of the RWI, please visit [www.RuralWisconsinInitiative.com](http://www.RuralWisconsinInitiative.com).

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