EXCLUSIVE: GOP Legislature Likely To Take Mileage Fee, That Required No Vote, Out Of State Budget By Mark Belling, WISN-AM

I have learned that one of the most controversial provisions of the state budget passed by the Joint Finance Committee will likely be deleted when the budget is voted on next week by the full legislature.

Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald tells me he and Speaker Robin Vos have discussed deleting the provision that would create a mileage fee for all vehicles in the future with no actual vote by the legislature. The current language allows such a fee to be imposed merely by the legislature's Joint Finance Committee without a vote of the full membership. That provision would likely result in the budget failing in the state senate if it is not removed. Already, State Senator Steve Nass is stating he will vote against the whole budget and Senator Andre Jacques says he will vote against the budget if the no vote/mileage fee remains intact. One more defection and the GOP would not have the 17 votes needed to pass the budget through the senate.

Fitzgerald says substitute language is likely to be added that would require any new fee to be approved by the full legislature.

Mark Belling June 19, 2019