

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Williams, Danielle E - DOA shared "DRAFT 6.22 CPD JLAC Testimony" with you
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 9:01:27 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)

Nothing additional

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, August 18, 2023 at 6:30 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Williams, Danielle E - DOA shared "DRAFT 6.22 CPD JLAC Testimony" with you

Completed my review and added a few edits. All in all, I thought this was actually well prepared.

ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e: Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 3:27 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Williams, Danielle E - DOA shared "DRAFT 6.22 CPD JLAC Testimony" with you



Williams, Danielle E - DOA shared a file with you

Please review draft testimony.



[DRAFT 6.22 CPD JLAC Testimony](#)



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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: For response by NOON today - Re: Greetings from the National Press Foundation...
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 10:46:01 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Would suggest the 19th, please. Otherwise, no concerns here.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 at 10:44 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: For response by NOON today - Re: Greetings from the National Press Foundation...

Sorry for the short deadline. I forgot to bring this up last week. Britt, mostly looking for your ok here. Relevant ask from the thread below is pasted here, they are tentatively holding the 20th:

As I mentioned, the National Press Foundation will be hosting a statehouse reporting seminar for young journalists in Madison, scheduled for Sept. 18-21.

If there is an opportunity to tour the Executive Residence during that time, I know that it would be both instructive and enjoyable for our group. We have time available during the mornings of the 19th and 20th, if any of those days work for you.

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 1:42 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Greetings from the National Press Foundation...

See request below. We can discuss tomorrow AM.

From: Malueg, Charlene - GOV <charlene.malueg@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 1:37:48 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fw: Greetings from the National Press Foundation...

Hi.

Any flags for hosting this group for a simple tour of the residence?

Charlene Malueg (*she/her/hers*)

Wisconsin Executive Residence Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. charlene.malueg@wisconsin.gov



From: Kevin Johnson <kevin@nationalpress.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 10:01 AM
To: Malueg, Charlene - GOV <charlene.malueg@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Greetings from the National Press Foundation...

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and
know the content is safe.**

Good morning, Charlene.

Wanted to check in on the residence tour. We have just selected our journalist delegates, which prompted me to go back over the program agenda. Is date still too far out to confirm?

Many thanks.

Kevin

From: Malueg, Charlene - GOV <charlene.malueg@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, June 14, 2023 1:04 PM

To: Kevin Johnson <kevin@nationalpress.org>

Subject: RE: Greetings from the National Press Foundation...

Hello, Kevin!

Thank you for this information.

We can hold the time for you on September 20 but will have to wait to confirm it until about six weeks out. What time would be best? The tour will take about an hour.

And how many attendees?

Thanks!

Charlene

Charlene Malueg (*she/her/hers*)
Wisconsin Executive Residence Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. charlene.malueg@wisconsin.gov



From: Kevin Johnson <kevin@nationalpress.org>

Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 10:48 AM

To: Malueg, Charlene - GOV <charlene.malueg@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Greetings from the National Press Foundation...

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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know the content is safe.**

Many thanks for your time earlier today, Ms. Malueg.

As I mentioned, the National Press Foundation will be hosting a statehouse reporting seminar for young journalists in Madison, scheduled for Sept. 18-21.

If there is an opportunity to tour the Executive Residence during that time, I know that it would be both instructive and enjoyable for our group. We have time available during the mornings of the 19th and 20th, if any of those days work for you.

Again, our thanks and I will look forward to hearing from you.

All the best,
Kevin

KEVIN JOHNSON
kevin@nationalpress.org
703-472-7865













From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#); [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: RE: REVIEW: draft BEAD Action Plan
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 10:47:00 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

Agreed.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 10:33 AM
To: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: REVIEW: draft BEAD Action Plan

Reviewed. I assume, but didn't check, that these goals are consistent with previous task force reports, etc., yes? If so, nothing further from me.

--

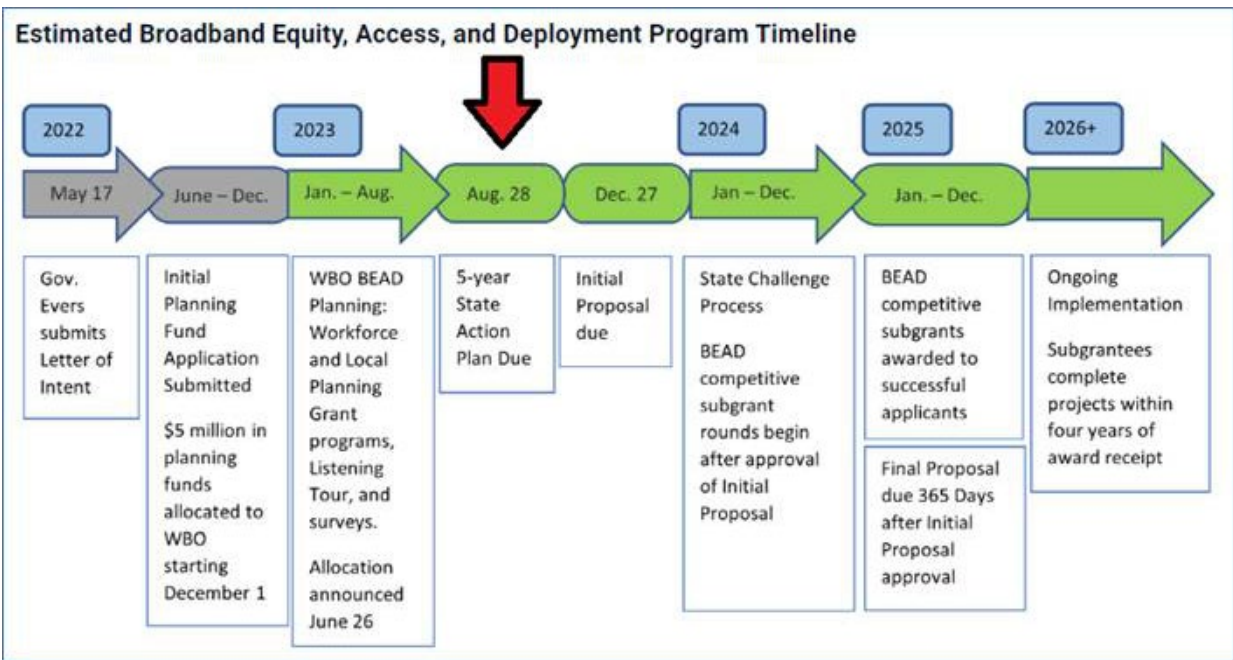
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 at 10:06 AM
To: GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: REVIEW: draft BEAD Action Plan

Hi all – see below the BEAD 5-year Action Plan created by PSC for submittal to NTIA. This is the equivalent of a “pre-filing” to their formal BEAD initial proposal due in Dec 2023. I’ve also put a general BEAD timeline below and indicated where we are in that process just for visibility. **Please review and send any flags/comments by EOD Thurs 8/24 (I plan to review in depth on Wednesday).**

Also adding a note from PSC below for review context: *One general thematic note: it’s deliberate that this reads as fairly repetitive in a number of spots. To the best of the team’s understanding this is the appropriate approach to make sure we’re effectively answering each section on its own terms, and not inadvertently losing any points by assuming they give us credit for something only mentioned in another section.*

 [Wisconsin 5-YEAR Action Plan 8.18.23- For Review.docx](#)



All the Best,

Jacob Pankratz (*he/him/his*)
 Senior Policy Advisor
 Office of Governor Tony Evers
 p. [REDACTED]
 e. jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov



From: Fontaine, Joe - PSC <Joe.Fontaine@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 4:56 PM
To: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Sweeney, Matthew - PSC <matthew2.sweeney@wisconsin.gov>; Pennoyer, Kara - PSC <kara.pennoyer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: BEAD Action Plan for Review

Good afternoon-

See attached for a review copy of the BEAD 5-year action plan. Content is all drafted, we recognize there's some formatting and copy editing soon to be done.

One general thematic note: it's deliberate that this reads as fairly repetitive in a number of spots. To the best of the team's understanding this is the appropriate approach to make sure we're effectively answering each section on its own terms, and not inadvertently losing any points by assuming they give us credit for something only mentioned in another section.

This is due for submission on Monday, Aug. 28. **Can you please provide any feedback no later than 12 noon on Friday 8/25?**

Thanks! Have a great weekend!

Joe Fontaine | Administrator

Division of Digital Access, Consumer, and Environmental Affairs

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Office: [REDACTED] | Cell: [REDACTED]

Email: Joe.Fontaine@wisconsin.gov













PSC

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From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#)
Subject: RE: Williams, Danielle E - DOA shared "DRAFT 6.22 CPD JLAC Testimony" with you
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 10:51:03 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)

Reviewed.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 9:01 AM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Williams, Danielle E - DOA shared "DRAFT 6.22 CPD JLAC Testimony" with you

Nothing additional

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, August 18, 2023 at 6:30 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Williams, Danielle E - DOA shared "DRAFT 6.22 CPD JLAC Testimony" with you

Completed my review and added a few edits. All in all, I thought this was actually well prepared.

ZM

Zach Madden
Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e: Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 3:27 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Williams, Danielle E - DOA shared "DRAFT 6.22 CPD JLAC Testimony" with you



Williams, Danielle E - DOA shared a file with you

Please review draft testimony.



[DRAFT 6.22 CPD JLAC Testimony](#)



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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Re: REVIEW: draft BEAD Action Plan
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 10:56:13 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image009.png](#)

Thank you!!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 at 10:49 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: draft BEAD Action Plan

I will cross check the goals/objectives in here to the most recent Broadband Access Task Force report to ensure consistency.

All the Best,

Jacob Pankratz (*he/him/his*)
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 10:47 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: draft BEAD Action Plan

Agreed.

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Subject: Re: REVIEW: draft BEAD Action Plan

Reviewed. I assume, but didn't check, that these goals are consistent with previous task force reports, etc., yes? If so, nothing further from me.

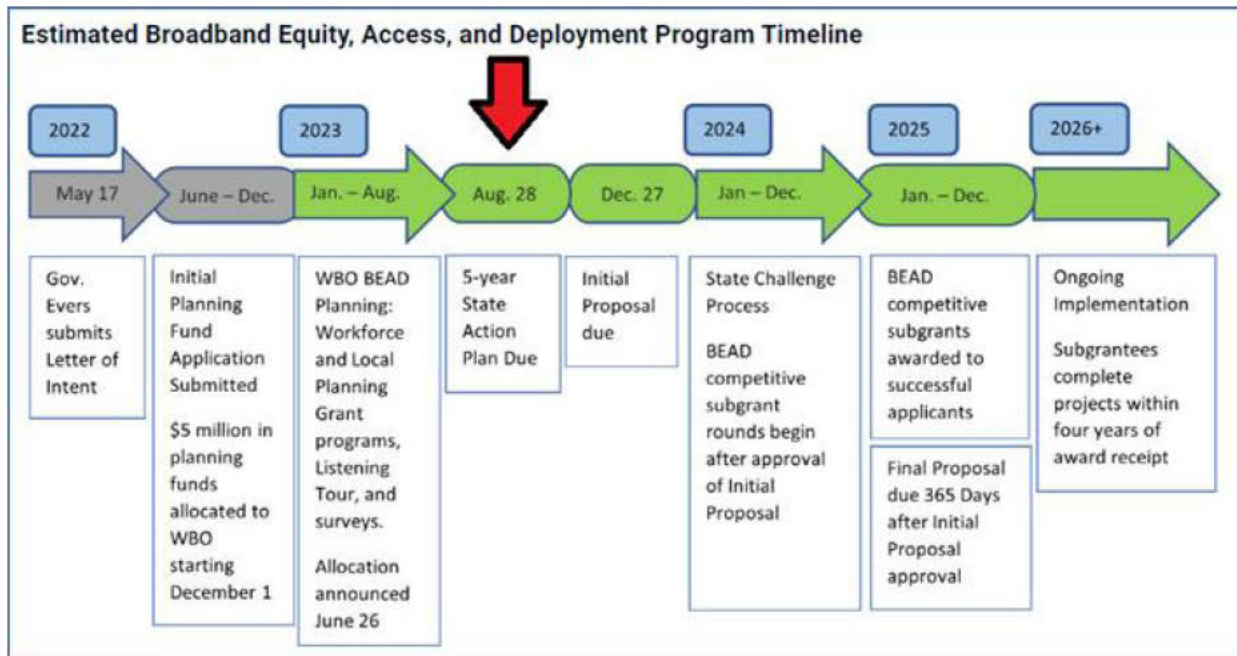
--
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 at 10:06 AM
To: GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: REVIEW: draft BEAD Action Plan

Hi all – see below the BEAD 5-year Action Plan created by PSC for submittal to NTIA. This is the equivalent of a “pre-filing” to their formal BEAD initial proposal due in Dec 2023. I’ve also put a general BEAD timeline below and indicated where we are in that process just for visibility. **Please review and send any flags/comments by EOD Thurs 8/24 (I plan to review in depth on Wednesday).**

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 [Wisconsin 5-YEAR Action Plan 8.18.23- For Review.docx](#)



All the Best,

Jacob Pankratz (*he/him/his*)

Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov



From: Fontaine, Joe - PSC <Joe.Fontaine@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 4:56 PM
To: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Sweeney, Matthew - PSC <matthew2.sweeney@wisconsin.gov>; Pennoyer, Kara - PSC <kara.pennoyer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: BEAD Action Plan for Review

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Thanks! Have a great weekend!

Joe Fontaine | Administrator
Division of Digital Access, Consumer, and Environmental Affairs
Public Service Commission of Wisconsin
Office: [REDACTED] | Cell: [REDACTED]
Email: Joe.Fontaine@wisconsin.gov













PSC

of WISCONSIN

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FW: State Government Innovation Awards
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 12:01:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

From: Roberts, Melissa B - DOC <MelissaB.Roberts@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 11:44 AM
To: DOA DL Assistant Deputy Secretaries <DOADLAssistantDeputySecretaries@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: State Government Innovation Awards

I was asked to share the below in case anyone is interested

Melissa B. Roberts
Assistant Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary



From: Angela James <angela.james@wisc.edu>
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 3:14 PM
To: Roberts, Melissa B - DOC <MelissaB.Roberts@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: State Government Innovation Awards

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Melissa –

Hope this finds you well! I wanted to make sure you were aware of this award offered by the Wisconsin Policy Forum: La Follette/Gladfelter Award for Innovation in State Government. This is the inaugural year, so we're helping to get the word out... **The deadline for nomination is 8/31**, but the nomination form is very short: <https://wispolicyforum.org/salute-nomination->

[form/#:~:text=Deadline%20for%20nominations%20is%20August%2031%2C%202023.&text=The%20award%20categories%20recognize%20outstanding.%2C%20and%20private%2Dpublic%20cooperati on.](#)

Description: **Awarded to a state government employee or program that demonstrates use of an innovative solution or management technique to address a fiscal or programmatic challenge and produce budgetary savings and/or programmatic improvements.**

I know that the nature of state government involves working around “fiscal or programmatic challenges” and would love to see good work recognized! Any help getting the word out to the other agencies is appreciated!!

Hope you’re enjoying the best days of summer!

Angela James

Outreach Manager

La Follette School of Public Affairs

University of Wisconsin -- Madison

1225 Observatory Drive

Madison, WI 53706

Angela.James@wisc.edu



Find the La Follette School online:



<https://www.lafollette.wisc.edu>









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: RE: PAST DUE: Governor's Letter to appoint State Coordinator (FY2023 Survey of State Government R&D)
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 1:30:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

I'm good with Danielle – Paul doesn't need more on his plate right now. Do you want to talk to her about it?

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 1:27 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: PAST DUE: Governor's Letter to appoint State Coordinator (FY2023 Survey of State Government R&D)

I would be ok naming Danielle or Paul, or we could talk to Pahnke about doing it.

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 1:10 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: PAST DUE: Governor's Letter to appoint State Coordinator (FY2023 Survey of State Government R&D)

Apparently.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 1:06 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: PAST DUE: Governor's Letter to appoint State Coordinator (FY2023 Survey of State Government R&D)

He did, but as this thread says, it indicated that Jeanne was the coordinator and that was obviously incorrect for her role. I'd brought it up on a DOA check-in to see if they had guidance about who Jeanne was perhaps relaying it to and hadn't heard back. Sounds like it was Liv?

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 12:30 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: FW: PAST DUE: Governor's Letter to appoint State Coordinator (FY2023 Survey of State Government R&D)

Jenny,

Did Derek ever do the follow up we discussed here?

From: ERD SGRD (CENSUS/ OTHER) <erd.sgrd@census.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 12:04 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Tarantino, Jeanne M - DOA <jeanne.tarantino@wisconsin.gov>; Hwang, Olivia C - DOA <oliviaw.hwang@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: PAST DUE: Governor's Letter to appoint State Coordinator (FY2023 Survey of State Government R&D)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.

Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Maggie Gau:

We are still waiting on an appointment of a state coordinator. Last year your coordinator was Jeanne Tarantino, who is cc on this email. Jeanne are you able to serve again this year?

The coordinator you appoint will be asked to confirm the names and contact information for your state departments, agencies, commission, and public authorities that are most likely to fund or conduct R&D activities. These departments and agencies will receive a questionnaire asking about their R&D activities. The coordinator also will serve as the authorizing official for your state's response after all departments and agencies complete their survey questionnaires. The coordinator may be called upon to assist the Census Bureau and the NCSES in obtaining responses from any non-responding agencies.

Please let me know by August 31st who the coordinator will be this year.

Thank you,

Vicki Kuppala,
Survey of State Government Research and Development
U.S. Census Bureau
1-888-340-7525 erd.sgrd@census.gov







From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: RE: NGA Opioid State Action Network list - Survey to Governor's Offices on Drug Policy Advisors
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:18:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

I'm good with both of you being added – thanks!

From: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 1:52 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: NGA Opioid State Action Network list - Survey to Governor's Offices on Drug Policy Advisors

They often invite the Criminal Justice Policy Advisor list to the OSAN events, so I'll make sure I'm on the OSAN list directly and also ask them to add Emma unless others feel differently. I can circle back with NGA.

KD

--

Katie Domina
Policy Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 1:48 PM
To: GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: NGA Opioid State Action Network list - Survey to Governor's Offices on Drug Policy Advisors

Would like to have some folks from our team on this. Policy, please advise.

From: Corcoran, Ann <acorcoran@NGA.ORG>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 1:37 PM
To: Corcoran, Ann <acorcoran@NGA.ORG>
Subject: NGA Opioid State Action Network list - Survey to Governor's Offices on Drug Policy Advisors

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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safe.

To: Chiefs of Staff and Policy Directors
Cc: State Federal Representatives
Re: Survey to Governor's Offices on Drug Policy Advisors

Good afternoon,

We are working to update our contacts for the Opioid State Action Network. The Opioid State Action Network convenes virtually monthly and intends to keep states attuned to current and emerging issues on drug policy. The composition is a mix of public health and public safety officials, and the format of the webinar is generally a presentation from a subject matter expert on a respective topic plus a state/territory's perspective on the issue. We are currently updating the list and want to be sure that Governor's drug policy advisors, plus relevant public health and public safety folks are included in future correspondence.

When you get a moment, could you please send me the names of the individuals that should be on this list? Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you!
Ann

**Also, in case you haven't seen the new Roadmap:

[NGA Releases Roadmap For Tackling Drug Overdose Epidemic](#)

Ann Corcoran
Membership Program Director
[444 North Capitol St NW, Ste 267](#)
[Washington, D.C. 20001](#)
o: 202.624.5335 | m: 703.851.6470
acorcoran@nga.org









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#)
Subject: n4A
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:27:30 PM

[Here](#)

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Henney, Cara - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Agni, Chet - GOV](#); [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Wallace, Mitch - GOV](#); [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Laurent, Bridget - GOV](#)
Subject: Huddle
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 4:44:39 PM

We will start Huddle at 9:00 AM tomorrow. Sorry if this conflicts with peoples schedules!

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Please Review: Draft DOA SO JLAC Testimony
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 9:51:32 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Reviewed

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 8:21:54 PM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Please Review: Draft DOA SO JLAC Testimony

Ok here

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 7:25 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Please Review: Draft DOA SO JLAC Testimony

Made my edits. Let me know when you have had a chance to review.
ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [redacted] [office], [redacted] [cell]

e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Connors, Cara - DOA <cara.connors@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 4:40 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>; Hammer, Paul - DOA <paul.hammer1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Please Review: Draft DOA SO JLAC Testimony
Importance: High

Hi all,

Thank you in advance for your quick review and feedback: [DRAFT 8.22 SO JLAC Testimony](#). Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the document.

Thanks,



Cara Connors | Legislative Advisor

pronouns: she/her(s)

Department of Administration

cara.connors@wisconsin.gov

O: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED]











From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Please Review: Draft DOA SO JLAC Testimony
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 10:09:34 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Nothing additional.

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 9:51:29 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Please Review: Draft DOA SO JLAC Testimony

Reviewed

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 8:21:54 PM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Please Review: Draft DOA SO JLAC Testimony

Ok here

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 7:25 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Please Review: Draft DOA SO JLAC Testimony

Made my edits. Let me know when you have had a chance to review.
ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [redacted] [office], [redacted] [cell]
e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Connors, Cara - DOA <cara.connors@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 4:40 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>; Hammer, Paul - DOA <paul.hammer1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Please Review: Draft DOA SO JLAC Testimony

Importance: High

Hi all,

Thank you in advance for your quick review and feedback: [DRAFT 8.22 SO JLAC Testimony](#). Please let me know if you have any issues accessing the document.

Thanks,



Cara Connors | Legislative Advisor

pronouns: she/her(s)

Department of Administration

cara.connors@wisconsin.gov

O: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED]











From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: EMR Bill
Date: Monday, August 21, 2023 10:09:57 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

This is great!

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 6:50:29 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: EMR Bill

A thank you from Hazel Green:

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Jason Piddington <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 5:24 PM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: EMR Bill

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Good afternoon Zach.

I have been meaning to send an email thanking you and Governor Evers for signing the Act 12 bill into law which ends the requirement for the National Registry for EMRs. As you, the Governor, and all service directors know, we need bodies, and we believe this will help tremendously to get people in the door. At Hazel Green we already had three people reach out about classes in 2024!! To let

you know, at Hazel Green, if an EMT 1 student (class needed to become EMR) is planning on going on to EMT 2 (class needed to become an EMT-Basic) we are talking about requiring the national test, because they will still have to pass it to become and EMT-Basic and taking it before will give them a great idea what the test is like.

I am also very excited that we will be able to use the Federal Assistant Program money to buy one-time use supplies. Medication we need to carry on the Ambulance is our most consistent cost as we normally need to replace supplies about every six months.

Thank you for listening to our concerns and working across the aisle to get this done.

Jason Piddington
Hazel Green Area Rescue Squad Service Director









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: Media Availability: Preventing Respiratory Illnesses : TEST
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:34:45 AM

FYSA

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Miller, Jennifer C - DHS <JenniferC.Miller@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:19:09 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Goodsitt, Elizabeth S - DHS <Elizabeth.Goodsitt@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Media Availability: Preventing Respiratory Illnesses : TEST

Hi,

We are planning to hold a media availability at 1:30 on Wednesday, August 23, to talk about respiratory viruses and ways to prevent them. Will this conflict with anything you're planning?

Thank you.

Jennifer Miller

Communications Team
Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Office of the Secretary
[REDACTED] (o)
608-266-1683 (media line)

From: Wisconsin Department of Health Services <widhs@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:02 PM
To: Miller, Jennifer C - DHS <JenniferC.Miller@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Media Availability: Preventing Respiratory Illnesses : TEST

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Department of Health Services News Releases

August 22, 2023

Contact: Elizabeth Goodsitt/Jennifer Miller 608-266-1683

For Planning Purposes

Media Availability on Preventing Respiratory Illnesses

It's back to school time, and soon we will be spending more time indoors. That means sickness can be passed along more easily if we don't take steps to prevent it. Dr. Ryan Westergaard, Chief Medical Officer of DHS Bureau of Communicable Diseases will be available to answer your questions on how to prevent COVID-19, influenza, and RSV, among others.

Who: Dr. Ryan Westergaard, Chief Medical Officer, Bureau of Communicable Diseases in the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

What: Media availability

When: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

Where: This media availability will be held on Zoom. Please RSVP to DHSMedia@dhs.wisconsin.gov to receive a link and include the names of your media outlet and the reporter who will be asking a question.

Please do not reply directly to this email message. If you have a question, please email the [Department of Health Services Communications Team](#) or call the media line at 608-266-1683.

CONNECT WITH DHS



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This email was sent to Email Address using GovDelivery Communications Cloud
on behalf of: Wisconsin Department of Health Services · 1 West Wilson Street ·
Madison, WI 53703



From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Henney, Cara - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Mercer, Anna - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: GOV AppEngine Update
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:01:37 AM

Yes all of these

From: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:48:58 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: GOV AppEngine Update

Hi all,

The TLDR is: the technology that operates our forms on the website is expiring and Tyler Tech is working to migrate all of our forms over to the newest model.

Just confirming, we would like all of these forms to continue, correct?

Please let me know if you have any thoughts or concerns. I'll respond to them in the next day or two. Adding Anna for her awareness as Jeremiah didn't have her on the original email, but defer to Wenona and Anna on the CS side of this.

Thanks!
Cara

From: Khang, Jeremiah <Jeremiah.Khang@tylertech.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:42 AM
To: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Kobyłka, David J - GOV <david.kobylka@wisconsin.gov>; Steck, Evan - GOV <evan.steck@wisconsin.gov>; Moreland, Amy - GOV <amy.moreland@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Zawacki, Danny <Danny.Zawacki@tylertech.com>; Bradley, Patrick - VWIN <patrick.bradley@tylertech.com>
Subject: GOV AppEngine Update

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello!

We are informing you that AppEngine, our form building solution, is going to sunset at the end of the year. We are currently in the process of migrating these forms to our eGov Business

Management Team supported form solution, AccessGov. We would like to meet and discuss all this information - please let us know a few days and times that work best for you to discuss. We also request that you review the list of forms below and confirm if all of these are still in use, or, which ones can be sunset:

GOV Forms:

1. Apply to Serve: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/Governor/apply>
2. Assistance Request: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/assistance>
3. Boards and Commissions Application:
<https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/gov/boardsandcommissions>
4. Contact the Governor: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/Governor/contact>
5. Document Request: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/document-request>
6. Information Requests from Students:
<https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/student-inquiry>
7. Internship Application: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/internship-apply>
8. Public Records Request: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/public-records-request>
9. Scheduling Request: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/Governor/Schedule>
10. Voice an Opinion: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/voice-an-opinion>

Upon review and confirmation, we will continue to build out all remaining forms in AccessGov. Once complete, we will ask you to review and confirm the forms are ready for cutover to the new system. During this period, we will provide some training and reference materials to orient you in the new system. Following cutover, we will provide you an export of all submissions to date for you to access once the forms are in AccessGov. A rough timeline is as follows:

- **Now - Early October:** Tyler Wisconsin builds forms in AccessGov
- **Early-October:** Forms ready for your review
- **November:** Cutover from AppEngine to AccessGov
- **December:** Provided with exports of all submissions for each form.

Please reach out with any questions!

Jeremiah Khang

CMS Project Coordinator

Tyler Wisconsin

316 W Washington Ave #300, Madison, Wisconsin 53703

C: 608-709-0458

www.tylertech.com

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Mercer, Anna - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Henney, Cara - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: GOV AppEngine Update
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:44:34 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Got it. Thanks, Anna. Just wanted to make sure we had a handle on that incoming just because I haven't seen much on that front myself. All good!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 10:42 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: GOV AppEngine Update

Hi Britt,

To answer your question, the gov proclamations inbox gets the “information requests for students” forwarded to it. And I can check via backend.

“Info request for students” via the online form are rare as students usually write-in via physical letter. Of course, I am speaking from my own experience and there could be an uptick when more schools resume.

Anna Mercer (*she/her*)
Director of Constituent Services and Proclamations
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov
c: [REDACTED]



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:20 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: GOV AppEngine Update

These all look right to me, but curious about the “Information Requests from Students” one, mostly because I didn’t know it existed and hoping that comes into somewhere that folks are regularly checking...

Also, what is the “Contact the Governor” one? Theoretically, I assume that’d be the same as the “Voice an Opinion” link, but the link itself doesn’t work and then tries to forward to another link that also doesn’t work. Seems like maybe those could just be collapsed and retitled “Voice an Opinion” with “Contact the Governor”?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 10:01 AM
To: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: GOV AppEngine Update

Yes all of these

From: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:48:58 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: GOV AppEngine Update

Hi all,

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Just confirming, we would like all of these forms to continue, correct?

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Thanks!
Cara

From: Khang, Jeremiah <Jeremiah.Khang@tylertech.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:42 AM
To: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Kobyłka, David J - GOV <david.kobylka@wisconsin.gov>; Steck, Evan - GOV <evan.steck@wisconsin.gov>; Moreland, Amy - GOV <amy.moreland@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Zawacki, Danny <Danny.Zawacki@tylertech.com>; Bradley, Patrick - VWIN <patrick.bradley@tylertech.com>
Subject: GOV AppEngine Update

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2. Assistance Request: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/assistance>
3. Boards and Commissions Application:
<https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/gov/boardsandcommissions>
4. Contact the Governor: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/Governor/contact>
5. Document Request: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/document-request>
6. Information Requests from Students:
<https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/student-inquiry>
7. Internship Application: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/internship-apply>
8. Public Records Request: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/public-records-request>
9. Scheduling Request: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/Governor/Schedule>
10. Voice an Opinion: <https://appengine.egov.com/apps/wi/governor/voice-an-opinion>

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Jeremiah Khang

CMS Project Coordinator

Tyler Wisconsin

[316 W Washington Ave #300, Madison, Wisconsin 53703](#)

C: 608-709-0458

www.tylertech.com







From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Rep. Derrick Van Orden announces death of oldest daughter | News | channel3000
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:06:25 PM

CU, please make sure staff are around and able to connect this call via their work cell.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 11:56 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Rep. Derrick Van Orden announces death of oldest daughter | News | channel3000

I'll work to get something set up!!

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 11:54 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Rep. Derrick Van Orden announces death of oldest daughter | News | channel3000

Agree

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 11:51 AM
To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV

<britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Rep. Derrick Van Orden announces death of oldest daughter | News | channel3000

https://www.channel3000.com/news/rep-derrick-van-orden-announces-death-of-oldest-daughter/article_567e6450-4109-11ee-9cdf-b727645d86e3.html

TE should call DVO

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#)
Subject: FW: MISO Prepares for Prolonged, Major Heat Wave
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:37:06 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-ippptuuu.png](#)

FYSA

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Sweeney, Matthew - PSC <matthew2.sweeney@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 12:35 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>, Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: MISO Prepares for Prolonged, Major Heat Wave

Flagging. We're working up a response but I expect it will be very similar to what we said last year.

Matt

From: Joe Schulz <joe.schulz@wpr.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:29 PM
To: Sweeney, Matthew - PSC <matthew2.sweeney@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fw: MISO Prepares for Prolonged, Major Heat Wave

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hi Matthew,

I'm a reporter for Wisconsin Public Radio. I'm passing along this media request I sent to Meghan Sovey with the PSC earlier today. Let me know if you have any questions or if the request is doable.

Thanks!

--Joe

From: Joe Schulz
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 12:07 PM
To: Sovey, Meghan - PSC <meghan.sovey1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: MISO Prepares for Prolonged, Major Heat Wave

Hi Meghan,

MISO sent a [press release yesterday afternoon](#) that said it was preparing for "near record electricity demand" as a major heat wave hits the central U.S. The grid operator preemptively notified all local utilities in its operating footprint to prepare every available resource to serve the projected load. Wisconsin is facing an [excessive heat watch Wednesday and Thursday](#), so I wanted to check in with our utilities to find out how they're preparing and what customers can do to help reduce strain on the grid.

I already spoke with Alliant Energy, and I've got interviews set up with Xcel and WPS as well. But I'm wondering if the PSC would be able to provide a statement about the state's electric grid's preparedness for this week's heatwave and how common heat-related outages have been in Wisconsin?

I'm filing the story this afternoon, so, if possible, would you be able to send a statement by 4 p.m.?

As always, your help is greatly appreciated!

Best,
Joe

Joe Schulz, Green Bay reporter – Wisconsin Public Radio
Phone: 920-573-7270 (Cell)
Email: Joe.schulz@wpr.org





WISCONSIN
PUBLIC RADIO

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Press Release: ONE MONTH OUT: Gov. Evers Urges Legislature to Invest in Child Care and Address State's Chronic Workforce Challenges
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 1:31:19 PM

I mean, not "great," as in this is good because it decidedly is not but great as in glad they flagged this for us.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 1:30 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Press Release: ONE MONTH OUT: Gov. Evers Urges Legislature to Invest in Child Care and Address State's Chronic Workforce Challenges

Great! Let's try to go if we can, scheduling!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 1:26 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Press Release: ONE MONTH OUT: Gov. Evers Urges Legislature to Invest in Child Care and Address State's Chronic Workforce Challenges

Sharing the below from Sec Barca on a suggestions of a child care center to potentially connect with based on their discussions with him that they are struggling.

From: Barca, Peter W - DOR <peter.barca@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 1:06:24 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Amundson, Emilie A - DCF <Emilie.Amundson@wisconsin.gov>; Pegram, Emily N - DOR (Nicole) <Nicole.Pegram@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Press Release: ONE MONTH OUT: Gov. Evers Urges Legislature to Invest in Child Care and Address State's Chronic Workforce Challenges

Jenni I see the Governor is visiting daycares around the state so I wanted to share this information about Growing Green Childcare in Kenosha. They are in acute danger of closing in case they do not obtain some relief. So in the event the Governor wanted to visit or just your Comms Team wanted to feature them in your outreach - it is an important story. They are a five star facility and extremely active in the Kenosha community.

Best Wishes,

Peter

Peter Barca
Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Revenue
Peter.Barca@Wisconsin.gov
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Barca, Peter W - DOR" <peter.barca@wisconsin.gov>
Date: August 22, 2023 at 1:00:05 PM CDT
To: ttroha@growinggreenchild.com
Cc: "Pegram, Emily N - DOR (Nicole)" <Nicole.Pegram@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: **Fwd: Press Release: ONE MONTH OUT: Gov. Evers Urges Legislature to Invest in Child Care and Address State's Chronic Workforce Challenges**

Todd because you have shared with me the significant challenges confronting your first rate child care center I wanted to share this announcement with you. Hopefully you can see that the Governor and all of us in the administration are pushing extremely hard to convince the legislature to take up this issue in September. Please share this with your fellow child care providers so we can all spread how important this is to parents, childcare providers and businesses who desperately need more workers. This is our top priority for the Fall Session.

Most Sincerely,

Peter Barca

Peter Barca
Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Revenue
Peter.Barca@Wisconsin.gov
[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gov Evers Press <GovPress@evers.wi.gov>
Date: August 22, 2023 at 12:07:26 PM CDT
To: "Barca, Peter W - DOR" <peter.barca@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: **Press Release: ONE MONTH OUT: Gov. Evers Urges Legislature to Invest in Child Care and Address State's Chronic Workforce Challenges**
Reply-To: GovPress@evers.wi.gov

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Image removed by sender. Office of Governor Tony Evers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 22, 2023

Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov

ONE MONTH OUT: Gov. Evers Urges Legislature to Invest in Child Care and Address State's Chronic Workforce Challenges

Governor continues push for child care funding ahead of special session of the Wisconsin State Legislature on September 20th

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers, just a month out from [his special session call of the Wisconsin State Legislature](#), is continuing to urge the Legislature to address the looming child care industry fiscal cliff and pass a comprehensive plan to address the state's chronic workforce challenges. Gov. Evers is continuing a statewide tour visiting child care providers across the state, including recent visits in Milwaukee, Appleton, Rhinelander, Eau Claire, Lancaster, Holmen, and Kewaskum, to discuss the importance of the child care industry and the impact its collapse would have on the state's workforce. According to a [report](#) from The Century Foundation, it is estimated that without the necessary investments to stave off the looming fiscal cliff facing the state's child care industry, 2,110 child care programs are projected to close, resulting in the loss of over 4,880 child care jobs, leaving more than 87,000 kids in Wisconsin without child care, and potentially causing approximately half a billion dollars in economic impacts between parents leaving the workforce and reduced employer productivity.

On Aug. 8, 2023, Gov. Evers announced he has called a special session of the Legislature to occur at 12:00 p.m. on Sept. 20, 2023, and presented his comprehensive workforce plan to use more than \$1 billion of the state's readily available \$4 billion budget surplus to prevent a looming collapse of the state's child care industry and ensure child care is affordable and accessible for working parents and families, expand paid family leave, invest in higher education to help educate, train, retain, and recruit talented workers, and support targeted solutions to workforce challenges in high-need areas, specifically the state's healthcare and education workforce sectors. More information about the governor's special session plan is available [here](#).

"I've spent the last month visiting child care providers all across Wisconsin, and it is undeniable that our state's families, workforce, and economy depend on access to affordable, quality child care to be successful," said Gov. Evers. "Without continued state investments from lawmakers, the child care industry is facing a fiscal cliff, and we are already seeing the consequences of this inaction, with providers having to make difficult decisions to cut pay for their employees, raise rates on working families, or worse, close their doors. This is about the survival of an industry that is vital to our workforce, and Legislative inaction will have disastrous and cascading economic impacts.

"We simply cannot afford to see any more child care providers close or any more workers leave our already-strapped workforce. I'm asking folks across the state to contact their state representatives and state senators and demand that they put our kids, families, and workforce first and continue to fund the Child Care Counts Program."

Gov. Evers has made it a priority to address Wisconsin's workforce challenges, including by investing in efforts that support affordable, accessible child care, like the Child Care Counts Program that to date has helped more than 4,440 child care providers keep their doors open, ensuring the employment of 22,000 child care professionals and allowing providers to continue to provide high-quality care to more than 113,000 kids. In his 2023-25 biennial budget proposal, Gov. Evers proposed making the Child Care Counts Program permanent with a more than \$340 million investment to continue supporting Wisconsin's early care and education community, as well as the working families who depend on this care to get to work and put food on their tables.

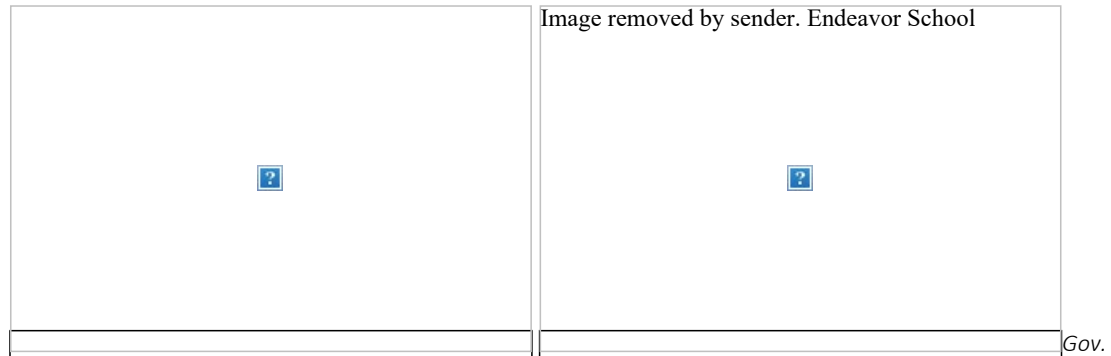
Unfortunately, and despite the state's historic budget surplus, Republicans in the Legislature decided against putting any funding toward Child Care Counts in the state budget, meaning the program is set to end in January 2024.

With less than a month before the special session date, Wisconsinites are encouraged to find contact

information for their local state representative and state senator by entering their address [here](#) to express their support for the governor's special session plan to bolster our state's workforce, maintain our economic momentum, and most importantly, do the right thing for Wisconsin.

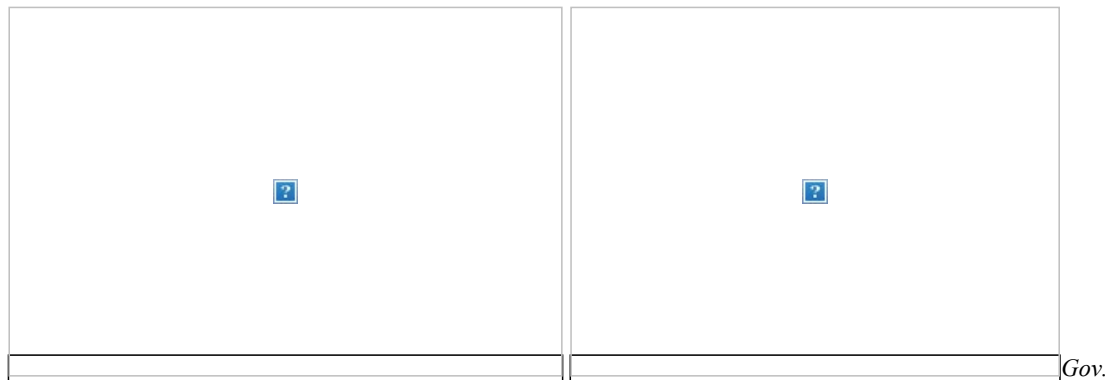
Since signing the 2023-25 biennial budget in July, the governor has visited 19 child care providers, including YMCA day camps and Boys and Girls Clubs, in communities across the state to highlight the need to stabilize the state's child care industry and make the Child Care Counts Program a permanent state program. With the Child Care Counts Program set to end in January 2024, the child care industry faces a looming fiscal cliff that, if not addressed, will result in child care providers having to raise their rates, reduce enrollment, or in the worst-case scenario, close their doors for good, leaving kids and families in the lurch.

The eight child care providers the governor has visited since calling for a special session, in total, have received over \$4.4 million in funding through the Child Care Counts Program across multiple locations to help them keep the lights on, pay their workers a fair wage, and continue providing affordable child care. As of June 2023, these eight providers were serving 808 kids across their locations, allowing more parents to stay in the workforce and contribute to local economic development.



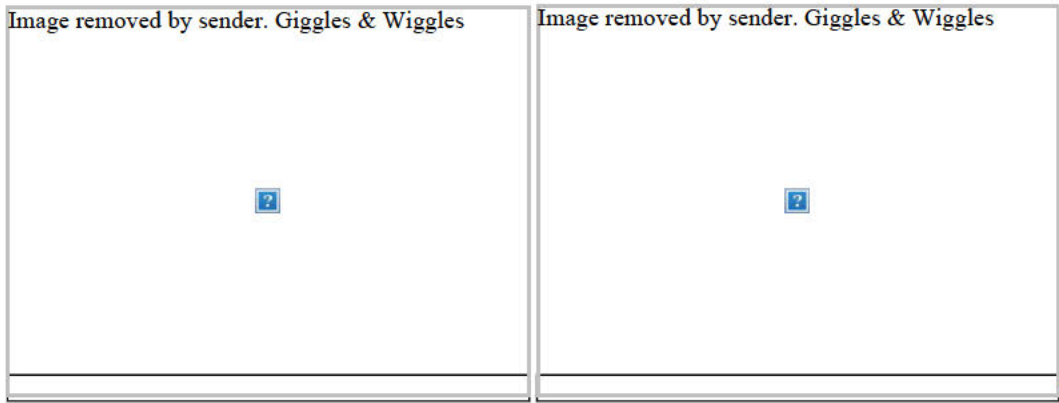
Evers on August 8 at Tiny Green Trees Nature Based Childcare Center in Milwaukee (LEFT) and at Endeavor School in Eau Claire (RIGHT).

During his visits, the governor has spoken to numerous child care providers and families across the state who have demonstrated the urgent need for state investment in the child care industry. Unsurprisingly, these providers have all shared how critical the Child Care Counts program has been for their ability to retain employees and provide the best possible care to their enrolled kids, and they've shared their concerns about what will happen when the program ends in 2024



Evers on August 14 at Little Feet & Helpful Hands Childcare in Holmen (LEFT). Gov. Evers on August 16 at Little Folks School House in Kewaskum (RIGHT).

Unfortunately, the state is already seeing the consequences of a lack of funding for the child care industry through multiple child care closures, throwing working families and their kids into uncertainty and destabilizing the workforce in local communities. For example, Lancaster, a town in Southwestern Wisconsin, is set to lose its second-largest child care provider, Giggles & Wiggles Daycare, at the end of the month. Due to the lack of funding and workforce shortages, they were not able to provide continued care to the 35 children enrolled, resulting in the decision to close their doors. Gov. Evers visited Giggles and Wiggles on August 10 where he met with the owner and the staff who are all losing their jobs, as well as some of the parents who are losing their provider and are scrambling to find other child care options in a community where there is already a lack of affordable providers.



Gov.

Evers on August 10 at Giggles & Wiggles in Lancaster.

Details of the governor's comprehensive special session plan to address the state's child care industry are available below.

Preventing Child Care Industry Collapse, Ensuring Access to Affordable Child Care Statewide

The governor's plan includes a more than \$365 million investment in child care across the state, including in the successful Child Care Counts and Partner Up! Programs at the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF). The governor is proposing:

- More than \$340 million, including \$38.9 million in Temporary Assistance for Need Families (TANF) funds, to continue the successful [Child Care Counts Program](#), which has been a lifeline for providers across the state; and
- \$22.3 million for the [Partner Up! Program](#), which has helped support employers in purchasing child care spots for their employees at existing regulated child care providers across the state. A portion of this investment redirects the \$15 million that the 2023-25 budget placed in the Joint Finance Committee supplemental appropriation for the purposes of grants to child care providers. As of March 2023, 220 businesses have enrolled in Partner Up!, securing slots for over 1,200 kids across Wisconsin.

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

###

Office of the Governor • 115 East Capitol, Madison, WI 53702

Press Office Email: GovPress@wisconsin.gov



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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4a
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:10:42 PM

[Here](#)

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Clark, Josephine - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Lashua, Ryan - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:06:16 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-The Instag.png](#)

Good here with that plan. Jo, can we get the final, unsigned pdf at your earliest convenience? I'm planning to provide under embargo to press.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 3:54 PM
To: Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

He is set to arrive at 11:45 am tomorrow and knock this out right away. Let me know if anyone needs any changes to that timing.

Best,

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:20 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

If there's nothing else, I'll finalize for tomorrow.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:07 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

Reupping this. Anything additional? Otherwise, could have him execute this tomorrow first thing when he comes to the office.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at 6:42 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV

<jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

Have one update on this I'll bring up tomorrow AM.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at 2:20 PM

To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

Reviewed.

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 12:21 PM

To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

Reviewed.

ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]

e: Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 12:19 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

Reviewed.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 10:35 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

Reviewed

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 10:31 AM
To: Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

Reviewed! thanks, Jo!

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>


Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 3:49 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Draft EOXX-AITaskForce

Hi all,

Here's the SharePoint  [link](#) to the draft executive order creating a task force on AI. My understanding is that we're hoping to get this signed this Friday.

Please let me or Ryan know if you have any questions or if the timeline changes.

Thanks,

Jo

Jo Clark (*she/hers*)

Senior Associate Legal Counsel

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov































From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Newman, Gaby - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#); [Clark, Josephine - GOV](#)
Cc: [GOV DL COMMS](#)
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:15:07 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

As my email notes, this is going out extremely early tomorrow.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:14:02 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

We had told WEDC they could do some day of. So do we want them to do that tonight then? Or will they have time tomorrow?

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:12 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Are* there

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:06:47 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

I don't believe so, we will send to them to review.

Relatedly, hate there any other notifications that need to be done? Recommend we do those ASAP as this is set to go very early tomorrow.

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:52:31 PM
To: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Has DWD seen this?

From: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:50:11 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Hello all,

Please see the below draft of the AI Task Force release and share any edits you have or your approval if good!

Our aim is to get this out tomorrow, so please review at your earliest convenience.

Thank you!

Gaby Newman (*She/Her/Hers*)
Deputy Press Secretary
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov



From: Gov Evers Press <GovPress@evers.wi.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:46 PM
To: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

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Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 23, 2023

Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov

Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers today signed Executive Order #XXX creating the Governor’s Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence. This task force will gather and analyze information and produce an advisory action plan to identify the current state of generative artificial intelligence’s (AI) impact on Wisconsin’s labor market and develop informed predictions regarding its implications for the near term and future. The action plan will also identify how these workforce impacts may affect Wisconsin’s key industries, occupations, and foundational skillsets, explore initiatives to advance equity and economic opportunity in the face of these changes, and based on the impacts identified, recommend solutions related to workforce development and educational systems.

“Wisconsin is ready to pursue and advance solutions that will ensure the state can take on the workforce challenges that may come with a transformative technology like artificial intelligence and embrace a future where all Wisconsinites, including workers, employers, and job seekers, benefit from a dynamic, growing economy that increases efficiency with the adoption of new technology,” said Gov. Evers. “Establishing this task force will be critical in understanding, adapting to, and capitalizing on the transformations AI will bring, ensuring Wisconsin’s workforce and industries remain steady, stable, and robust in the face of technological advancement.”

AI systems being produced today can learn from data without being explicitly programmed, create new content, predict future outcomes, and have the potential to reshape entire labor markets. Today, AI is increasingly being used in a range of industries important to Wisconsin, including manufacturing, healthcare, education, transportation, agriculture, and more. Yet, due to the novelty of the technology that is being developed and implemented, many Americans are concerned with or apprehensive of this emerging technology, with a Forbes 2023 [survey](#) reporting that more than 75 percent of “consumers are concerned with misinformation from artificial intelligence tools.”

As the state continues ongoing efforts to address Wisconsin’s longstanding, generational workforce challenges, the Governor’s Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence will help ensure that Wisconsin remains competitive by establishing best practices for the implementation and utilization of AI technologies and identifying potential impacts of AI across industries, occupations, and skillsets with an eye toward greater equity and economic opportunity so all workers, employers, and job seekers in Wisconsin have the opportunity to benefit from this evolving technology.

The Governor’s Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence will be administered by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and will be chaired by DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek or a designee. The governor will appoint additional members to serve on the Task Force, including Wisconsin Department of Administration Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld or a designee, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Secretary and CEO Missy Hughes or a designee, representatives from the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Technical College Systems, and other individuals who may include representatives from state and local government, the business community, educational institutions,

organized labor, the technology sector, and other leaders from relevant workforce sectors and industries.

This announcement comes as, earlier this month, Gov. Evers called a special session of the Wisconsin State Legislature to complete their work on the 2023-25 biennial budget and pass a meaningful, comprehensive plan to address the state's longstanding, generational workforce challenges. July data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show Wisconsin continues to see near record-low unemployment and record-high labor force participation. Still, Wisconsin's small businesses, farmers and producers, hospitals and healthcare sectors, schools, and other critical employers and industries continue to face significant challenges filling available jobs. The governor's plan would help reduce barriers to employment and prevent existing challenges from being exacerbated into an unmitigated crisis that would have calamitous consequences for Wisconsin's workforce and help make sure the state can be successful and compete in the changing landscape of the global economic market. Details on the governor's plan are available [here](#).

Executive Order #XXX is available [here](#).

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

###

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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Newman, Gaby - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#); [Clark, Josephine - GOV](#)
Cc: [GOV DL COMMS](#)
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:37:06 PM
Attachments: [image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)

Confirming Amy herself signed off on PR.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:13 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>, Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

We should notify labor but would defer to Mitch or Kelly on exactly who. I don't want to hold this going out so I think notifying as soon as we can in the morning would be fine.

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From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:12:52 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

We didn't talk about any other notifications (other than WEDCs) that I'm aware of, but I'm willing to help if any need to be done as well, just let me know.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:07 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Spoke to Sam & those two notifications are happening.

Wenona, let me know if I can help with other notifications? I have a thing at 7 but can help before then.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:49:50 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Got it. I will call Sam right now and ask them to do notifications tonight so you're good to go with it being public when you want in the morning. Sorry I wasn't understanding. Will confirm here when I've reached him.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:41:02 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

I was planning to provide tonight but I guess I can wait until tomorrow or not provide under embargo but I would like this out the door by 7 a.m. either way.

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:39:58 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

WEDC is just the two individuals we discussed earlier this week, which we told them they have to do day of. I don't know if there have been other conversations about notifications

Britt, is this going public early or is it going to press under embargo early so there's time for notifications? I just wasn't clear from your email and we had told WEDC that they had to do notifications day of a few hours before, per MG earlier this week, so I want to make sure I'm telling them the right thing now.

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:37:50 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Does WEDC's outreach include labor? Or has that been done by DWD or our office?

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From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:14:02 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

We had told WEDC they could do some day of. So do we want them to do that tonight then? Or will they have time tomorrow?

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:12 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce

and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Are* there

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:06:47 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

I don't believe so, we will send to them to review.

Relatedly, hate there any other notifications that need to be done? Recommend we do those ASAP as this is set to go very early tomorrow.

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:52:31 PM
To: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Has DWD seen this?

From: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:50:11 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Hello all,

Please see the below draft of the AI Task Force release and share any edits you have or your approval if good!

Our aim is to get this out tomorrow, so please review at your earliest convenience.

Thank you!

Gaby Newman (*She/Her/Hers*)
Deputy Press Secretary
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov



From: Gov Evers Press <GovPress@evers.wi.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:46 PM

To: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 23, 2023

Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov

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As the state continues ongoing efforts to address Wisconsin’s longstanding, generational workforce challenges, the Governor’s Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence will help ensure that Wisconsin remains competitive by establishing best practices for the implementation and utilization of AI technologies and identifying potential impacts of AI across industries, occupations, and skillsets with an eye toward greater equity and economic opportunity so all workers, employers, and job seekers in Wisconsin have the opportunity to benefit from this evolving technology.

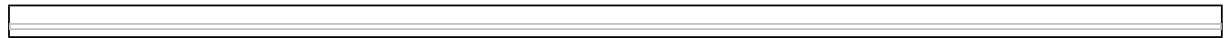
The Governor’s Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence will be administered by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and will be chaired by DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek or a designee. The governor will appoint additional members to serve on the Task Force, including Wisconsin Department of Administration Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld or a designee, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Secretary and CEO Missy Hughes or a designee, representatives from the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Technical College Systems, and other individuals who may include representatives from state and local government, the business community, educational institutions, organized labor, the technology sector, and other leaders from relevant workforce sectors and industries.

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Executive Order #XXX is available [here](#).

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

###



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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Clark, Josephine - GOV](#); [Wallace, Mitch - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Newman, Gaby - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [GOV DL COMMS](#)
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 7:17:15 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)

Thank you!! Updated PR below for notifications purposes.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov



Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 23, 2023

Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov

Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

MADISON — In his latest effort relating to the state's workforce, Gov. Tony Evers today signed Executive Order #211 creating the Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence. The move comes as last month Gov. Evers announced he is [calling a special session](#) of the Wisconsin State Legislature to take up his comprehensive plan to address the state's longstanding workforce challenges. This task force will gather and analyze information and produce an advisory action plan to identify the current state of generative artificial intelligence's (AI) impact on Wisconsin's labor market and develop informed predictions regarding its implications for the near term and future. The action plan will also identify how these workforce impacts may affect Wisconsin's key industries, occupations, and foundational skillsets, explore initiatives to advance equity and economic opportunity in the face of these changes, and based on the impacts identified, recommend solutions related to workforce development and educational systems.

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Executive Order #211 is available [here](#).

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

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From: Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 7:12 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Here you go! Let me know if you need anything else.

I'm wfh tomorrow, but Bridget will print and bring the EO over for GTE's signature.

Jo

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:58 PM

To: Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>; Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Amazing! Thank you. Will send updated release around once we have that.

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:52 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Yes! Getting that pdf to you shortly.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:50 PM
To: Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Confirming the XO # is 211, yes?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:41 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>, Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

I have not heard from anyone directly about the topic but feel like there is some general concerns. After it goes out tomorrow, I think it would be good to send around as an FYI with a couple calls. I think it's a good way to start convo and also gauge interest.

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:13:54 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

We should notify labor but would defer to Mitch or Kelly on exactly who. I don't want to hold this going out so I think notifying as soon as we can in the morning would be fine.

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From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:12:52 PM

To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

We didn't talk about any other notifications (other than WEDCs) that I'm aware of, but I'm willing to help if any need to be done as well, just let me know.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 6:07 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Spoke to Sam & those two notifications are happening.

Wenona, let me know if I can help with other notifications? I have a thing at 7 but can help before then.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:49:50 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Got it. I will call Sam right now and ask them to do notifications tonight so you're good to go with it being public when you want in the morning. Sorry I wasn't understanding. Will confirm here when I've reached him.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:41:02 PM

To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

I was planning to provide tonight but I guess I can wait until tomorrow or not provide under embargo but I would like this out the door by 7 a.m. either way.

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:39:58 PM

To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

WEDC is just the two individuals we discussed earlier this week, which we told them they have to do day of. I don't know if there have been other conversations about notifications

Britt, is this going public early or is it going to press under embargo early so there's time for notifications? I just wasn't clear from your email and we had told WEDC that they had to do notifications day of a few hours before, per MG earlier this week, so I want to make sure I'm telling them the right thing now.

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:37:50 PM

To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Does WEDC's outreach include labor? Or has that been done by DWD or our office?

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From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:14:02 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV

<maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

We had told WEDC they could do some day of. So do we want them to do that tonight then? Or will they have time tomorrow?

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:12 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Are* there

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 5:06:47 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

I don't believe so, we will send to them to review.

Relatedly, hate there any other notifications that need to be done? Recommend we do those ASAP as this is set to go very early tomorrow.

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:52:31 PM

To: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Has DWD seen this?

From: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:50:11 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Clark, Josephine - GOV <josephine.clark@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW FOR REVIEW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

Hello all,

Please see the below draft of the AI Task Force release and share any edits you have or your approval if good!

Our aim is to get this out tomorrow, so please review at your earliest convenience.

Thank you!

Gaby Newman (*She/Her/Hers*)
Deputy Press Secretary
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov



From: Gov Evers Press <GovPress@evers.wi.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 3:46 PM
To: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence: TEST

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 23, 2023

Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov

Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

MADISON — Gov. Tony Evers today signed Executive Order #XXX creating the Governor’s Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence. This task force will gather and analyze information and produce

an advisory action plan to identify the current state of generative artificial intelligence's (AI) impact on Wisconsin's labor market and develop informed predictions regarding its implications for the near term and future. The action plan will also identify how these workforce impacts may affect Wisconsin's key industries, occupations, and foundational skillsets, explore initiatives to advance equity and economic opportunity in the face of these changes, and based on the impacts identified, recommend solutions related to workforce development and educational systems.

"Wisconsin is ready to pursue and advance solutions that will ensure the state can take on the workforce challenges that may come with a transformative technology like artificial intelligence and embrace a future where all Wisconsinites, including workers, employers, and job seekers, benefit from a dynamic, growing economy that increases efficiency with the adoption of new technology," said Gov. Evers. "Establishing this task force will be critical in understanding, adapting to, and capitalizing on the transformations AI will bring, ensuring Wisconsin's workforce and industries remain steady, stable, and robust in the face of technological advancement."

AI systems being produced today can learn from data without being explicitly programmed, create new content, predict future outcomes, and have the potential to reshape entire labor markets. Today, AI is increasingly being used in a range of industries important to Wisconsin, including manufacturing, healthcare, education, transportation, agriculture, and more. Yet, due to the novelty of the technology that is being developed and implemented, many Americans are concerned with or apprehensive of this emerging technology, with a Forbes 2023 [survey](#) reporting that more than 75 percent of "consumers are concerned with misinformation from artificial intelligence tools."

As the state continues ongoing efforts to address Wisconsin's longstanding, generational workforce challenges, the Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence will help ensure that Wisconsin remains competitive by establishing best practices for the implementation and utilization of AI technologies and identifying potential impacts of AI across industries, occupations, and skillsets with an eye toward greater equity and economic opportunity so all workers, employers, and job seekers in Wisconsin have the opportunity to benefit from this evolving technology.

The Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence will be administered by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and will be chaired by DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek or a designee. The governor will appoint additional members to serve on the Task Force, including Wisconsin Department of Administration Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld or a designee, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Secretary and CEO Missy Hughes or a designee, representatives from the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Technical College Systems, and other individuals who may include representatives from state and local government, the business community, educational institutions, organized labor, the technology sector, and other leaders from relevant workforce sectors and industries.

This announcement comes as, earlier this month, Gov. Evers called a special session of the Wisconsin State Legislature to complete their work on the 2023-25 biennial budget and pass a meaningful, comprehensive plan to address the state's longstanding, generational workforce challenges. July data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show Wisconsin continues to see near record-low unemployment and record-high labor force participation. Still, Wisconsin's small businesses, farmers and producers, hospitals and healthcare sectors, schools, and other critical employers and industries continue to face significant challenges filling available jobs. The governor's plan would help reduce barriers to employment and prevent existing challenges from being exacerbated into an unmitigated crisis that would have calamitous consequences for Wisconsin's workforce and help make sure the state can be successful and compete in the changing landscape of the global economic market. Details on the governor's plan are available [here](#).

Executive Order #XXX is available [here](#).

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

###

Office of the Governor • 115 East Capitol, Madison, WI 53702

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Tony Evers

Office of the Governor | State of Wisconsin









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Bice, Daniel](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Cc: [Aspenson, Eric](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: questions
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 10:28:35 AM

Hi Dan,

Per your last request, our office already provided on-the-record responses to your questions. We will continue to refer you to those responses.

Thanks,
Maggie

From: Bice, Daniel <daniel.bice@jrn.com>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:04 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Aspenson, Eric <eric.aspenson@jrn.com>
Subject: Re: questions

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Thanks for the note.

I would point out, however, that my questions were addressed to Maggie Gau, the office's chief of staff. She did not answer my first question, which was, in short, is she in a romantic or sexual relationship with a staff member whom she supervises? If not, then there is no story. End of conversation. But if she is in such a relationship, has she granted promotions or pay raises to this staffer? When did she alert the governor to the fact that is in such a relationship with a subordinate.

If Maggie could answer these question(s), I would appreciate it. I would also ask that Gov. Evers provide us with any comment he has on the matter.

This is a simple story of accountability. Most businesses have policies banning supervisors from being in romantic or sexual relationships with staffers they supervise. The Journal Sentinel is asking if the Governor's Office is operating contrary to this widespread policy, one that is in force throughout the UW System and in both houses of the Legislature.

As for asking people about their personal relationships, this is something I've had to do on several occasions while pursuing various news stories. Among those I've asked are former Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele, former Gov. Tommy Thompson, Supreme Court

Justice Rebecca Bradley, former Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist, former Assembly Speaker Mike Sheridan and former Insurance Commissioner Robert Haase. In some cases, I wrote stories, and in others, I did not, depending on the answers given to me.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing from Maggie .

Dan

Daniel Bice
Columnist/ No Quarter



Office:414-224-2135
Cell:414-313-6684
daniel.bice@jrn.com
@daniel.bice

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 7:45 PM
To: Bice, Daniel <daniel.bice@jrn.com>
Cc: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Aspenson, Eric <eric.aspenson@jrn.com>
Subject: re: questions

Dan,

Please see the below response, which you may attribute to me.

Journalists are not entitled to unfettered access to the intimate, personal details of a person's life just to satisfy their own personal curiosity.

We decline to comply with the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's* demands that we take the extraordinary and unprecedented step of answering questions that could disclose staff members' potential LGBTQ status and identity for publication in the state's newspaper of largest readership.

To do otherwise could not only affect the safety and well-being of our staff, but would set a dangerous, untenable precedent, enabling journalists to believe they are entitled answers to intrusive questions about employees' personal lives, even in situations where there is no journalistic value or legitimate public interest. It would also open the door to future, increasingly intrusive inquiries about individual employees' sexual orientation, gender identity, relationship status, health conditions, disabilities, religion, and ethnicity, among other personal information.

Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability. Moreover, the *Milwaukee*

Journal Sentinel, by virtue of being a newspaper of record, has actual knowledge that anti-LGBTQ rhetoric, sentiment, and violence are on the rise and that publishing staff members' LGBTQ status and identity in your paper could directly cause and result in undue emotional and physical harm, including but not limited to harassment, stalking, targeting, and violence, among other concerning behavior, against members of our staff.

Where members of the public and members of the press and the public are entitled to certain information regarding personnel and staff for the important purpose of ensuring transparency and accountability in state government, broad swaths of personnel information, documents, and correspondence relating to state business must already be made available as required by law. Wisconsin state law creates a presumption of public access in service of government openness, transparency, and accountability and, unlike the Wisconsin State Legislature, nearly every part of state business in the executive branch is required to be retained and made available to press and the public, including staff salaries, calendars and schedules, email and text communications, and most other documents. Moreover, as a note for your background regarding referenced policies that are applicable, for example, to other branches of government: we recommend a closer review of those policies, including provisions providing the broad flexibility to deviate from said policies altogether.

Among documents already available for press and public viewing includes the organizational chart for the office of the governor. For at least more than a decade, spanning over the tenures of at least four chiefs of staff, at least seven communications directors, and both Republican and Democratic administrations alike, the communications director has reported directly to the chief of staff, and that continues to be the case. Here are existing, publicly available links that include organizational charts for the office of the governor over the course of the last decade, beginning as early as Sept. 17, 2012, when agency budget requests under the Walker Administration were due to begin preparing the 2013-15 biennial budget: [2013-15](#), [2015-17](#), [2017-19](#), [2019-21](#), [2021-23](#), and [2023-25](#). For biennia preceding 2013-15, it appears organizational charts for agencies were not included in agency requests, but please let us know if you find you need additional historical records for the office of the governor preceding that time period.

Additionally, among documents that are likewise available for press and public viewing is the title, previous and current salary amounts, and position information of every state employee, including every person who works in the governor's office. Since running for governor in 2018, the governor has had five communications directors, three in the office of the governor:

- Sam Lau, campaign communications director, August 2018 – November 2018;
- Carrie Springer, transition communications director, November 2018 – January 7, 2019;
- Melissa Baldauff, communications director, January 7, 2019 – ~June 2020;
- Sarah Hoye, communications director, August 2020 – November 2020; and
- Britt Cudaback, communications director, November 8, 2020 – present.

The office of the governor is organized, structured, and managed for the purposes and benefit of the governor: meeting his needs and achieving his administration's priorities. To the extent senior staff is aware of any dating or romantic relationships between staff in our office, the governor is aware of them. Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation. Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply

with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office.

I was officially appointed to deputy communications director in the office of the governor, effective January 7, 2019, at \$62,000 annually. You will also note in the organizational chart(s) that the deputy communications director reports directly to the communications director, as is intuitive. I served as deputy communications director under all four of my predecessors and, during the entirety of my more than two years as deputy communications director, reported directly to the communications director in that role.

Of important note is that, despite expressing interest, I was passed over for a promotion from deputy communications director to communications director three different times—first during the post-election transition, again after the transition, and once again in the middle of the governor's first term.

I was promoted to communications director effective November 8, 2020. The decision to promote me from deputy communications director to communications director was the governor's decision and his decision alone. Notably, my starting salary when I was appointed as communications director in 2020 was \$100,006.40, over \$10,000 *LESS* than my two most recent predecessors when they began in the exact same role.

Any non-merit-based salary increases staff in the governor's office receive are through general wage adjustments to adjust for inflation. **Every state employee receives general wage adjustments as part of the state compensation plan, which is approved by the Wisconsin State Legislature.**

As it relates to merit-based pay increases staff in the governor's office may receive, the governor is aware of and signs off on any merit-based salary increases or promotions for members of senior staff in the governor's office. Importantly:

1. **I have received the exact same number of merit-based pay increases as other current senior staff members in the office of the governor.**
2. **Other than the chief of staff, every member of senior staff who has served since January 7, 2019 has received four merit-based pay increases during that time period.**
3. **Furthermore, my current compensation is entirely consistent with the compensation of my predecessors, and, in fact, is literally the exact same as the most recent person to hold this position before me:**
 - **Melissa Baldauff served as communications director at a salary of \$111,987.20 annually;**
 - **Sarah Hoyer served as communications director at a salary of \$112,008 annually; and**
 - **I was reappointed as communications director, effective January 3, 2023, at a salary of \$112,008 annually.**
4. **I make commensurate salary to both of my predecessors while managing a larger team than any of my predecessors did.**
5. **My salary continues to be less than at least four other senior staff members despite the**

size of the team I manage.

Beyond the above, I am personally aware that these inquiries, relating background information, and certain allegations have been shared and discussed with about ten or more individuals, many of whom are my professional colleagues, not only within the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel newsroom but beyond it. We kindly request that the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel does not share, discuss, or otherwise disclose this information or relevant inquiries any further beyond necessary editorial staff, most especially with individuals who do not work at the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, until and unless you conclude you plan to write this story.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Connecting - VP Harris' Office
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 2:58:55 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Interesting. Thanks!

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 2:58:30 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Connecting - VP Harris' Office

October. They are planning a nationwide tour and all dates will be announced next week, so more heads up than usual

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 2:54:34 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Connecting - VP Harris' Office

Just confirming - Oct? Or Sept?

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 2:53:28 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Connecting - VP Harris' Office

Embargoed update - they are looking at a stop on Oct 3 at UW-Madison. Will be a part of a broader nationwide tour, official notice will be coming next week but they wanted to give us a heads up and would welcome gov to join. Can discuss further tomorrow AM.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 9:22:25 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fw: Connecting - VP Harris' Office

FYSA. I will reach out to get more info.

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Escobar, Analysse R. EOP/OVP <Analysse.R.Escobar@ovp.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 9:16 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Connecting - VP Harris' Office

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Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Jenni,

My name is Analysse Escobar and I'm with VP Harris' Office of Public Engagement and Intergovernmental Affairs. I just tried reaching out to Derek and got his out of office message.

I was hoping to connect with Team Evers today to fill you all in on some upcoming engagement planning we are doing for this fall. Is there a good phone number that I could reach you to chat? Or a good time this afternoon or tomorrow morning to set up some time to chat?

I can be reached at [REDACTED]. Thanks!

Analysse Escobar
Engagement Advisor, Office of Public Engagement & Intergovernmental Affairs
Office of the Vice President | The White House
[Sign Up for Updates from the Office of the Vice President](#)







From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Henney, Cara - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Pending Leg. Form Letter
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:12:59 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

I think this is probably the best we can do

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 12:34:09 PM
To: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Pending Leg. Form Letter

We talked about it on our policy checkin with Anna & Anna, and it was my suggestion to at least provide info to make sure their comment is getting to the right place to be considered, but open to discussion or thoughts from others

From: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 12:25:14 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Pending Leg. Form Letter

Does anyone have thoughts on this? I am assuming it's fine since JP drafted, but wanted to make sure there wasn't anything larger here.

Thanks,
Cara

From: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 12:19 PM
To: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>; Minkin, Anna - GOV <anna.minkin1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Pending Leg. Form Letter

Hi Comms.

We were asked to provide a specific response to incoming about utility rates. Wondering if you can put eyes on this before we upload it for use.

Anna Mercer (*she/her*)
Director of Constituent Services and Proclamations
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov

c: [REDACTED]



From: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 12:10 PM
To: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Minkin, Anna - GOV <anna.minkin1@wisconsin.gov>; Reiter, Annabelle - GOV <annabelle.reiter@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Pending Leg. Form Letter

Thanks! Below is my proposed draft response to the MG&E and WI Power and Light outreach as well as a more generic response that can be used for any utility rate case incoming message:

MGE and WPL outreach-specific response

My Fellow Wisconsinite,

Thank you for contacting my office regarding utility rate cases. My team and I keep careful track of all decision items up for discussion at state agencies, and as we continue this process, we will keep your thoughts in mind.

Utilities submit rate cases to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) for consideration, and the PSC Commissioners take final action on rate cases. Each submitted rate case includes a public comment process where Wisconsinites can submit their opinions on the proposal. You can file a comment on Madison Gas & Electric's rate case using [this link](#) until September 26th, 2023, and on Wisconsin Power and Light's rate case using [this link](#) until October 4th, 2023.

Again, thank you for contacting my office. If there is anything else I can do for you, please do not hesitate to reach back out to my office.

General utility rate cases response

My Fellow Wisconsinite,

Thank you for contacting my office regarding utility rate cases. My team and I keep careful track of all decision items up for discussion at state agencies, and as we continue this process, we will keep your thoughts in mind.

Utilities submit rate cases to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) for consideration, and the PSC Commissioners take final action on rate cases. Each submitted rate case includes a public comment process where Wisconsinites can submit their opinions on the proposal. You can use [this link](#) to see all items at the PSC open for public comment, including utility rate cases. Please note that each

utility rate case has a unique docket and public comment period.

Again, thank you for contacting my office. If there is anything else I can do for you, please do not hesitate to reach back out to my office.

All the Best,

Jacob Pankratz (*he/him/his*)
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov



From: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 11:49 AM
To: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Minkin, Anna - GOV <anna.minkin1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Pending Leg. Form Letter

Hi Jacob. Following-up from our call this morning.

This is the letter we send regarding pending legislation. There were thoughts this morning about upcycling this for the electric docket and public comment period

My Fellow Wisconsinite,

Thank you for contacting my office regarding a piece of pending legislation. My team and I keep careful track of all legislation up for discussion in the State Legislature, and as we continue this process, we will keep your thoughts in mind.

You may also find it useful to contact either your state senator or state representative on this issue. You can find contact information for your state legislators by entering your home address [here](#).

Again, thank you for contacting my office. If there is anything else I can do for you, please do not hesitate to reach back out to my office.

Sincerely,

Tony Evers

Governor













From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4A
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:22:49 PM

[Here](#)

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [GOV LTGOV DL Staff](#)
Subject: Re: Legislative Outreach Reminder!
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:00:34 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Piling onto Zach's message from your friendly neighborhood comms department:

Team Comms is responsible for responding to all press inquiries on behalf of the governor, lieutenant governor, and our office. If a member of the press calls, emails, texts, messages or otherwise tries to reach, contact, or speak with you, let them know you are not the appropriate person to respond to their questions and that they can send their inquiry to our press team at govpress@wisconsin.gov, and then please let the comms team know ASAP.

Thanks!

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:53:54 PM
To: GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Legislative Outreach Reminder!

As the fall legislative session gets underway and we have a number of new staff that have joined the office - just a friendly reminder that if a legislator, legislative staff or legislative service agency reach out to you/your department, please refer them to Amanda or I and let us know of the contact.

Thanks,
ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [redacted] [office], [redacted] [cell]
e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov











From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [GOV Press](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:55:50 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Sounds great! Happy to chat more or someone can just keep comms posted as to what to do with these moving forward since we often receive these through govpress.

--
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 5:20 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

If it's helpful—Jacob, Ryan, and I have had multiple conversations with WEDC on engagement and stakeholder management as it relates to the Green Ribbon Commission. Happy to share what we've done/learned. I would strongly suggest that we have DWD create an engagement plan. It doesn't have to be robust but can include things like building a stakeholder list, having an inbox to capture comments and inquiries, a website, etc.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:08 PM
To: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

Policy, let's ask DWD what they would prefer. Makes sense for them to own this.

From: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 2:56:11 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

We got this incoming from someone at MATC who is interested in staying up to date with the AI task force. Do folks have thoughts or preferences on how we handle inquiries about the task force like this? We could pass along to someone at DWD to track or could have someone in our office track this and other inquiries we might get through CS. For the Blue Ribbon Commission on Veteran Opportunity, Ryan and Camille had a database of veterans and others who reached out since they were staffing that commission.

Chet Agni (*he/him*)
Research and Press Specialist
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov



From: Courtney Kelly <kellycr@matc.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 9:10 AM
To: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

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Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

I would love to stay abreast of the AI taskforce. Thanks for having this on your

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 23, 2023

Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov

Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

MADISON — In his latest effort relating to the state's workforce, Gov. Tony Evers today signed Executive Order #211 creating the Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence. The move comes as Gov. Evers announced earlier this month he is [calling a special session](#) of the Wisconsin State Legislature to take up his comprehensive plan to address the state's longstanding workforce challenges. This task force will gather and analyze information and produce an advisory action plan to identify the current state of generative artificial intelligence's (AI) impact on Wisconsin's labor market and develop informed predictions regarding its implications for the near term and future. The action plan will also identify how these workforce impacts may affect Wisconsin's key industries, occupations, and foundational skillsets, explore initiatives to advance equity and economic opportunity in the face of these changes, and based on the impacts identified, recommend solutions related to workforce development and educational systems.

"Wisconsin is ready to pursue and advance solutions that will ensure the state can take on the workforce challenges that may come with a transformative technology like artificial intelligence and embrace a future where all Wisconsinites, including workers, employers, and job seekers, benefit from a dynamic, growing economy that increases efficiency with the adoption of new technology," said Gov. Evers. "Establishing this task force will be critical in understanding, adapting to, and capitalizing on the transformations AI will bring, ensuring Wisconsin's workforce and industries remain steady, stable, and robust in the face of technological advancement."

AI systems being produced today can learn from data without being explicitly programmed, create new content, predict future outcomes, and have the potential to reshape entire labor markets. Today, AI is increasingly being used in a range of industries important to Wisconsin, including manufacturing, healthcare, education, transportation, agriculture, and more. Yet, due to the novelty of the technology that is being developed and implemented, many Americans are concerned with or apprehensive of this emerging technology, with a Forbes 2023 [survey](#) reporting that more than 75 percent of "consumers are concerned with misinformation from artificial intelligence tools."

As the state continues ongoing efforts to address Wisconsin's longstanding, generational workforce challenges, the Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence will help ensure that Wisconsin remains competitive by establishing best practices for the implementation and utilization of AI technologies and identifying potential impacts of AI across industries, occupations, and skillsets with an eye toward greater equity and economic opportunity so all workers, employers, and job seekers in Wisconsin have the opportunity to benefit from this evolving technology.

The Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence will be administered by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and will be chaired by DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek or a designee. The governor will appoint additional members to serve on the Task Force, including Wisconsin Department of Administration Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld or a designee, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Secretary and CEO Missy Hughes or a designee, representatives from the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Technical College Systems, and other individuals who may include representatives from state and local government, the business community, educational institutions, organized labor, the technology sector, and other leaders from relevant workforce sectors and industries.

This announcement comes as, earlier this month, Gov. Evers called a special session of the Wisconsin State Legislature to complete their work on the 2023-25 biennial budget and pass a meaningful, comprehensive plan to address the state's longstanding, generational workforce challenges. July data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show Wisconsin continues to see near record-low unemployment and record-high labor force participation. Still, Wisconsin's small businesses, farmers and producers, hospitals and healthcare sectors, schools, and other critical employers and industries continue to face significant challenges filling available jobs. The governor's plan would help reduce barriers to employment and prevent existing

challenges from being exacerbated into an unmitigated crisis that would have calamitous consequences for Wisconsin's workforce and help make sure the state can be successful and compete in the changing landscape of the global economic market. Details on the governor's plan are available [here](#).

Executive Order #211 is available [here](#).

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

###



Office of the Governor • 115 East Capitol, Madison, WI 53702

Press Office Email: GovPress@wisconsin.gov



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Courtney Kelly | Milwaukee Area Technical College
Special Projects Coordinator- **Scholarships**

700 W State Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233

kellycr@matc.edu



How Are We Doing? Please Provide Feedback: [We Care Survey](#)

Courtney Kelly | Milwaukee Area Technical College
Special Projects Coordinator- **Scholarships**

700 W State Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233

kellycr@matc.edu



How Are We Doing? Please Provide Feedback: [We Care Survey](#)









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV Press](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2023 8:07:22 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Ok Wenona please work with policy and DWD to get that started

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 5:55:47 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

Sounds great! Happy to chat more or someone can just keep comms posted as to what to do with these moving forward since we often receive these through govpress.

--
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 5:20 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

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Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 3:08 PM
To: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

Policy, let's ask DWD what they would prefer. Makes sense for them to own this.

From: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 2:56:11 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

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Chet Agni (*he/him*)
Research and Press Specialist
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov



From: Courtney Kelly <kellycr@matc.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 9:10 AM
To: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Press Release: Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.

I would love to stay abreast of the AI taskforce. Thanks for having this on your platform

On Wed, Aug 23, 2023 at 7:09 AM Gov Evers Press <GovPress@evers.wi.gov> wrote:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 23, 2023

Contact: GovPress@wisconsin.gov

Gov. Evers Signs Executive Order Creating Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence

MADISON — In his latest effort relating to the state's workforce, Gov. Tony Evers today signed Executive Order #211 creating the Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence. The move comes as Gov. Evers announced earlier this month he is [calling a special session](#) of the Wisconsin State Legislature to take up his comprehensive plan to address the state's longstanding workforce challenges. This task force will gather and analyze information and produce an advisory action plan to identify the current state of generative artificial intelligence's (AI) impact on Wisconsin's labor market and develop informed predictions regarding its implications for the near term and future. The action plan will also identify how these workforce impacts may affect Wisconsin's key industries, occupations, and foundational skillsets, explore initiatives to advance equity and economic opportunity in the face of these changes, and based on the impacts identified, recommend solutions related to workforce development and educational systems.

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The Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence will be administered by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and will be chaired by DWD Secretary Amy Pechacek or a designee. The governor will appoint additional members to serve on the Task Force, including Wisconsin Department of Administration Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld or a designee, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Secretary and CEO Missy Hughes or a designee, representatives from the University of Wisconsin and Wisconsin Technical College Systems, and other individuals who may include representatives from state and local government, the business community, educational institutions, organized labor, the technology sector, and other leaders from relevant workforce sectors and industries.

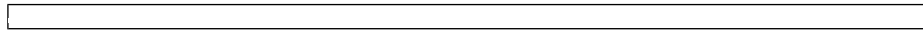
This announcement comes as, earlier this month, Gov. Evers called a special session of the Wisconsin State

Legislature to complete their work on the 2023-25 biennial budget and pass a meaningful, comprehensive plan to address the state's longstanding, generational workforce challenges. July data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show Wisconsin continues to see near record-low unemployment and record-high labor force participation. Still, Wisconsin's small businesses, farmers and producers, hospitals and healthcare sectors, schools, and other critical employers and industries continue to face significant challenges filling available jobs. The governor's plan would help reduce barriers to employment and prevent existing challenges from being exacerbated into an unmitigated crisis that would have calamitous consequences for Wisconsin's workforce and help make sure the state can be successful and compete in the changing landscape of the global economic market. Details on the governor's plan are available [here](#).

Executive Order #211 is available [here](#).

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

###



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Press Office Email: GovPress@wisconsin.gov



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This email was sent to kellycr@matc.edu using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of the State of Wisconsin 115 East, State Capitol Madison, WI 53702

Courtney Kelly | Milwaukee Area Technical College
Special Projects Coordinator- **Scholarships**
700 W State Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233
kellycr@matc.edu



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Courtney Kelly | Milwaukee Area Technical College
Special Projects Coordinator- **Scholarships**
700 W State Street, Milwaukee, WI 53233
kellycr@matc.edu



How Are We Doing? Please Provide Feedback: [We Care Survey](#)









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Fwd: Co-sponsorship of LRB-2543/1 and LRB-4202/1, relating to: definition of "sex" for the purpose of placing prisoners and conducting strip searches
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2023 4:37:45 PM
Attachments: [23-4202_1.pdf](#)

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Sen.Agard <Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 3:24:54 PM
To: Sen.Agard <Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB-2543/1 and LRB-4202/1, relating to: definition of "sex" for the purpose of placing prisoners and conducting strip searches

FYI

From: Sen.James <Sen.James@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 3:23 PM
To: *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate <ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Co-sponsorship of LRB-2543/1 and LRB-4202/1, relating to: definition of "sex" for the purpose of placing prisoners and conducting strip searches

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: All Legislators
FROM: Rep. Ty Bodden
Sen. Jesse James
DATE: August 24th, 2023
RE: Co-Sponsorship of LRB-2543/1 and LRB-4202/1 relating to: definition of "sex" for the purpose of placing prisoners and conducting strip searches

DEADLINE: Friday, September 8th at 5:00 PM

Current law in Wisconsin requires inmates be housed with those of the same sex in prison, jail, or a county house of correction. Furthermore, current administrative code requires any strip searches or body content seizures be conducted by someone of the "same sex".

While conventional wisdom would assume the law is clear in its intent and application, "sex" is technically not defined. This loophole has allowed for inappropriate scenarios where biological men are being housed with biological women and biologically male officers are strip searching biologically female inmates because the men are identifying as the opposite sex, technically not breaking any rules. This has put many women in very uncomfortable situations with no recourse.

LRB-2543/1 and LRB-4202/1 would define "sex" as a person's sex at birth, being either male

or female, according to distinct reproductive roles as manifested by sex and reproductive organ anatomy, chromosomal makeup, and endogenous hormone profiles. This distinction would address this glaring technicality in our corrections system and protect the privacy of our incarcerated women.

To be added as a co-sponsor of this legislation, please reply to this email or contact Rep. Bodden's office at 6-9159 or Sen. James' office at 6-7511 by 5:00 PM on Friday, September 8th.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law prohibits placing or keeping together prisoners of different sexes within a prison, jail, or county house of correction. A person who violates the prohibition must be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

Current law regulates strip searches that are performed on persons who are being detained following an arrest for certain crimes or under certain circumstances. One restriction on such strip searches is that the person conducting the search must be of the same sex as the detainee.

This bill defines "sex" for the above provisions. Under the bill, "sex" means an individual's sex at birth, as being male or female, according to distinct reproductive roles as manifested by sex and reproductive organ anatomy, chromosomal makeup, and endogenous hormone profiles.

The current law regulations on strip searches described above do not apply if the person is incarcerated following a conviction, placed in a juvenile correctional facility or a secured residential care center for children and youth, committed to a facility for mental health reasons, or confined as a condition of probation. Under the bill, a person conducting a strip search on such a person must be of the same sex unless the strip search is conducted due to exigent circumstances. The bill also applies the definition of "sex" created in this bill to this requirement.



2023 BILL

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber* 302.375 (3) (a); *to renumber and amend* 302.375 (3) (b);
2 and *to create* 51.22 (6), 302.375 (3) (ag), 302.375 (3) (bm), 938.505 (3), 968.255
3 (1) (au) and 973.09 (4) (d) of the statutes; **relating to:** definition of “sex” for the
4 purpose of placing prisoners and conducting strip searches.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law prohibits placing or keeping together prisoners of different sexes within a prison, jail, or county house of correction. A person who violates the prohibition must be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

Current law regulates strip searches that are performed on persons who are being detained following an arrest for certain crimes or under certain circumstances. One restriction on such strip searches is that the person conducting the search must be of the same sex as the detainee.

This bill defines “sex” for the above provisions. Under the bill, “sex” means an individual’s sex at birth, as being male or female, according to distinct reproductive roles as manifested by sex and reproductive organ anatomy, chromosomal makeup, and endogenous hormone profiles.

The current law regulations on strip searches described above do not apply if the person is incarcerated following a conviction, placed in a juvenile correctional facility or a secured residential care center for children and youth, committed to a facility for mental health reasons, or confined as a condition of probation. Under the bill, a person conducting a strip search on such a person must be of the same sex

BILL

unless the strip search is conducted due to exigent circumstances. The bill also applies the definition of “sex” created in this bill to this requirement.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 51.22 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

2 51.22 (6) (a) In this subsection:

3 1. “Sex” has the meaning given in s. 968.255 (1) (au).

4 2. “Strip search” means a search in which a patient’s genitals, pubic area,
5 buttock, or anus, or a female patient’s breast, is uncovered and either is exposed to
6 view or is touched by a person conducting the search.

7 (b) Unless exigent circumstances require an immediate search, no person may
8 conduct a strip search on a patient unless the person conducting the strip search is
9 of the same sex as the patient.

10 **SECTION 2.** 302.375 (3) (a) of the statutes is renumbered 302.375 (3) (am) 1.

11 **SECTION 3.** 302.375 (3) (ag) of the statutes is created to read:

12 302.375 (3) (ag) In this subsection:

13 1. “Sex” has the meaning given in s. 968.255 (1) (au).

14 2. “Strip search” means a search in which a prisoner’s genitals, pubic area,
15 buttock, or anus, or a female prisoner’s breast, is uncovered and either is exposed to
16 view or is touched by a person conducting the search.

17 **SECTION 4.** 302.375 (3) (b) of the statutes is renumbered 302.375 (3) (am) 2. and
18 amended to read:

19 302.375 (3) (am) 2. Notwithstanding ~~par. (a)~~ subd. 1., the sheriff, jailer or
20 keeper may permit prisoners of different sexes to participate together in treatment

BILL

1 or in educational, vocational, religious or athletic activities or to eat together, under
2 such supervision as the sheriff, jailer or keeper deems necessary.

3 **SECTION 5.** 302.375 (3) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:

4 302.375 (3) (bm) Unless exigent circumstances require an immediate search,
5 no person may conduct a strip search on a prisoner unless the person conducting the
6 strip search is of the same sex as the prisoner.

7 **SECTION 6.** 938.505 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

8 938.505 (3) STRIP SEARCHES. (a) In this subsection:

9 1. "Sex" has the meaning given in s. 968.255 (1) (au).

10 2. "Strip search" means a search in which a juvenile's genitals, pubic area,
11 buttock, or anus, or a female juvenile's breast, is uncovered and either is exposed to
12 view or is touched by a person conducting the search.

13 (b) Unless exigent circumstances require an immediate search, no person may
14 conduct a strip search on a juvenile unless the person conducting the strip search is
15 of the same sex as the juvenile.

16 **SECTION 7.** 968.255 (1) (au) of the statutes is created to read:

17 968.255 (1) (au) "Sex" means a person's sex at birth, as being male or female,
18 according to distinct reproductive roles as manifested by sex and reproductive organ
19 anatomy, chromosomal makeup, and endogenous hormone profiles.

20 **SECTION 8.** 973.09 (4) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

21 973.09 (4) (d) 1. In this paragraph, "strip search" means a search in which a
22 probationer's genitals, pubic area, buttock, or anus, or a female probationer's breast,
23 is uncovered and either is exposed to view or is touched by a person conducting the
24 search.

BILL

1 2. Unless exigent circumstances require an immediate search, no person may
2 conduct a strip search on a probationer subject to this subsection unless the person
3 conducting the strip search is of the same sex, as defined in s. 968.255 (1) (au), as the
4 probationer.

5

(END)

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4A
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2023 4:47:46 PM

[Here](#)

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights Issues Resource on Race and School Programming
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 8:13:47 AM

FYI

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Honeysett, Adam <Adam.Honeysett@ed.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 7:46:19 AM
Subject: U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights Issues Resource on Race and School Programming

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 24, 2023

Contact: Press Office

(202) 401-1576 or press@ed.gov

U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights Issues Resource on Race and School Programming

Today, the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights (OCR) released a [Dear Colleague Letter](#) (DCL) on Race and School Programming to guide schools on lawful programs to promote racially inclusive school communities. This resource clarifies the circumstances under which schools can – consistent with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its implementing regulations – develop curricula and programs or engage in activities that promote racially inclusive school communities.

Title VI, a law enforced by OCR, prohibits discrimination based on race, color, or national origin in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance, including public schools serving students in pre-K through grade 12 and colleges and universities.

“Today’s resource shares with school communities practical guidance about whether and when federal civil rights laws permit – and in some cases require – schools to take actions related to race, as well as whether and when these same laws may require that schools not act based on race,” said Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights Catherine E. Lhamon. “This resource aims to assist our nation’s schools to fulfill Congress’ longstanding promise that no student experience discrimination based on race.”

The DCL includes hypothetical examples to help schools assess their Title VI legal obligations and protections concerning school-sponsored curricula and programming. This resource clarifies circumstances under which schools may be in violation of Title VI when they separate students based on race or treat individual students or groups of students differently based on race. It clarifies that schools may also violate Title VI when they create, encourage, accept, tolerate, or fail to correct a racially hostile educational environment.

Additionally, the DCL underscores that Title VI generally does not restrict schools from holding assemblies, meetings, focus groups, or listening sessions that relate to students’ experiences with race in their school or community. The resource also states that school-sponsored or recognized groups or programs with a special emphasis on race, such as a student club or mentorship opportunity, that are open to all students, typically do not violate Title VI simply because of a race-related theme.

This letter follows the release of a January 2023 OCR [Diversity & Inclusion Activities Under Title VI](#) fact sheet that confirmed for educators, parents, and students that diversity, equity, and inclusion training and similar activities generally are consistent with Title VI.

OCR is available to provide technical assistance to institutions, organizations, and members of the public that request assistance in complying with any aspect of the civil rights laws OCR enforces, including those issues addressed in the resource.

If individuals within a school community have questions or would like technical assistance, they may contact the OCR office serving their state or territory by visiting <https://ocr cas.ed.gov/contact-ocr>.

###

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Fwd: AWARENESS: DOT/DATCP rural investment event
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 8:56:19 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

FYI

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: DesRivieres, John M - DOT <john.desrivieres@dot.wi.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 8:25:39 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: AWARENESS: DOT/DATCP rural investment event

Sorry, it's today at 10 a.m. This was very tough to wrangle with many moving parts. Happy to discuss how it came together.

John DesRivieres
Communications Director
WisDOT – Office of Public Affairs
Office: [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 8:24 AM
To: DesRivieres, John M - DOT <john.desrivieres@dot.wi.gov>
Subject: Re: AWARENESS: DOT/DATCP rural investment event

Do you have the event date, John?

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: DesRivieres, John M - DOT <john.desrivieres@dot.wi.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 8:22:32 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: AWARENESS: DOT/DATCP rural investment event

Morning Britt –

Just wanted to make you aware DOT and DATCP are partnering on an event today in Monroe, WI to bring awareness to all the great state investments in local/rural infrastructure. Secretaries Thompson and Romanski will be speaking to those facts.

This was a tough event to put together and as of yesterday I was still a little worried. I apologize for the late notice here but wanted to make you aware given Gov. Evers' commitment to rural investments and his recent radio address.

We have several media commitments, including WKOW, NBC 15, newspaper and radio station in Monroe and likely more. We should get some bang out of this.



John DesRivieres
Communications Director
Office of Public Affairs
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Office: [REDACTED]
Cell: [REDACTED]





From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Work phone
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 9:39:33 AM

I'm without my work phone today. If you need me, please call my personal cell or send me an email. Thanks!

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Henney, Cara - GOV](#)
Subject: Fwd: Officer Involved Shooting in Milwaukee - ALL OK
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 12:50:18 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

From: Boardman, Kristina - DOT <Kristina.Boardman@dot.wi.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 12:48:55 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Thompson, Craig M - DOT <craigm.thompson@dot.wi.gov>; Nilsestuen, Joel D - DOT <joeld.nilsestuen@dot.wi.gov>
Subject: Officer Involved Shooting in Milwaukee - ALL OK

Maggie:

There was an officer involved shooting in Milwaukee. FBI Task Force was on scene to take a suspect into custody (armed robbery, etc.). Suspect (black male) and friend (Latino male) in a car. When approached by task force member (Milwaukee PD Officer), suspect backed up their vehicle and pinned the officer between two cars. Officer fired his weapon. Suspect and friend are wounded, but fine. Milwaukee officer is injured but will be OK.

DSP Trooper (part of FBI Task Force) was on scene but did not play an active role. Other DSP Officers are being dispatched to the scene to assist.



Kristina Boardman | Deputy Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Kristina.boardman@dot.wi.gov





From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#); [GOV DL COMMS](#)
Subject: FW: Sen. Stroebel on Child Care Counts
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 4:27:05 PM

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 at 4:12 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Sen. Stroebel on Child Care Counts

FYI

From: Kraus, Jennifer - DOA <Jennifer.Kraus@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 11:25 AM
To: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Rice, Olivia A - DOA <OliviaA.Rice@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Sen. Stroebel on Child Care Counts

In case you missed this.

- Sen. Stroebel speaks to Child Care Counts: op-ed with 1:59 audio
<https://www.gmtoday.com/19bb8d9d-1c84-5dd9-8a2a-4b484273d7b1.html>

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: PIOC phones
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 4:28:36 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Please do

From: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 2:42:32 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: PIOC phones

FYSA re: PIOC phones – Sharing in case folks hear about it. There’s a short blub at the bottom that will be going on their website. I’ve asked them to keep me updated on the timeline for resolution.

KD

--

Katie Domina

Policy Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

P. [REDACTED]

e. katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov



From: Roberts, Melissa B - DOC <MelissaB.Roberts@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 2:36 PM
To: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: PIOC phones

FYI

From: Hoy, Jared M - DOC <Jared.Hoy@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 2:19 PM
To: Carr, Kevin A - DOC <kevin.carr@wisconsin.gov>; Roberts, Melissa B - DOC <MelissaB.Roberts@wisconsin.gov>; Neal, Anna M - DOC <Anna.Neal@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: PIOC phones

Disappointing, on ICS' part.

From: Monfils, Wendy M - DOC <Wendy.Monfils@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 2:14 PM
To: DOC Media <DOCMedia@wisconsin.gov>; Willick, Christine L - DOC

<ChristineL.Willick@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Cooper, Sarah E - DOC <Sarah.Cooper@wisconsin.gov>; Hoy, Jared M - DOC <Jared.Hoy@wisconsin.gov>; Jones, Danielle M - DOC <Danielle.Jones@wisconsin.gov>; Holmes, Tina C - DOC <tina.holmes@wisconsin.gov>; Hove, Stephanie R - DOC <Stephanie.Hove@wisconsin.gov>; Kemper, Paul S - DOC <Paul.Kemper@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: PIOC phones

Hello, DAI is experiencing issues with PIOC phones. It is affecting all DAI sites and is sporadic in terms of when it happens. However, when it does occur 90% or more of the PIOC phones do not work. ICS is working on both short-term and long-term solutions to mitigate the issue with their engineer teams. ICS has committed to making an upgrade to their existing database server to resolve and improve long-term performance. Once installed, ICS will still need to copy/move the entire dataset, which will likely require some downtime. The engineering team is in the process of calculating how long this will take. Once determined, ICS will share a firm timeline.

ICS also had a planned outage to do routine maintenance, separate from this issue and failed to communicate that outage to DAI. So the issue with the phones and Enforcer not working from 11pm last night to about mid-day today was not the result of the same issue causing the phones to sporadically go down.

Would it be possible for someone to post the following on the DOC public website:

ICSolutions and WIDOC are aware of ongoing issues with the PIOC phones across the state. These issues are sporadically preventing the phones from placing calls. Please understand if you do not receive a call from a loved one as expected, it may be due to the phones temporarily not working. ICS is actively researching and working with their engineer teams to mitigate and improve immediate performance as well as working on long-term solution. We appreciate your patience and understanding as the DOC works with ICSolutions to remedy the issue as quickly as possible. This is a high priority for both stakeholders.

Thanks



Wendy Monfils

Office of Management & Budget Director- DAI

work cell









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Letter to Governor Evers re: Obey Center
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 4:29:39 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)

Yes, please keep us updated.

From: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 1:34:27 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to Governor Evers re: Obey Center

FYI. DNR is working on putting together a summary of the situation and possible alternatives for review.

All the Best,

Jacob Pankratz (*he/him/his*)
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov



From: Payne, Adam N - DNR <adam.payne@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 12:42 PM
To: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to Governor Evers

FYI

Adam N. Payne
Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Phone [REDACTED]



From: Brusoe, Diane M - DNR <Diane.Brusoe@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 12:39 PM
To: Payne, Adam N - DNR <adam.payne@wisconsin.gov>; Schmelzer, Steven J - DNR <Steven.Schmelzer@wisconsin.gov>; Baumann, Dan G - DNR <Dan.Baumann@wisconsin.gov>; Rynish, Phillip P - DNR <Phillip.Rynish@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Little, Steven C - DNR <steven.little@wisconsin.gov>; Aquino, Mark D - DNR <Mark.Aquino@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter to Governor Evers

Thank you for sharing the letter. Dan and I had a chance to talk about this during the August NRB meeting. I'll work with Steve and Phil to describe the situation and alternatives.

We are committed to service excellence.

Visit our survey at <http://dnr.wi.gov/customersurvey> to evaluate how I did.

Diane M. Brusoe

Administrator-Division of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Cell Phone: [REDACTED]

diane.brusoe@wisconsin.gov

Pronouns: she/her/hers



dnr.wi.gov



From: Payne, Adam N - DNR <adam.payne@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 12:33 PM
To: Brusoe, Diane M - DNR <Diane.Brusoe@wisconsin.gov>; Schmelzer, Steven J - DNR <Steven.Schmelzer@wisconsin.gov>; Baumann, Dan G - DNR <Dan.Baumann@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Little, Steven C - DNR <steven.little@wisconsin.gov>; Aquino, Mark D - DNR <Mark.Aquino@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to Governor Evers

FYI below and attached. Please let me know what the situation/status is, and alternatives.

Thank you,

Adam N. Payne

Secretary

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Phone: [REDACTED]



dnr.wi.gov



From: David Lundberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 1:02 PM
To: Payne, Adam N - DNR <adam.payne@wisconsin.gov>; Baumann, Dan G - DNR <Dan.Baumann@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Letter to Governor Evers

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello, Secretary Payne and Dan -

As Dan knows, I spend a lot of time volunteering on the Ice Age Trail, and have become quite familiar with the offerings of the Obey Center. I was dismayed to hear that it was going to be closed at the end of September for the remainder of the school year.

In an effort to encourage rethinking of that decision, I wrote the attached letter to the governor, focusing on the Center's value as an outdoor classroom. I mailed a hard copy of the letter to Governor Evers, and to the two area legislators.

Dan, thank you for keeping me informed of this situation.

Secretary Payne, I've heard only good things about your appointment from my former colleagues, so keep up the good work, and best of luck with all the politics! I hope you get a chance to visit the Chippewa Moraine Ice Age Center, and maybe take a hike on our very scenic section of the trail.

My thanks to both of you.

Dave Lundberg

















From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Tomten, Amanda - GOV](#); [Henney, Cara - GOV](#); [Agni, Chet - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Campbell, Derek - GOV](#); [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#); [Lashua, Ryan - GOV](#); [Neas, Amelia - GOV](#); [Trast, Gracelyn - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#); [Honeyman, Derrick - GOV](#); [Byrnes, Bella - GOV](#); [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Wallace, Mitch - GOV](#); [Thelke, Emma - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Legislature's Week Ahead
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 6:23:33 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Here's to taking that midnight train!!!

+ 1 for pics

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 6:20:28 PM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Agni, Chet - GOV <chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>; Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>; Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>; Trast, Gracelyn - GOV <gracelyn.trast@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Honeyman, Derrick - GOV <derrick.honeyman@wisconsin.gov>; Byrnes, Bella - GOV <bella.byrnes@wisconsin.gov>; Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>; Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Legislature's Week Ahead

I hope so too!!! And don't forget to share some pics

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 6:18:29 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>;

Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Agni, Chet - GOV <chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>; Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>; Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>; Trast, Gracelyn - GOV <gracelyn.trast@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Honeyman, Derrick - GOV <derrick.honeyman@wisconsin.gov>; Byrnes, Bella - GOV <bella.byrnes@wisconsin.gov>; Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>; Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>


Subject: Legislature's Week Ahead

Good evening,

Attached and below are the agenda and related materials for the bill/leg review portion of Monday's meeting.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] you'll be in good hands with Amanda at the helm of the legislative ship!

Tracking Doc:

 <https://wigov.sharepoint.com/:x:/r/sites/wigovernor/Shared%20Documents/Leg-Policy%20Meeting%20Materials/2023-24%20Bill%20Tracking%20Spreadsheet.xlsx?d=wfc7852eebd5d49d09cbee3e40497be61&csf=1&web=1&e=BXXH2w>

Updated Grid:

 <https://wigov.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/wigovernor/Shared%20Documents/Leg-Policy%20Meeting%20Materials/Updated%20Grid.docx?d=waab93e35cebd445e9ec8e7229c644483&csf=1&web=1&e=EXm3nC>

Thanks,
ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]

e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov















From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Campbell, Derek - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Governor-Level Briefing on U.S. Critical Infrastructure -- 9/13 at 3 p.m. EDT
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 9:08:14 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Can we get a readout on this, please?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 at 7:49 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Governor-Level Briefing on U.S. Critical Infrastructure -- 9/13 at 3 p.m. EDT

FYI. Invitation for GTE. Staff are also allowed to join but are asked to keep cameras off. I will be joining.

--

Derek Campbell
State Federal Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov



From: Scarbin, Courtney <CScarbin@NGA.ORG>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 1:11 PM
To: Scarbin, Courtney <CScarbin@NGA.ORG>
Cc: Waddell, Tiffany <TWaddell@nga.org>
Subject: Governor-Level Briefing on U.S. Critical Infrastructure -- 9/13 at 3 p.m. EDT

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Governor-Level Briefing on U.S. Critical Infrastructure

Wednesday, September 13th

3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT

[Register here](#)

NGA's [Public Health and Disaster Response Task Force](#) Co-Chairs, Hawaii Governor Josh Green and Vermont Governor Phil Scott, are hosting a briefing for all Governors on Wednesday, September 13th at 3 p.m. EDT on the rising threats to U.S. critical infrastructure and the Administration's policy to address vulnerabilities.

The briefing will feature Anne Neuberger, Deputy National Security Adviser for Cyber and Emerging Tech on the National Security Council.

All Governors are invited and encouraged to participate in the briefing. Use the above link to register your Governor for the briefing. Governor's staff can use the same link to register themselves; however, they should remain off-camera during the call.

Best,
Courtney

Courtney Scarbin

Legislative Associate

444 North Capitol St NW, Ste 267

Washington, D.C. 20001

o: 202.719.2874 | m: 304.280.4157

cscarbin@nga.org









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: Three Wisconsin Counties Designated as Primary Natural Disaster Areas
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:21:41 AM
Attachments: [8908778_1 GOV Signed SEC FT w Enclosure WI.pdf](#)
[farmersgov-disaster-assistance-brochure-07-21-2022.pdf](#)

From: De La Garza, Ruby - OPPE, TX <ruby.delagarza@usda.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:13:55 AM
To: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Soto, Rudy - RD, ID <Rudy.Soto@usda.gov>
Subject: Three Wisconsin Counties Designated as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Governor Evers,

Attached is a letter from Secretary Vilsack designating three Wisconsin counties as primary natural disaster areas due to drought. Additionally attached as you may find helpful is the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Disaster Assistance at a Glance brochure.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Regards,
Ruby

Ruby S. De La Garza (She/Her/Hers)

USDA Liaison
Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs
(Detail)
United States Department of Agriculture
Email: Ruby.DeLaGarza@usda.gov



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Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

August 28, 2023

THE HONORABLE TONY EVERS
Governor
State of Wisconsin
115 East State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Dear Governor Evers:

In accordance with 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating three Wisconsin counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (see <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

In accordance with Section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, additional areas of your state and adjacent states are named as contiguous disaster counties. Enclosed you will find documentation that provides a detailed list of all primary and contiguous counties impacted by this disaster.

Other counties in Wisconsin may have already been designated as natural disaster counties if they had previously met the requirements found under 7 CFR 759.5(a) for the current crop year.

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency loans assistance, provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Thomas J. Vilsack". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure

DISASTER DESIGNATION AREAS FOR WISCONSIN AND CONTIGUOUS STATES

Primary Counties

Wisconsin	(3)	
Barron	Polk	Walworth

Contiguous Counties:

Wisconsin	(12)	
Burnett	Kenosha	St. Croix
Chippewa	Racine	Sawyer
Dunn	Rock	Washburn
Jefferson	Rusk	Waukesha

Contiguous Counties in Adjacent States:

Illinois	(2)	
Boone	McHenry	
Minnesota	(2)	
Chisago	Washington	

USDA Disaster Assistance Programs At a Glance

Disaster Programs	Agency	Blizzard	Fire	Hurricane/ Typhoon	Excessive Moisture/ Flood	Excessive Winds/ Tornado	Drought	Hail	Volcanic Eruption/ Emissions	Freeze	Earthquake
Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) - provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops to protect against natural disasters that result in lower yields or crop losses, or prevents crop planting.	FSA	✱ ⁸	✱ ⁸	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree Assistance Program (TAP) - provides financial cost-share assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to re-plant or, where applicable, rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines lost by natural disasters. A qualifying mortality loss in excess of 15 percent (in excess of normal mortality) must be sustained to trigger assistance.	FSA	✱ ⁸	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

⁸ Yes, only as a related condition to an eligible disaster

Other natural disasters that may apply to some of these programs (not all perils are eligible loss conditions for all programs) include:

- Explosion;
- High water;
- Landslide;
- Mudslide;
- Severe snowstorm;
- Storm, including ice storms;
- Tidal wave;
- Wind-driven water;
- Insect infestation;
- Plant disease;
- Lightning; and
- Other natural phenomena.

Some man-made conditions qualify for disaster assistance, as follows:

Disaster Programs	Agency	Pesticide Contamination	Nuclear Radiation/ Fallout	Toxic Substances Other Than Pesticides	Chemical Residue Other Than Pesticides
Dairy Indemnity Payment Program (DIPP) - provides compensation to dairy producers when a public regulatory agency directs them to remove their raw milk from the commercial market because it has been contaminated by pesticides, nuclear radiation or fallout, or toxic substances and chemical residues other than pesticides.	FSA	✓	✓	✓	✓

FSA = Farm Service Agency | NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service | RMA = Risk Management Agency



More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply.

For more information about USDA disaster programs, visit farmers.gov/recover or contact your local USDA Service Center.

To find your local USDA Service Center, visit farmers.gov/service-locator.

To locate an approved insurance provider, visit the Agent Locator on rma.usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

July 2022

Program Aid 2266

USDA Disaster Assistance Programs at a Glance



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION

FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA) | NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) | RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY (RMA)



DISASTER ASSISTANCE

USDA Disaster Assistance Programs At a Glance

Icon Key = Yes = No = Yes or No, with caveats (see footnote)

Disaster Programs	Agency	Blizzard	Fire	Hurricane/Typhoon	Excessive Moisture/Flood	Excessive Winds/Tornado	Drought	Hail	Volcanic Eruption/Emissions	Freeze	Earth-quake
Crop Insurance – provides indemnity payments to growers who purchased crop insurance for production and quality losses related to drought and other weather hazards, including losses from an inability to plant caused by an insured cause of loss.	RMA										
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Haying and Grazing – provides for emergency haying and grazing on certain CRP practices in a county designated as D2 or higher on the U.S. Drought Monitor, or in a county where there is at least a 40 percent loss in forage production.	FSA	¹	¹	¹	¹	¹		¹	¹	¹	¹
Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) – provides assistance to eligible owners of livestock, and producers of honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease (including cattle tick fever), adverse weather, or other conditions not covered by LFP and LIP.	FSA		²				³	⁴		¹	
Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) – provides funding and technical assistance for farmers and ranchers to restore farmland damaged by natural disasters and for emergency water conservation measures in severe droughts.	FSA										
Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) – provides funding to restore privately owned forests damaged by natural disasters. Assistance helps landowners carry out emergency measures to restore forest health on land damaged by floods, hurricanes or other natural disasters.	FSA										
Farm Loans – provides Emergency and Operating loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to natural disasters or livestock quarantine and can pay for farm operating and family living expenses.	FSA										

¹ Yes, but only if determined eligible by FSA.
² Yes, except on federally managed land
³ No, except for water and feed transportation
⁴ Yes, but only for grazing losses

FSA = Farm Service Agency
 NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service
 RMA = Risk Management Agency

Disaster Programs	Agency	Blizzard	Fire	Hurricane/Typhoon	Excessive Moisture/Flood	Excessive Winds/Tornado	Drought	Hail	Volcanic Eruption/Emissions	Freeze	Earth-quake
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) – provides agricultural producers with financial resources and one-on-one help to plan and implement improvements on the land including financial assistance to repair and prevent the excessive soil erosion caused or impacted by natural disasters. These practices include activities like stream bank restoration, grassed waterways and buffers. NRCS-funded conservation practices protect your land from erosion, support disaster recovery and repair and can help mitigate loss from future natural disasters. Assistance may also be available for emergency animal mortality disposal from natural disasters and other causes.	NRCS										
Emergency Watershed Program (EWP-Recovery) – offers vital recovery options for local communities to help people reduce hazards to life and property caused by floodwaters, droughts, wildfires, earthquakes, windstorms, and other natural disasters. Project funds address erosion related watershed impairments by supporting activities such as removing debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges; reshaping and protecting eroded banks; correcting damaged drainage facilities; repairing levees and structures; and reseeding damaged areas. EWP Floodplain Easements – provide an alternative to Recovery efforts described above. NRCS has the authority to purchase floodplain easements (FPE) as an alternative measure to traditional Recovery where sites meet EWP-FPE eligibility criteria and it is determined that acquiring an easement in lieu of Recovery is the more economical and prudent approach to reducing the threat to life or property.	NRCS										
Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) – provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on land that is native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or that is planted specifically for grazing.	FSA		⁵								
Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) – provides benefits to livestock owners and some contract growers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality that are the direct result of an eligible adverse weather event. In addition, LIP covers attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the Federal Government or protected by Federal Law. Also, LIP provides assistance to livestock owners that must sell livestock at a reduced price because of an injury from an eligible loss condition.	FSA						⁶			⁷	

⁵ Yes, but only on federally managed lands impacted by the fire for which the producer is prohibited from grazing the normally permitted livestock by the Federal agency
⁶ No, except when associated with anthrax
⁷ Yes, but only if deaths result from freeze incidental to a winter storm or extreme cold as determined by FSA.

FSA = Farm Service Agency
 NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service
 RMA = Risk Management Agency

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:22:37 AM

Reviewed

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 9:56:13 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

See attached as discussed this morning. My only suggestion is to perhaps bold the sentence with the final calculations (\$113m for this year)

From: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 1:32:46 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Latest draft here for you. Please let me know of any edits and if/when o.k. to formally send next week. Thanks.

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:21 PM
To: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

From: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:07 PM
To: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Brian Q – If you agree with the changes he suggested can you just accept them and recirculate a new draft? Thanks, Anne

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:56 PM

To: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

I'm not remotely wedded to any of the language, so feel free to make any changes necessary to move this along.

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA

Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:56 PM

To: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

I'm going to be completely honest: That all happened so long ago that I forgot about those changes. I did not make any decision to incorporate or not incorporate them.

From: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:54 PM

To: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Brian – Did you review and decide not to incorporate the changes suggested by Andy in the attached? Anne

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 2:22 PM

To: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Brian,

Per your request, see the attached draft memorandum discussing changes in the allowable margin for tax and fee reductions under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Brian Quinn
Executive Policy and Budget Analyst - Advanced
Wisconsin Department of Administration
Division of Executive Budget and Finance
[REDACTED]

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Campbell, Derek - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Governor-Level Briefing on U.S. Critical Infrastructure -- 9/13 at 3 p.m. EDT
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:25:42 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

I asked Shelby to add me to this as well

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 9:08:13 AM
To: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Governor-Level Briefing on U.S. Critical Infrastructure -- 9/13 at 3 p.m. EDT

Can we get a readout on this, please?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 at 7:49 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Governor-Level Briefing on U.S. Critical Infrastructure -- 9/13 at 3 p.m. EDT

FYI. Invitation for GTE. Staff are also allowed to join but are asked to keep cameras off. I will be joining.

--

Derek Campbell
State Federal Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov



From: Scarbin, Courtney <CScarbin@NGA.ORG>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 1:11 PM

To: Scarbin, Courtney <CScarbin@NGA.ORG>

Cc: Waddell, Tiffany <TWaddell@nga.org>

Subject: Governor-Level Briefing on U.S. Critical Infrastructure -- 9/13 at 3 p.m. EDT

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Governor-Level Briefing on U.S. Critical Infrastructure

Wednesday, September 13th
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT

[Register here](#)

NGA's [Public Health and Disaster Response Task Force](#) Co-Chairs, Hawaii Governor Josh Green and Vermont Governor Phil Scott, are hosting a briefing for all Governors on Wednesday, September 13th at 3 p.m. EDT on the rising threats to U.S. critical infrastructure and the Administration's policy to address vulnerabilities.

The briefing will feature Anne Neuberger, Deputy National Security Adviser for Cyber and Emerging Tech on the National Security Council.

All Governors are invited and encouraged to participate in the briefing. Use the above link to register your Governor for the briefing. Governor's staff can use the same link to register themselves; however, they should remain off-camera during the call.

Best,
Courtney

Courtney Scarbin

Legislative Associate

444 North Capitol St NW, Ste 267

Washington, D.C. 20001

o: 202.719.2874 | m: 304.280.4157

cscarbin@nga.org









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: Changes to SBA's Regulations - New Disaster Loan Program Rules
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:28:22 AM
Attachments: [23-50 OCA Disaster Loan Limit Increase Release.pdf](#)

Let's review this and check in with the appropriate agencies

From: Fears, Edward F. <Edward.Fears@sba.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 7:59:01 AM
Cc: Fleming, Kem R <kem.fleming@sba.gov>; Fears, Edward F. <Edward.Fears@sba.gov>; Shaw, Eric B. <Eric.Shaw@sba.gov>; Lampton, Michael L. <Michael.Lampton@sba.gov>; Strong, Jerome W. <Jerome.Strong@sba.gov>; Billingslea Jr., Grady L. <grady.billingslea@sba.gov>; Ihenacho, Mark C. <mark.ihenacho@sba.gov>; Saunders, Robin T. <robin.saunders@sba.gov>; Ivory, Brenda F. <Brenda.Ivory@sba.gov>; Harris, Theresa <Theresa.Harris1@sba.gov>; Camp, John F. <john.camp@sba.gov>
Subject: Changes to SBA's Regulations - New Disaster Loan Program Rules

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Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Governor,

The United States Small Business Administration (SBA) is enacting several changes to the Disaster Loan Program applicable for disasters declared on or after **July 31, 2023**. The new rules are intended to increase disaster survivors' access to obtain needed disaster loan funds for the repair or replacement of a damaged property. They are necessary due to increased costs related to construction and labor and increases in property valuations that have occurred over time.

The new rules offer substantial benefits to disaster loan borrowers. They increase the amount of loan proceeds available as well as expand options for mitigation funds and other related benefits. The changes will allow for increased resources for disaster borrowers, specifically accounting for regional pricing differentials. And the changes will reflect increases in costs to replace and repair residential, property and household affects which have been lost or damaged because of a physical disaster. The link to read about the changes can be found here: [Federal Register :: Disaster Assistance Loan Program Changes to Maximum Loan Amounts and Miscellaneous Updates](#) .

Attached is a copy of the press release issued by the Administrator announcing the implementation of the new rules. Please ask your staff to examine your websites and social media platforms and **delete or replace any obsolete information**. To obtain the widest possible distribution, please share this information within your networks. We also welcome opportunities you may have for us to share this information with your offices.

If you have questions or need further assistance in understanding SBA's new disaster loan program

changes, please reach out to me or my Deputy, Michael Lampton.

Our contact information is below:

Thank you,

Edward F. Fears
Acting Director, Field Operations Center East
Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience

U.S. Small Business Administration

[REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]

edward.fears@sba.gov

Michael L. Lampton
Acting Deputy Director, Field Operations Center East
Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience

U.S. Small Business Administration

[REDACTED]

Michael.Lampton@sba.gov



U.S. Small Business
Administration

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PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: August 4, 2023

Release Number: 23-50

Contact: Press_Office@sba.gov, www.sba.gov

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SBA Announces Major Changes to Its Disaster Lending Program Agency Increases Home Disaster Loan Limits, Expands Use of Protective Upgrades, Extends Initial Payment Deferment, Waives Interest for First Year

WASHINGTON – This week, [SBA Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman](#) announced the agency finalized a [rule](#) to increase support to disaster survivors and small businesses needing relief following a federally declared disaster. The rule becomes effective for all disasters declared on or after July 31, 2023.

“The Biden-Harris Administration has prioritized maximizing resources for disaster survivors so that they can successfully recover and build resilience to the effects of climate change that have led to more frequent and costly natural disasters,” said **Administrator Guzman**. “The SBA’s disaster loan program rule modifications will ensure more flexible and affordable disaster loans are available for small businesses, nonprofits, renters, and homeowners that will allow them to focus on recovering quickly so their communities can survive and thrive again.”

“For the first time in nearly 30 years, accounting for decades of inflation and rising construction costs, SBA is more than doubling the caps for its home disaster loan program. Increasing the loan limits ensures that communities across America have access to sufficient funding to help them rebuild homes, replace personal property, and reopen businesses when disasters strike,” said [Bailey DeVries, Associate Administrator for Investment and Innovation and Acting Associate Administrator for Capital Access](#).

“SBA’s bold new actions continue to reshape our disaster enterprise by unleashing more capital to help devastated communities rebuild and expanding avenues to mitigate against future damage in the face of increasingly frequent and catastrophic disasters,” said [Francisco Sánchez Jr., Associate Administrator of SBA’s Office of Disaster Recovery and Resilience](#). “While bringing the whole of SBA to the effort and inextricably tying recovery to resilience, SBA’s team is also boosting its presence in the field to lead from the ground up and ensure we are meeting the priorities of each community.”

The SBA is also expanding its mitigation assistance to other types of hazards beyond the declared disaster event. Communities are often under threat from multiple types of hazards, including hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, wildfires, earthquakes, and more. Today’s announcement will ensure that property owners can use their disaster loan funds to rebuild stronger and more resilient against multiple types of hazards and not just against a single threat.

In 2022, Administrator Guzman [announced](#) that SBA would waive the interest rate for the first year and extend the initial payment deferment period automatically to 12 months for disasters declared on or after Sept. 21, 2022, through Sept. 30, 2023. Today's announcement makes this change permanent and means SBA will continue to provide much needed relief to disaster loan borrowers by waiving interest and payments for the first year for all disaster loans beyond Sept. 30, 2023.

Key changes being announced by the SBA include:

- **Increase Loan Limits for Primary Residence:** \$200,000 to \$500,000 for real estate repair or replacement, contractor malfeasance, refinancing, and mitigation for home disaster loans.
- **Increase Loan Limits for Personal Property:** \$40,000 to \$100,000 for replacement of clothing, furniture, appliances, automobiles, and more for home disaster loans.
- **Remove Administrative Limit on Landscaping:** Landscaping will be limited to the overall real estate repair limit and not capped at \$5,000.
- **Increase the Initial Payment Deferral Period:** Extending the first payment deferment period from 5 to 12 months for all disaster loans. This change removes the burden for disaster survivors to begin making payments on their disaster loans before communities rebuild and recover.
- **No Interest Accrual for the First 12 Months:** Waives interest accrual for the first year from the date of the initial disbursement for all disaster loans. This change ensures the payment deferral offers a true reprieve as all loans will not accrue interest during deferment. This change reduces the overall cost of the loan to better support full recovery for disaster survivors.
- **Mitigation Disaster Loans:** Eliminates a restriction on property owners to only use disaster loan funds to mitigate a "similar" disaster event that caused damage to their home or business. This change gives property owners more options to mitigate future damage from different types of disasters, reducing the need for future financial assistance.
- **Collateral Requirements:** SBA is clarifying collateral requirements in the disaster loan program under which blanket liens on business assets that provide no liquidity in the event of default will not be required. This gives SBA more discretion to determine the collateral required for disaster loans.
- **Reduce Documents Required to Request Reconsideration:** Removes the requirement that businesses submit financial statements with every reconsideration or appeal request for a previously declined application. Currently, SBA requires business loan applicants to provide current financial statements, even if their applications were not declined for lack of repayment ability.
- **Expand Eligibility to Consumer or Marketing Cooperatives:** This change aligns disaster lending with SBA's 7(a) and 504 business loan programs and allows these cooperatives to apply for the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) and Military Reservist Economic Injury Disaster Loan (MREIDL) programs.

###

About the U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration helps power the American dream of business ownership. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and support they need to start, grow, expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 11:00:17 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)

Agree with bolding. Would also suggest a graf break to really emphasize that point. Can this be finalized today? On second thought, was thinking maybe it's worth me providing to press sooner than later to level set.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 at 10:30 AM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Agree with the bolding. Good here.
ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e: Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:27 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Reviewed.

Kelly Becker *(she/her)*

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:23 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Reviewed

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 9:56:13 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

See attached as discussed this morning. My only suggestion is to perhaps bold the sentence with the final calculations (\$113m for this year)

From: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 1:32:46 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Latest draft here for you. Please let me know of any edits and if/when o.k. to formally send next week. Thanks.

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:21 PM
To: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

From: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:07 PM
To: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Brian Q – If you agree with the changes he suggested can you just accept them and recirculate a new draft? Thanks, Anne

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:56 PM
To: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

I'm not remotely wedded to any of the language, so feel free to make any changes necessary to move this along.

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:56 PM
To: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

I'm going to be completely honest: That all happened so long ago that I forgot about those changes. I did not make any decision to incorporate or not incorporate them.

From: Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 2:54 PM
To: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Brian – Did you review and decide not to incorporate the changes suggested by Andy in the attached? Anne

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2023 2:22 PM
To: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Hanson, Anne - DOA <anne.hanson@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: DRAFT - Revised ARPA Memo

Brian,

Per your request, see the attached draft memorandum discussing changes in the allowable margin for tax and fee reductions under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Brian Quinn
Executive Policy and Budget Analyst - Advanced
Wisconsin Department of Administration
Division of Executive Budget and Finance
[REDACTED]















From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FW: MEDIA ADVISORY: DOA to Hold Black Business Month Roundtable with African American Chamber of Commerce: TEST
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 11:03:06 AM

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Warrick, Tatyana - DOA <tatyana.warrick@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 at 9:28 AM
To: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>, Spellman, Derek - DOA <derek.spellman1@wisconsin.gov>, Connors, Cara - DOA <cara.connors@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: MEDIA ADVISORY: DOA to Hold Black Business Month Roundtable with African American Chamber of Commerce: TEST

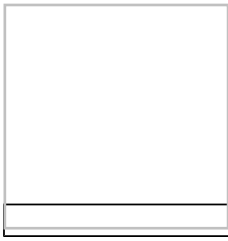
Good morning, sharing the draft for your awareness.
Planning to send media advisory out early afternoon today ahead of the event on Thursday.
We do have several legislators and Milwaukee County folks who have RSVP'ed as well as attendees.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.
Thanks!
Tatyana

From: DOA Communications <DOACommunications@doa.wi.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 9:26 AM
To: Warrick, Tatyana - DOA <tatyana.warrick@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: MEDIA ADVISORY: DOA to Hold Black Business Month Roundtable with African American Chamber of Commerce: TEST

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION



Tony Evers, Governor

Kathy Blumenfeld, Secretary

Contact: DOA Communications at DOACommunications@Wisconsin.gov

Media Advisory: DOA to Hold Black Business Month Roundtable with African American Chamber of Commerce

Milwaukee, Wis. — On Thursday, August 31, in honor of Black Business Month, Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld, as well leaders from the African American Chamber of Commerce, the Ethnic and Diverse Business Coalition, and the Wisconsin Supplier Diversity Program, will hold a roundtable discussion on resources that help support Wisconsin's vibrant business community and entrepreneurs interested in doing business with the State of Wisconsin.

- WHO:**
- DOA Secretary **Kathy Blumenfeld**
 - African American Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin President and CEO **Nikki Purvis**
 - Ethnic and Diverse Business Coalition Chair **Marjorie Rucker**
 - Wisconsin Supplier Diversity Program Director **Alex Ysquierdo**
 - Local business owners and stakeholders

- WHAT:**
- Black Business Month Roundtable discussion and conversation with state leaders and entrepreneurs.

- WHEN/WHERE:**
- Thursday, August 31, 10:00 - 12:00 p.m.
 - **African-American Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin**
 - 1920 North Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Milwaukee, WI, 53212

PRESS NOTE: Members of the press who wish to attend should RSVP to DOA Communications Director Tatyana Warrick at doacommunications@wisconsin.gov.

###

Wisconsin.gov

This email was sent to Email Address using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of the State of Wisconsin · 115 East, State Capitol · Madison, WI 53702

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV LTGOV DL Staff](#)
Subject: Re: Welcome!
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 1:59:07 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Welcome!!!

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 1:40:44 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Welcome!

Welcome to the team, Matt and Kyra!

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 1:27 PM
To: GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Welcome!

Hi all,

Please join me in welcoming two new members to the team.

Matt LaMirande will be joining the Advance Team as an Advance Specialist. Matt is originally from Wauwatosa and just became a cat dad!

Kyra Murdock will be our new Scheduling Assistant. Kyra just finished up an internship in DC and

we're thrilled to have her back in Wisconsin. In her spare time, Kyra loves to read so if you have book suggestions or need suggestions, find Kyra!

Please stop by their desks, say hi, talk cats and books, and welcome them to the team.

Wenona Wolf (*she/her/hers*)

Director of Political Engagement and Planning

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov

c. [REDACTED]















From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: ARPA Net Tax Reduction Update 08.28.2023
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 2:35:12 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Planning to pitch imminently.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 at 2:07 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fw: ARPA Net Tax Reduction Update 08.28.2023

Final version of the memo attached, I am also sending to TE and will discuss with him on my briefing call later today.

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Rick, Krista - DOA <krista.rick1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 1:46 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: ARPA Net Tax Reduction Update 08.28.2023

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached correspondence related to the American Rescue Plan Act Net Tax Reduction Calculation update.

Thank you,

Krista



Krista Rick

Budget and Finance Program Specialist
Division of Executive Budget & Finance
Department of Administration

krista.rick1@wisconsin.gov

Direct: [REDACTED]



**DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION**









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV](#); [Koestler, Justin - LTGOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV LTGOV DL Staff](#)
Subject: RE: Welcome!
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 2:42:32 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image014.png](#)
[image015.png](#)
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[image018.png](#)
[image019.png](#)
[image020.png](#)
[image021.png](#)
[image022.png](#)
[image023.png](#)
[image024.png](#)

Yay Matt and Kyra! Welcome to Team Tony!

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 2:19 PM
To: Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>; Koestler, Justin - LTGOV <justin.koestler1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Welcome!

We're so excited to have you both!!! Welcome to the team

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 2:16 PM
To: Koestler, Justin - LTGOV <justin.koestler1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Welcome!

Welcome Matt and Kyra!

Carl Woitekaitis (*He/Him*)

Northeast Wisconsin Regional Director
Office of the Governor
e. carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov

c. [REDACTED]



From: Koestler, Justin - LTGOV <justin.koestler1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 2:12 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Welcome!

Welcome, Matt & Kyra!

Justin Koestler

Chief of Staff

Office of Lieutenant Governor Sara Rodriguez

[e. Justin.Koestler1@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Justin.Koestler1@wisconsin.gov)

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From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 1:59 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Welcome!

Welcome!!!

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 1:40:44 PM

To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Welcome!

Welcome to the team, Matt and Kyra!

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 1:27 PM

To: GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Welcome!

Hi all,

Please join me in welcoming two new members to the team.

Matt LaMirande will be joining the Advance Team as an Advance Specialist. Matt is originally from Wauwatosa and just became a cat dad!

Kyra Murdock will be our new Scheduling Assistant. Kyra just finished up an internship in DC and we're thrilled to have her back in Wisconsin. In her spare time, Kyra loves to read so if you have book suggestions or need suggestions, find Kyra!

Please stop by their desks, say hi, talk cats and books, and welcome them to the team.

Wenona Wolf (*she/her/hers*)

Director of Political Engagement and Planning

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov

c. [REDACTED]































From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: n4a
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 3:20:12 PM

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/28/legislative-lawyers-buck-gop-stance-in-fight-over-elections-chief/70702679007/>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FW: Draft Media Release - FDLPD
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 3:52:55 PM

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Hoffman, Kevin M - DOC <kevinm.hoffman@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 at 3:32 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Draft Media Release - FDLPD

Fond du Lac PD drafted release on referral of charges from the July death at Taycheedah. Trying to get an exact time, but it appears they hope to send this out today.

Kevin Hoffman
Deputy Director of Communications
Office of Public Affairs | Office of the Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Corrections
DOCmedia@wisconsin.gov

From: Goldstein, Aaron <agoldstein@fdl.wi.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 3:11 PM
To: Hoffman, Kevin M - DOC <kevinm.hoffman@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: McDermott, Jennifer M - DOC <Jennifer.McDermott@wisconsin.gov>; Bobo, Matt <mbobo@fdl.wi.gov>; Krause, Scott <skrause@fdl.wi.gov>
Subject: Draft Media Release - FDLPD

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Kevin:

Draft

Please review the media release below. I will also include the original release from you so that there is a match with the original incident. Please let me know your thoughts and if you are good to go with us sending this out. We have our referral up to the DA's Office and feel comfortable releasing this information. Thanks

City of Fond du Lac Police Department Media Release

August 28, 2023

For Immediate Release (**DRAFT**)

*****Update on Homicide Investigation #1*****

Fond du Lac, WI: The City of Fond du Lac Police Department has concluded their investigation into the death of Cindy Schulz-Juedes. As a result, Taylor L. Sanchez (12/01/1995) has been referred to the Fond du Lac County District Attorney's Office for one count of First-Degree Intentional Homicide - Wisconsin State Statute 940.01(1)(a). More information is anticipated to be released if and when a criminal complaint is filed by the District Attorney's Office.

Sanchez has remained in custody through the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. Pursuant to the directive of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, as found in Supreme Court Rule 20:3.6 Trial Publicity, you are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. No further information is being released at this time.

Wisconsin Department of Corrections – Media Release from July 20, 2023

Fond du Lac Police Investigating Death at Taycheedah Correctional Institution

Fond du Lac – The Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) confirms the death of a person in our care at Taycheedah Correctional Institution in Fond du Lac. The death is under investigation by the Fond du Lac Police Department.

On Wednesday, July 19, correctional officers found Cindy Schulz-Juedes, 68, unresponsive in her cell. The Fond du Lac Police Department and Fire/Rescue were called to the scene, but efforts to revive her were unsuccessful.

Police continue to investigate the circumstances of the death. The investigation is in its preliminary stages and remains an active investigation. No additional details are available at this time. The Fond du Lac Police Department was assisted by the Fond du Lac Fire/Rescue Department and the Fond du Lac Medical Examiner's Office. The DOC will continue to offer support during the investigation.

Please direct all media inquiries to DOCmedia@wisconsin.gov.

Aaron Goldstein

Chief of Police

FBI National Academy – 266th Session

126 N. Main Street, Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Voicemail: [REDACTED] /Fax: (920) 322-3701

www.fdlpolice.com

Follow us on Twitter @fdlpolice

Follow us on Facebook @fdlpolice

Vision-To create a people-first organization rooted in trust which values its department members and community it serves.

Mission-The FDLPD is a values-driven organization whose mission is to provide service, protection and leadership to all people.

Core Values-Honor, Integrity (Respect & Courage), Professionalism (Pride & Partnerships), Accountable.

Foundational Beliefs -We believe that our commitment to delivering a level of service that exceeds community expectations through team problem solving, shared responsibility, customer service, and community engagement will make Fond du Lac one of the safest and welcoming cities in the nation.

Department Culture-As members of the FDLPD we will work collectively to build trust and break down barriers through understanding, compassion, and professionalism. At the FDLPD family is key. Family at home and a family feeling at work.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Campbell, Derek - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Follow-up Wisconsin MBDA Meeting Request
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023, 4:01:41 PM
Attachments: [madda.png](#)
[madda01.png](#)
[madda02.png](#)
[madda03.png](#)
[madda04.png](#)

FYI – I sent to DOA for awareness given some of the secretary's scheduled events this week.

--
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023, at 3:24 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Follow-up Wisconsin MBDA Meeting Request

Not sure why this is coming through me, but I am probably not the best to handle this given timing and content.

ZM

Zach Madden
Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED] [office] [REDACTED] [cell]
e: Zach.Madden@Wisconsin.gov


From: Marvin Walker <marvin@wisconsinmbdacenter.com>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023, 3:20 PM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Heather Olson <heather@wisconsinmbdacenter.com>; Robert Holland <rrobert@wisconsinmbdacenter.com>; Ebony DeBerry <ebony@wisconsinmbdacenter.com>
Subject: Follow-up Wisconsin MBDA Meeting Request

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Hello Zach;

Please find my formal letter of request for the meeting with Governor Tony Evers for endorsement of a collaborative meeting with Wisconsin MBDA and the State Agency leaders. I have attempted to be as thorough and descriptive as possible to hopefully expedite the request with the upcoming first annual MBDA MED Week in Wisconsin on September 21/22, 2023, fast approaching.

Please don't hesitate to contact me directly at 414-807-3820.

I have also attached two related initial announcements for additional background.

Thanks again

Marvin

Marvin Walker
Project Manager



MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
BUSINESSCENTER
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Minority Business Development Agency Business Center
309 N Milwaukee St., Suite 160 - Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
C 414.(414)807-3820 | F 414.225.9905
mexin@wisconsinmbdabusinesscenter.com
<https://wisconsinmbdabusinesscenter.com>

Operated by North Central Minority Supplier Development Council



MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

BUSINESS CENTER

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Fwd: Wheeler Report - 08/28/23
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 4:32:39 PM
Attachments: [powerphplist.png](#)

Flagging the top item here

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: wheeler@thewheelerreport.com <wheeler@thewheelerreport.com>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 4:24:19 PM
To: GOV Publications <GOVPublications@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Wheeler Report - 08/28/23

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Monday, August 28, 2023

GOP TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCES REGIONALLY ON TAX RELIEF

Press conferences will be held in various locations around the state by GOP legislators to introduce a “comprehensive tax relief plan.”

- 10 am: Assembly Parlor, Madison
- 10 am: Oak Creek Civic Center, Multi-Purpose Room, 8040 South 6th Street, Oak Creek
- 10 am: Howard Village Hall (Boardroom), 2456 Glendale Ave, Green Bay
- 10 am: Altoona City Hall Community Room, 1303 Lunn Ave, Altoona

AMENDED COMMITTEE NOTICES

ROOM CHANGE Senate Judiciary & Public Safety, 1:00 pm, Wed, Sep 13, 412-E
Amended ([Google Calendar](#) [iCal/Outlook](#)) Hearing

[CR 21-104](#) **Department of Corrections (DOC) Adult field supervision**

COMMITTEE NOTICES

Assembly Campaigns and Elections, 10:00 am, Wed, Aug 30, 300-NE
*([Google Calendar](#) [iCal/Outlook](#)) **Hearing***

[AB-330](#) **Nomination Papers** (Ortiz-Velez, Sylvia) The number of signatures on nomination papers.

[AB-335](#) **Candidate Violation Judgments** (Ortiz-Velez, Sylvia) Judgments concerning a candidate's felony violation of certain campaign finance or election fraud laws.

Senate Agriculture & Tourism, 10:00 am, Wed, Aug 30, PAPER BALLOT
*([Google Calendar](#) [iCal/Outlook](#)) **Executive Session***

[EA-Sand, Scott](#) **Member on the Livestock Facility Siting Review Board** To serve for the term ending May 1, 2025.

[EA-Halverson, Jerry](#) **Member on the Livestock Facility Siting Review Board** To serve for the term ending May 1, 2026.

[EA-Jones, Stanley](#) **Professional Member on the Auctioneer Board** To serve for the term ending May 1, 2026

[EA-Bauer, Paul](#) **Consumer Representative on the Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection** To serve for the term ending May 1, 2029.

[EA-Crane, Susan](#) **General Business Representative on the State Fair Park Board** To serve for the term ending May 1, 2028.

[EA-Hinchley, Tina](#) **Agriculture Representative on the Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection** To serve for the term ending May 1, 2029.

[EA-Leis, Miranda](#) **Agriculture Representative on the Board of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection** To serve for the term ending May 1, 2029.

[EA-Lang, Hunter](#) **Veterinarian Representative on the Veterinary Examining Board** To serve for the term ending July 1, 2027.

[EA-Meyers, Beth](#) **Public Member on the Wisconsin Historical Society Board of Curators** To serve for the term ending July 1, 2025.

[EA-Solverson, Karl](#) **Veterinarian on the Veterinary Examining Board** To serve for the term ending July 1, 2025.

[EA-Winters, Keene](#) **Public Member on the Wisconsin Historical Society Board of Curators** To serve for the term ending July 1, 2026.

[SB-311](#) **Fair Prizes** (Ballweg, Joan) State aid for prizes awarded at local fairs.

[SB-370 UW-River Falls Funding](#) (Ballweg, Joan) Funding for the Farm and Industry Short Course program at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls and making an appropriation.

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMOS

[LRB-1594 Memo School Start Date](#) (Stroebel, Duey) The commencement of the school term for public schools. *Deadline: Tuesday, September 5, 5 pm*

[LRB-2453 Memo Cremation Permit](#) (Ballweg, Joan) Creation of a cremation permit application form. *Deadline: Wednesday, September 6, 5 pm*

[LRB-2669 Memo Firearm Manufacturer Tax](#) (Anderson, Jimmy) Imposing a tax on firearm manufacturers, services provided to victims of crimes involving firearms, making an appropriation, and providing a penalty. *Deadline: Friday, September 9, Noon*

[To review today's releases, click here to visit us at mailinglist.thewheelerreport.com](mailto:mailinglist.thewheelerreport.com)

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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: N4A
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 5:36:17 PM

AP coverage here: <https://x.com/sbauerap/status/1696290073069646218?s=46>

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 5:17:56 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: N4A

[Here](#)

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: 2 most recent tax related pulls
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 7:22:49 AM
Attachments: [Re- ASAP request Fwd- N4A - \\$4.4B tax cut.eml](#)

Looking for something comparable to the attached and a graf similar to here:

<https://twitter.com/BrittCudaback/status/1671963652130217987?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 at 6:32 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: 2 most recent tax related pulls

Britt, do you have something specific in mind here? Happy to ask SBO to put something together but it sounded like you thought they already did maybe? I'm out to dinner so maybe just can't find on my phone.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 5:18 PM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: 2 most recent tax related pulls

JD, can we get SBO points plugged into TPs we already have prepared with just updated #s?

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 5:17:18 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: 2 most recent tax related pulls

Including an expansion of the retirement exclusion with a rate cut of the third bracket (from 5.3% to 4.4%)

From: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#)
To: [Quinn, Brian D - DOA](#); [Pahnke, Brian D - DOA](#); [Henney, Cara - GOV](#); [Ziegler, Paul - DOA](#); [Grinde, Kirsten - DOA](#)
Cc: [Lashua, Ryan - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:24:12 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Great, thanks!

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:22:21 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Looks right to me!

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 5:21 PM
To: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Brian Q, are you able to take one last quick spin through the sharepoint doc? We tried to update with everything you had here

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 4:06:45 PM
To: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Yes, those average cut figures in the first table are annual averages.

There are 986,000 taxpayers with a net tax liability with incomes under \$50k in Wisconsin AGI.

From: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 3:59 PM
To: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Brian Q:

Assuming you are showing annualized figures for tax cuts below, yes? If so, is it accurate to say that for filers under

\$50,000 in AGI that their tax cut would be under \$8/month (\$88.02/12 months in a year=\$7.33 month)?

Also, how many filers are there in Wisconsin under \$50,000 in AGI?

Thanks.

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 3:51 PM

To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

To add a bit to the inflation talking point here, I think contrasting this portion of the table with what the Governor proposed in his package is worth mentioning:

	Average Cut
Under \$5,000	\$ 10.14
5,000 to 10,000	\$ 22.02
10,000 to 15,000	\$ 21.44
15,000 to 20,000	\$ 10.48
20,000 to 25,000	\$ 10.99
25,000 to 30,000	\$ 15.10
30,000 to 40,000	\$ 32.11
40,000 to 50,000	\$ 88.02
50,000 to 60,000	\$ 164.55
60,000 to 70,000	\$ 249.00
70,000 to 80,000	\$ 335.21
80,000 to 90,000	\$ 423.84
90,000 to 100,000	\$ 514.54
100,000 to 125,000	\$ 678.12
125,000 to 150,000	\$ 929.64
150,000 to 200,000	\$ 1,251.03
200,000 to 250,000	\$ 1,701.81
250,000 to 300,000	\$ 2,157.25
300,000 to 500,000	\$ 3,102.69
500,000 to 1,000,000	\$ 6,163.00
1,000,000 to 1,500,000	\$ 11,504.91
1,500,000 to 2,000,000	\$ 16,738.76
2,000,000 to 3,000,000	\$ 23,036.11
3,000,000 to 4,000,000	\$ 33,117.69
4,000,000 to 5,000,000	\$ 42,085.67
5,000,000 to 10,000,000	\$ 64,803.94
10,000,000 to 15,000,000	\$ 113,674.38
15,000,000 to 30,000,000	\$ 182,601.96
30,000,000 to 75,000,000	\$ 381,709.77
75,000,000 and over	\$ 1,827,023.45

We won't even hit a \$100 cut until above \$50k in AGI under this.

The Governor's package, because of the EITC and Homestead increases, looked like this (forgive the sign switching in how this is portrayed):

	Average (Cut)/Increase
Under \$5,000	\$ (48.8)
5,000 to 10,000	\$ (49.0)
10,000 to 15,000	\$ (88.4)
15,000 to 20,000	\$ (145.6)
20,000 to 25,000	\$ (192.6)
25,000 to 30,000	\$ (224.6)
30,000 to 40,000	\$ (186.2)
40,000 to 50,000	\$ (193.8)
50,000 to 60,000	\$ (221.1)
60,000 to 70,000	\$ (263.8)
70,000 to 80,000	\$ (304.2)
80,000 to 90,000	\$ (335.9)
90,000 to 100,000	\$ (386.8)
100,000 to 125,000	\$ (430.0)
125,000 to 150,000	\$ (533.0)
150,000 to 200,000	\$ (218.3)
200,000 to 250,000	\$ 1.9
250,000 to 300,000	\$ 34.6
300,000 to 500,000	\$ 249.1
500,000 to 1,000,000	\$ 1,820.1
1,000,000 and over	\$ 39,585.8

Inflation primarily hurts those without the cushion to absorb it and the Governor's proposal extended relief to those with incomes too low to owe net state tax liabilities.

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 3:37 PM

To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Third of the fuchsia ones:

- **Republicans' plan will largely benefit millionaires and billionaires more than it will working families.**
 - **Republicans' tax plan spends more than \$1,003,897,325 on tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires**—people who don't need help to afford rising costs due to national inflation.
 - Under Republicans' plan to give tax breaks to millionaires and billionaires, more than 20% (22.71%) of tax breaks will go to people with incomes over \$1 million instead of working families who need help keeping up with rising costs.
 - Of the more than 3.35 million tax filers in Wisconsin, only 9,306 filers are making \$1 million or more—that means that less than a third of one percent (.28%) of tax filers will receive more than 20% (22.71%) of the benefits of Republicans' tax plan.
 - Under Republicans' plan, the **average tax cut for filers making over \$1 million is more than \$107,876.**
 - That's **more than 378 times the average tax cut of someone making \$40K-50K,** and DOUBLE what those working Wisconsinites' annual salary is.
 - The average tax decrease for filers making 1 million or more is over 3.8 times the annual salary of a family of four living at the poverty line in Wisconsin (\$27,750).
 - Under **Republicans' plan, millionaires and billionaires would see their taxes cut more than half of what they currently owe while a working Wisconsinite making less than \$100,000 will see an average tax cut of \$303.**
 - Wisconsin households making the average median income will see a tax cut nearly

- 158 times smaller than those making over \$1 million under this plan.
 - Filers making \$1 million or more will see a tax break of more than 61% (61.01%) of their current tax liability, compared to working folks making \$40K-50K, whose average tax liability would be cut by \$284.67.
 - (\$63,293.00 median/\$679.84 average cut for that income category)
- The millionaire tax cut total is, either \$221 million for tax year 2023 or \$455 million for the biennial total would work there.
- The share of tax cuts going to those with AGIs in excess of \$1 million is 16.6% while they are 0.31% of those with a net tax liability (did my math wrong earlier) or 0.23% of all Wisconsin filers.
- Average \$1 million+ AGI tax cut is \$30,285. 344x those with incomes of \$40k-\$50k.
- It still exceeds the income of a family of four in poverty, but only just rather than the big multiple previously.
- Income taxes for those over \$1 million in AGI are cut by about 1/6th while those under \$100k receive an average cut of 10.8% and an average of \$154.6 in dollar terms.

I think that should cover most of the relevant talking points.

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 3:04 PM

To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

I'll do this one second because it's shorter.

- Now, **Republicans want to undo all of Democrats' good work by splurging on tax breaks for millionaires and billionaires with a plan that will be crippling for our state and the programs and services Wisconsinites depend on every day.**
 - Assuming 3.5% revenue growth in each of FY26 and FY27, **Republicans' tax plan would leave the state with no new tax revenue even in nominal dollars to fund critical state priorities.**
 - Republicans' plan will be catastrophic for the services and programs Wisconsinites care about and have been asking for years for Republicans in the Legislature to support.
 - Passing Republicans' plan will require devastating cuts to things like **public safety** including fire, EMS, and police services, **public education at every level**, **stall efforts to expand access to high-speed internet and affordable housing** and **make it even harder to address immediate needs like getting PFAS and other contaminants out of our water.**

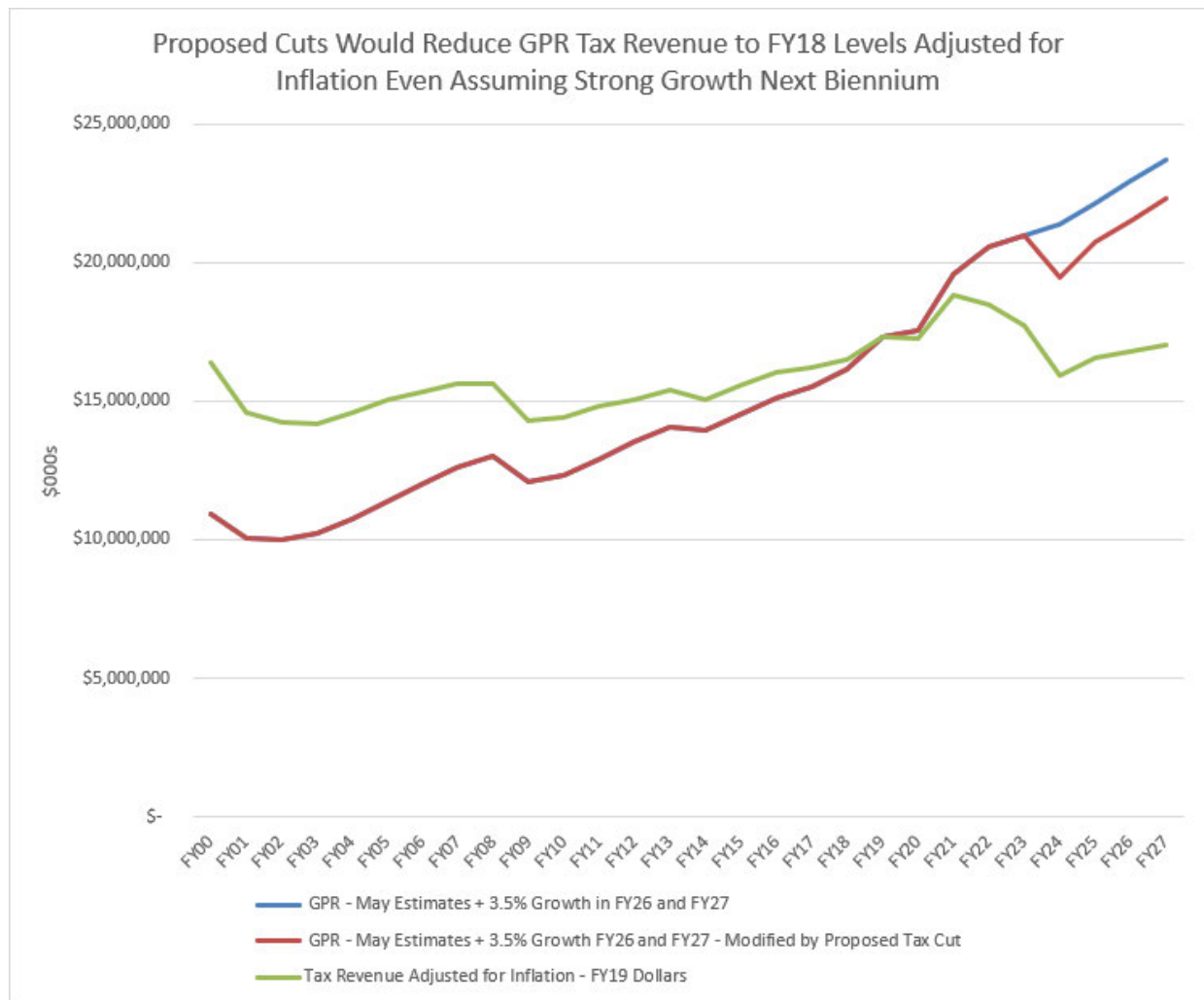
We will need to revise this to say the following:

- By FY25, the state would have less revenue adjusted for inflation than any year since FY15.
- Even assuming 3.5% revenue growth (average annual growth since FY2000 has been 3.3%) in each year in FY26 and FY27, general fund tax revenues would be below FY19 levels by FY27 when adjusted for inflation.
- This means that the state cannot provide anything more than a bare minimum inflationary increase relative to FY18 in key programs on an ongoing basis by the end of the next biennium even under strong economic assumptions and would leave the state facing steep cuts in key program areas should an economic downturn materialize.
- (Insert various key priorities that cannot be sustainably funded with such a budget)

Something like that.

This chart has the biennial income tax cut at \$3.35 billion (they said \$3.5 billion) and I think the difference there might be

based on withholding changes being a little different in their plan vs. what I have penciled in here for FY24. The basic picture will stay the same once we get the final figures in there, though.



From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:47 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

I'll send these as I complete them to get this moving along.

- **Republicans would rather give tax breaks to wealthy millionaires and billionaires instead of prioritizing tax relief for working families—nearly 80% of their tax plan will go to the top 20% of earners.**
 - Republicans want to give more than \$3,502,787,530 in tax breaks to the wealthiest 20% of Wisconsin tax filers—that's 3.8 TIMES what the remaining 80% of filers will see in tax relief COMBINED.

This will need to be reworked to, I think, offer the following:

- Almost half (48%) of the proposed tax cut will go to the top 5% of income taxpayers.
- The top 5% of Wisconsinites would see taxes reduced by \$632 million in tax year 2023 while the bottom 80% would

see taxes reduced by only \$391 million.

- Those with incomes over \$1 million (0.31% of Wisconsinites) would see tax cuts of \$221 million annually, greater than the \$212 million annually for the bottom 70% of Wisconsinites with income tax liabilities.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:40 PM

To: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Thank you!

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:40:01 PM

To: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Have it now. Will look.

From: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:39 PM

To: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

I added everyone on this thread, please let me know if you still have trouble accessing

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:36 PM

To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>;

Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

I'll need access. Can't see it right now.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:32 PM

To: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>;

Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: ASAP request Fwd: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

See request below, please, SBO

From: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:30 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Lashua, Ryan - GOV <ryan.lashua1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

We need ASAP updates to the numbers highlighted in fuchsia, if somebody could please tackle that ASAP.

 [Dem Tax Plan v Flat Tax TPs_1.13.23.docx](#)

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:29 PM

To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Good here

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:23:22 PM

To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Good here.

ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [redacted] [office], [redacted] [cell]

e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:23 PM

To: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Ok with text. Defer to Zach on the graph

From: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:21:12 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

The graph BC is referring to attached here, for those who missed that.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:20 PM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Bumping below – can I use the graph here?

Also immediate copy for approval:

While @GovEvers proposed to provide a 10% middle-class tax cut, Republicans today are doubling down on giving tax breaks to wealthy millionaires and billionaires instead of prioritizing tax relief for Wisconsin's working families.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 2:12 PM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

Any concern from folks about me using one of these graphs imminently? Good illustration.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 2:10 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

For reference – DOR run on these numbers.

ZM

Zach Madden
Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e: Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 22, 2023 2:08 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: N4A - \$4.4B tax cut

https://twitter.com/Emilee_Fannon/status/1671957855279218688

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: 2 most recent tax related pulls
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 7:23:12 AM

Graph*

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 7:22 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: 2 most recent tax related pulls

Looking for something comparable to the attached and a graf similar to here:

<https://twitter.com/BrittCudaback/status/1671963652130217987?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 at 6:32 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: 2 most recent tax related pulls

Britt, do you have something specific in mind here? Happy to ask SBO to put something together but it sounded like you thought they already did maybe? I'm out to dinner so maybe just can't find on my phone.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 5:18 PM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: 2 most recent tax related pulls

JD, can we get SBO points plugged into TPs we already have prepared with just updated #s?

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 5:17:18 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: 2 most recent tax related pulls

Including an expansion of the retirement exclusion with a rate cut of the third bracket (from 5.3% to 4.4%)

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Henney, Cara - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#); [Campbell, Derek - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: You're Invited: Wisconsin State and Local Leader Roundtable Discussion - 9/8, 3-4:30pm
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 9:30:53 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Corissa, can we add this to our list for tonight, please?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 9:21 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>, Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: You're Invited: Wisconsin State and Local Leader Roundtable Discussion - 9/8, 3-4:30pm

Sounds like LG is tentatively holding for this event. Not sure if Corissa knows more. or if we already talked about this, ignore me! I was on the road during scheduling last week.

Cara Henney
Office of Governor Tony Evers
Email: cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov
Phone: [REDACTED]

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 9:04:09 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: You're Invited: Wisconsin State and Local Leader Roundtable Discussion - 9/8, 3-4:30pm

Additional invite for gov (or designee) for Sept 8

From: Mendoza, Lauren <Lauren.Mendoza@ed.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 9:00 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Underly, Jill K - DPI <jill.underly@dpi.wi.gov>; Lovings, Tacara M - DPI <tacara.loving@dpi.wi.gov>; Rep.Kitchens - LEGIS <Rep.Kitchens@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Sen.Jagler - LEGIS <Sen.Jagler@legis.wisconsin.gov>;

Rep.Shelton - LEGIS <Rep.Shelton@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Sen.Larson - LEGIS <Sen.Larson@legis.wisconsin.gov>; jensenm@deerfield.k12.wi.us <jensenm@deerfield.k12.wi.us>; rbriggs@barabooschools.net <rbriggs@barabooschools.net>; jennifer.thayer@ngsd.k12.wi.us <jennifer.thayer@ngsd.k12.wi.us>; lkvistad@madison.k12.wi.us <lkvistad@madison.k12.wi.us>; ajmuldrow@madison.k12.wi.us <ajmuldrow@madison.k12.wi.us>; carlosj@verona.k12.wi.us <carlosj@verona.k12.wi.us>; mhumke@wasb.org <mhumke@wasb.org>; jbales@wasda.org <jbales@wasda.org>; drossmiller@wasb.org <drossmiller@wasb.org>; jimlynch@awsa.org <jimlynch@awsa.org>; wirtzolsenp@weac.org <wirtzolsenp@weac.org>; hdb@wisconsinnetwork.org <hdb@wisconsinnetwork.org>; tkrichmond@madison.k12.wi.us <tkrichmond@madison.k12.wi.us>; Knueve, Sara M - DPI <sara.knueve@dpi.wi.gov>; Adams, Laura L - DPI <Laura.Adams@dpi.wi.gov>; Manriquez, Paul A - DPI <paul.manriquez@dpi.wi.gov>
Cc: McCarthy, Thomas G - DPI <thomas.mccarthy@dpi.wi.gov>; Honeysett, Adam <Adam.Honeysett@ed.gov>; Doody, Jillian <Jillian.Doody@ed.gov>; Cestero, Rafael <Rafael.Cestero@ed.gov>
Subject: You're Invited: Wisconsin State and Local Leader Roundtable Discussion - 9/8, 3-4:30pm

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Good morning,

Supplemental to Secretary Cardona's visit to your state during his [Back to School bus tour](#), the U.S. Department of Education (ED), in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, is hosting a roundtable of state and local leaders on Friday, September 8 from 3-4:30pm. I invite you (or a designee) to join me, Deputy Secretary Cindy Marten, and your education partners for a conversation highlighting the work you are doing and discussing how ED can support your work. The meeting details are below.

WHAT: Wisconsin State and Local Leader Roundtable Discussion

WHEN: Friday, September 8, 2023, 3-4:30pm

WHERE: Madison Central Library, 201 W Mifflin St, Madison, WI 53703

To ensure an accurate headcount for our hosts, please RSVP to Adam Honeysett (Adam.Honeysett@ed.gov) by Friday, September 1.

Best,

--LM



Lauren Mendoza

Deputy Assistant Secretary

for State and Local Outreach

U.S. Department of Education

Lauren.Mendoza@ed.gov





From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: U.S. Department of Education Briefing on Raise The Bar Initiative tomorrow
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:12:12 AM

From: Gerson, Seth <SGerson@NGA.ORG>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 9:11:12 AM
To: Gerson, Seth <SGerson@NGA.ORG>
Cc: Matthews, Mackenzi <MMatthews@nga.org>
Subject: U.S. Department of Education Briefing on Raise The Bar Initiative tomorrow

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Governors' Education Policy Advisors and State-Federal Representatives,

We hope this email finds you well. We're reaching out today to let you know that tomorrow, Wednesday, August 30th at 4:00pm ET, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) will host an embargoed briefing to update Governors' offices and Chief State School Officers on their [Raise The Bar initiative](#). The briefing will include a preview of ED's upcoming release of new state data visualizations tied to the Raise The Bar strategies.

Please register [here](#) for the briefing.

Thank you and please let us know if you have any questions.

Best,

Seth

Seth P. Gerson
Program Director, K-12 Education
National Governors Association Center for Best Practices
444 North Capitol St NW, Ste 267
Washington, D.C. 20001
o: 202.719.2875 | m: 571.212.3808
sgerson@nga.org



From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Tax Proposal
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:22:46 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

I think we should say as much in our response

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:19:34 AM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Tax Proposal

Such a good faith effort to “work together” on a bill that ***checks notes*** has already been introduced and is scheduled for a public hearing tomorrow.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 10:12 AM
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Tax Proposal

FYI

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e: Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Walentowski-Domokos, Nicole - LEGIS <Nicole.Walentowski-Domokos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:12 AM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Tax Proposal

Hi, Zach-

I am reaching out to share a copy of the tax-related legislation that Rep. Steffen is leading on ([AB 386](#)).

Rep. Steffen would very much appreciate an opportunity to meet with the Governor regarding this proposal to discuss further.

In the meantime, if there is anything I can do to be of assistance on this, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Nicole Walentowski-Domokos

Research Assistant



Office of Rep. David Steffen











From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Tax Proposal
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:57:48 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Flagging also that I haven't seen the purported CA they're also circulating as part of this package that would be first consideration to "require a 2/3rds vote to increase sales, income, or franchise taxes."

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 10:34 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Tax Proposal

Will draft and circulate a response.
ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e: Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:23 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Tax Proposal

I think we should say as much in our response

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:19:34 AM

To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Tax Proposal

Such a good faith effort to “work together” on a bill that ***checks notes*** has already been introduced and is scheduled for a public hearing tomorrow.

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 10:12 AM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: FW: Tax Proposal

FYI

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]

e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Walentowski-Domokos, Nicole - LEGIS <Nicole.Walentowski-Domokos@legis.wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:12 AM

To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Tax Proposal

Hi, Zach-

I am reaching out to share a copy of the tax-related legislation that Rep. Steffen is leading on ([AB 386](#)).

Rep. Steffen would very much appreciate an opportunity to meet with the Governor regarding this proposal to discuss further.

In the meantime, if there is anything I can do to be of assistance on this, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Nicole Walentowski-Domokos

Research Assistant



Office of Rep. David Steffen











From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: 2 most recent tax related pulls
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:13:46 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Thanks.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 10:07 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fw: 2 most recent tax related pulls

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]
e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:05 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: 2 most recent tax related pulls

To expand a bit on this, here are some figures I put together to show what happens with the current structural balance with these proposals. I did some rough tax year to fiscal year conversions plus assumed a withholding table update in FY24 for the bracket cut + catching up on indexing and the bracket changes the Governor signed in the budget:

FY24-FY27 Fiscal Outlook With 3rd Bracket Cut and Retirement Income Exclusion - \$

	Millions			
	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>	<u>FY26</u>	<u>FY27</u>
Opening Balance	\$6,877	\$2,705	\$1,042	(\$378)
Taxes	19,609	20,630	20,496	20,412
Tribal Gaming	0	9	9	9
Other	<u>832</u>	<u>726</u>	<u>726</u>	<u>726</u>
Total Available	\$27,318	\$24,070	\$22,273	\$20,770
Net Appropriations	\$24,613	\$23,028	\$22,651	\$22,638
Gross Balance	\$2,705	\$1,042	(\$378)	(\$1,868)
Less Required Balance	<u>-100</u>	<u>-105</u>	<u>-110</u>	<u>-115</u>
Net Balance	\$2,605	\$937	(\$488)	(\$1,983)

Additionally, even assuming 3.2% revenue growth and providing merely inflationary adjustments to spending, we still would have to drain most of the budget stabilization fund in FY26 and FY27 even in a growth environment.

**FY24-FY27 Fiscal Outlook With 3rd Bracket Cut and Retirement Income Exclusion
(With Inflationary Adjustments to Appropriations and Typical Revenue Growth)- \$**

	Millions			
	<u>FY24</u>	<u>FY25</u>	<u>FY26</u>	<u>FY27</u>
Opening Balance	\$6,877	\$2,705	\$1,042	(\$220)
Taxes	19,609	20,630	21,152	21,740
Tribal Gaming	0	9	9	9
Other	<u>832</u>	<u>726</u>	<u>726</u>	<u>726</u>
Total Available	\$27,318	\$24,070	\$22,929	\$22,254
Net Appropriations	\$24,613	\$23,028	\$23,149	\$23,657
Gross Balance	\$2,705	\$1,042	(\$220)	(\$1,402)
Less Required Balance	<u>-100</u>	<u>-105</u>	<u>-110</u>	<u>-115</u>
Net Balance	\$2,605	\$937	(\$330)	(\$1,517)

Short version: The main problem with these tax proposals is that they cost far too much and we cannot plausibly grow out of their cost. They would completely hamstring the state through the end

of the decade.

Further, it should be noted that Wisconsin is no longer a high tax state. This entire notion that we need to frantically cut taxes to “remain competitive” is without basis. Through 2021, which does not include the massive third bracket cut that hit in FY22, we had fallen to 26th nationally in our tax ranking:

<u>State</u>	<u>Total Taxes (\$ 000s)</u>	<u>% of Personal Income</u>	<u>Rank</u>
Alabama	21,396,582	9.22%	38
Alaska	3,075,412	6.69%	50
Arizona	33,710,293	8.98%	40
Arkansas	14,706,506	10.35%	22
California	360,783,028	12.93%	3
Colorado	37,214,637	9.84%	29
Connecticut	34,146,576	12.09%	6
Delaware	6,748,955	12.08%	7
Florida	95,627,755	7.74%	49
Georgia	49,383,699	8.86%	43
Hawaii	11,224,551	13.51%	2
Idaho	8,726,466	9.54%	33
Illinois	93,249,733	11.74%	9
Indiana	36,528,019	10.31%	24
Iowa	18,954,711	11.15%	13
Kansas	17,463,026	10.63%	19
Kentucky	21,065,845	9.84%	30
Louisiana	22,372,810	9.47%	35
Maine	9,352,608	12.50%	5
Maryland	44,717,132	11.03%	16
Massachusetts	56,664,097	10.29%	25
Michigan	49,991,561	9.30%	37
Minnesota	42,590,016	11.99%	8
Mississippi	13,099,550	10.37%	20
Missouri	28,612,828	8.92%	41
Montana	5,645,058	9.61%	32
Nebraska	12,475,154	11.08%	14
Nevada	16,064,249	9.31%	36
New Hampshire	7,504,329	7.95%	46
New Jersey	76,971,983	11.60%	10
New Mexico	10,954,818	11.06%	15
New York	205,150,549	14.22%	1
North Carolina	51,658,175	9.52%	34
North Dakota	5,454,803	11.51%	11
Ohio	62,851,517	9.96%	28
Oklahoma	17,822,591	8.90%	42
Oregon	27,603,697	11.42%	12
Pennsylvania	81,390,353	10.33%	23
Rhode Island	7,116,724	10.83%	18
South Carolina	22,919,361	9.10%	39
South Dakota	4,171,522	7.78%	48
Tennessee	29,678,472	8.19%	45

Texas	143,674,839	8.84%	44
Utah	18,872,763	11.01%	17
Vermont	4,870,446	12.78%	4
Virginia	53,564,770	9.98%	27
Washington	51,574,328	9.78%	31
West Virginia	8,386,049	10.36%	21
Wisconsin	33,548,631	10.18%	26
Wyoming	3,015,682	7.94%	47

Messaging-wise, I think it is most fruitful to say that tax cuts of this size would completely erase all of the progress the state has made in getting to a more solid fiscal footing and would make the next biennium an austerity budget where we have to drain the budget stabilization fund even if we don't have a recession just to provide mere inflationary increases to programs. Additionally, this idea that Wisconsin has to just keep hacking and slashing on taxes as though we are a "tax hell" is just completely anachronistic as Wisconsin has fallen to be about median nationally.

As for the retirement income proposal more specifically, a few things:

1. \$100k/\$150k subtractions are simply too high and represent amounts that quite wealthy people even if their incomes don't appear that high. If you're withdrawing the 4% rule, \$150k works out to a balance of \$3.75 million in retirement savings.
2. There is the larger conceptual picture that we currently exempt Social Security income entirely, provide a 30% long-term capital gains exclusion, and also provide the MAC for business owners in manufacturing and agriculture. If you add this, we shift toward making essentially the only form of income that is fully taxed is wage income. It's a hollowing out of the tax base that shifts the relative burden toward workers.
3. Wisconsin has had no real difficulty retaining seniors other than those who move to retire in a warmer climate. Our senior population is the only portion of the state demographic curve that's growing at this point. The marginal cost of the exclusion far outstrips any plausible benefit from retaining more retirees.
4. The proposal is not a cost-effective way to retain retirees and, frankly, there is a serious question about whether we want to spend our marginal dollars on retaining retirees versus, for example, providing tax relief to families with young children instead.

Those are my more complete thoughts.

-Brian Q.

From: Quinn, Brian D - DOA

Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 8:42 AM

To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: 2 most recent tax related pulls

My immediate reaction is that a combined \$1.4 billion income tax cut annually would put us wildly into major structural deficits in the next biennium. Wildly.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 7:06 PM
To: Ziegler, Paul - DOA <Paul2.Ziegler@wisconsin.gov>; Quinn, Brian D - DOA <Brian.Quinn@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>; Grinde, Kirsten - DOA <Kirsten.Grinde@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: 2 most recent tax related pulls

Brian & Paul:

Could we get your thoughts on this ASAP? Expect we may need for response to R press conferences we hear are happening tomorrow AM.

From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 5:17:18 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: 2 most recent tax related pulls

Including an expansion of the retirement exclusion with a rate cut of the third bracket (from 5.3% to 4.4%)







From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4a
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:33:46 AM

<https://twitter.com/ABayatpour/status/1696550510516478437?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Tomten, Amanda - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Tax Proposal
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:47:20 AM
Attachments: [image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image013.png](#)
[image014.png](#)
[image015.png](#)

Good if others are

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:45:04 AM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Tax Proposal

Reviewed. Good here.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:25 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Tax Proposal

Draft Response: 

<https://wigov.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/wigovernor/Shared%20Documents/Leg-Policy%20Meeting%20Materials/Legislative%20Affairs/Steffen%20Response.docx?d=wcbe6c9f9b78a410cb056ac986047d6ef&csf=1&web=1&e=I9ij4U>

ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:13 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Tax Proposal

FYI

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Walentowski-Domokos, Nicole - LEGIS <Nicole.Walentowski-Domokos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:12 AM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Tax Proposal

Hi, Zach-

I am reaching out to share a copy of the tax-related legislation that Rep. Steffen is leading on ([AB 386](#)).

Rep. Steffen would very much appreciate an opportunity to meet with the Governor regarding this proposal to discuss further.

In the meantime, if there is anything I can do to be of assistance on this, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Nicole Walentowski-Domokos
Research Assistant
[REDACTED]
Office of Rep. David Steffen



















From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: FW: Baldwin Applauds First 10 Drugs Announced for Medicare Price Negotiation Under Inflation Reduction Act
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:49:23 AM

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Baldwin, Press (Baldwin) <Press_Baldwin@baldwin.senate.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 11:48 AM
To: Baldwin, Press (Baldwin) <Press_Baldwin@baldwin.senate.gov>
Subject: Baldwin Applauds First 10 Drugs Announced for Medicare Price Negotiation Under Inflation Reduction Act

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*****MEDIA RELEASE*****

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, August 29, 2023
Contact: press@baldwin.senate.gov
202-224-6225

Baldwin Applauds First 10 Drugs Announced for Medicare Price Negotiation Under Inflation Reduction Act

9 Million Americans spent more than \$3.4 billion on these 10 drugs to treat life-threatening conditions like diabetes, heart disease and cancer

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) is applauding the [first 10 drugs](#) selected for Medicare price negotiation under the Baldwin-backed *Inflation Reduction Act*. The law, which allows Medicare to negotiate the price of dozens of drugs with manufacturers for the first time ever, will cut out-of-pocket costs for seniors, save American taxpayers billions of dollars, and reduce the deficit. In 2022 alone, approximately 9 million seniors and other Medicare beneficiaries spent over \$3.4 billion out-of-pocket on the 10 drugs selected for negotiation. Millions of Part D enrollees depend on these vital drugs to treat life-threatening conditions including diabetes, heart failure, and cancer, but many struggle to access their

medications because of prohibitive costs.

Earlier this week, Senator Baldwin [sent a letter](#) calling on the Biden administration to include several of these same high-priced and widely used drugs that will have the greatest impact for Wisconsinites.

“No Wisconsinite should go broke just to afford the medications they need to stay healthy. Our Inflation Reduction Act finally took on big drug companies and is lowering drug prices, reducing out-of-pocket costs for families and saving taxpayers billions of dollars,” **said Senator Baldwin.** “I am so proud that our work is lowering drug prices and providing support for tens of thousands of Wisconsinites who rely on these drugs to treat heart disease, diabetes and cancer.”

Negotiations for the first group of selected drugs will begin in 2023, with negotiated prices going into effect in 2026. The number of drugs subject to price negotiation will increase over time. According to the Congressional Budget Office, this provision from the *Inflation Reduction Act* is estimated to lower average drug prices in Medicare and will reduce the budget deficit by \$25 billion in 2031.

This historic provision in the *Inflation Reduction Act* is just one way the legislation is lowering health care costs for Wisconsinites. The Baldwin-backed law is also capping the cost of insulin for seniors at \$35 per month, making no-cost vaccines available to Wisconsinites on Medicare, and penalizing drug companies that raise prices faster than inflation.

An online version of this release is available [here](#).

###

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Laurent, Bridget - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Tomten, Amanda - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Tax Proposal
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 12:06:53 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)

Reviewed!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Laurent, Bridget - GOV <bridget.laurent@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 12:05 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Tax Proposal

Reviewed

Bridget Laurent
Deputy Legal Counsel
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: bridget.laurent@wisconsin.gov

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records law, this email, including any attachments, may contain confidential and/or privileged information exempt from public disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient or believe that you received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately.

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:55 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Tax Proposal

reviewed

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:47 AM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Tax Proposal

Good if others are

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:45:04 AM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Tax Proposal

Reviewed. Good here.

Kelly Becker *(she/her)*

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 11:25 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Tax Proposal

Draft Response: 

<https://wigov.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/wigovernor/Shared%20Documents/Leg-Policy%20Meeting%20Materials/Legislative%20Affairs/Steffen%20Response.docx?d=wcbe6c9f9b78a410cb056ac986047d6ef&csf=1&web=1&e=I9j4U>

ZM

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:13 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Tax Proposal

FYI

Zach Madden

Legislative Affairs Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED] [office], [REDACTED] [cell]
e. Zach.Madden@wisconsin.gov



From: Walentowski-Domokos, Nicole - LEGIS <Nicole.Walentowski-Domokos@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 10:12 AM
To: Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Tax Proposal

Hi, Zach-

I am reaching out to share a copy of the tax-related legislation that Rep. Steffen is leading on ([AB 386](#)).

Rep. Steffen would very much appreciate an opportunity to meet with the Governor regarding this proposal to discuss further.

In the meantime, if there is anything I can do to be of assistance on this, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Nicole Walentowski-Domokos

Research Assistant



Office of Rep. David Steffen

























From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Ready to release
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 2:43:56 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)


Tomorrow?

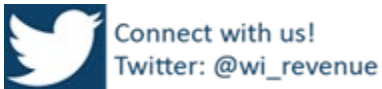
From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 2:15:35 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Ready to release

FYI

From: Mayers, Patricia A - DOR <PatriciaA.Mayers@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 2:15:07 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Ready to release

Planning on this afternoon or tomorrow morning. Any preference?

Patty Mayers
Pronouns: she/her/hers
Communications Director
Wisconsin Department of Revenue

PatriciaA.mayers@wisconsin.gov



Wisconsin Department of

Revenue



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Twitter: @wi_revenue

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: FW: DHS News Release: 8/31 Observation of International Overdose Awareness Day and Public Health Vending Machines
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 2:50:46 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Maresh, Alison B - DHS <alison.maresh@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 2:49 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: DHS News Release: 8/31 Observation of International Overdose Awareness Day and Public Health Vending Machines

Hi Britt and Cara,

Below is a news release we're planning to send out on Thursday. Please reach out with any questions.

Best,
Ali

DHS Observes International Overdose Awareness Day by Awarding Grants to Make More Life-Saving Tools Available

Free fentanyl test strips and NARCAN® to be dispensed at more locations statewide through public health vending machines

Today, on International Overdose Awareness Day, the Wisconsin Department of

Health Services (DHS) is expanding its commitment to ending drug overdoses and related harms. Grants have been awarded to 15 Tribal Nation, county, municipal, and nonprofit agencies to make life-saving resources more available in communities with a high-need through vending machines in public places stocked with free fentanyl test strips and NARCAN, a medication that can reverse an opioid overdose.

The grants are funded by a portion of Wisconsin's share of the federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant.

"By funding these vending machines, we are fulfilling our commitment to reducing the harms of drug use, promoting wellness, and supporting recovery for our most vulnerable communities," said DHS Deputy Secretary Deb Standridge. "This is about making fentanyl test strips and NARCAN® accessible to the people who need it the most, where they're already at, on their schedule and their timeline, with no questions asked."

All Wisconsin Tribal Nations, county and municipal government agencies, and nonprofits were invited to apply for a portion of the nearly \$1 million in funding designated for this program. The grant recipients are:

- **Addiction Resource Council** for supplies to stock existing indoor vending machines in Waukesha County.
- **Bayfield County Health Department** to buy, place, and stock two outdoor vending machines—one in Bayfield and one in Iron River.
- **Forest County Potawatomi** to buy, place, and stock two outdoor vending machines—one in Crandon and one in Wabeno.
- **Green County Human Services Department** to buy, place, and stock an outdoor vending machine in Monroe.
- **Janesville Community Center** to buy, place, and stock an indoor vending machine in Janesville.
- **HealthNet of Rock County** to buy, place, and stock an indoor vending machine in Janesville.
- **Hope Council on Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse** to buy, place, and stock an outdoor vending machine in Kenosha.
- **Madison Street Medicine** to buy, place, and stock two outdoor vending machines in Madison.
- **Milwaukee Community Resources & Empowerment Services** to buy, place, and stock an outdoor vending machine in Milwaukee.
- **Milwaukee LGBT Community Center** to buy, place, and stock an indoor vending machine in Milwaukee.
- **Milwaukee Turners** to buy, place, and stock an indoor vending machine in Milwaukee.
- **Monroe County Health Department** to buy, place, and stock an indoor vending machine in Sparta and an outdoor vending machine in Tomah.

- **Taylor County Health Department** to buy, place, and stock two indoor vending machines in Medford.
- **Tellurian Behavioral Health** to buy, place, and stock an outdoor vending machine in Madison.
- **Village of Brown Deer** to buy, place, and stock an indoor vending machine in Brown Deer.

The funded agencies have until the end of September to implement their work plan.

This program complements previously announced grants supported by \$2 million of Wisconsin's 2022 share of National Prescription Opiate Litigation settlement funds to 26 agencies for the purchase, installation, and stocking of indoor and outdoor vending machines containing fentanyl test strips and NARCAN®.

DHS is hosting meetings with the partners in both programs to talk about successes, challenges, and ways to get supplies for the vending machines after the grants end.

Grant recipients in both programs may use their own funds to stock the vending machines with other supplies, including medication lock bags/boxes, sterile syringes, CPR breathing masks, and items that promote safer sex.

In addition to vending machines, Wisconsinites have access to [free fentanyl test strips](#) and [NARCAN® by mail and through many community organizations](#).

The vending machines and other strategies to distribute free fentanyl test strips and NARCAN® are part of the DHS harm reduction plan to minimize the effects of drug use and reduce disease and death. The goal is to engage with people who use drugs and equip them with tools and information to create positive change in their lives. The plan also includes support for:

- Programs in which emergency medical services providers leave packages of fentanyl test strips and NARCAN® with people who have experienced an overdose.
- Programs that provide and safely dispose syringes and other injection equipment.
- Teams of staff to respond to communities experiencing a spike in overdoses.

People who use drugs should never use alone. If a trusted family member or friend is not available, call Never Use Alone at 800-484-3731.

For other help:

- Call 211 for information on community services.
- Call 988 for someone to talk to in times of emotional stress.
- Call 911 for life-threatening emergencies.

People who use drugs should never use alone. If a trusted family member or friend is not available, call Never Use Alone at 800-484-3731.

For other help:

Call 211 for information on community services.

Call 988 for someone to talk to in times of emotional stress.

Call 911 for life-threatening emergencies.

Observed each year on August 31, International Overdose Awareness Day is a day to remember those lost to a drug overdose, acknowledge the grief of family and friends left behind, and act to save lives. [View the proclamation from Governor Tony Evers.](#)

For more information about how to build supportive communities where substance use prevention works, treatment is available, and recovery can happen for everyone, visit [Real Talks Wisconsin](#).

###

Ali Maresh

she/her/hers

Communications Director

Office of the Secretary

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

cell: [REDACTED]



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of **HEALTH SERVICES**

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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Ready to release
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 5:19:09 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Any update?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 2:51 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Ready to release

Do you want me to just loop you directly?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 2:48 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Ready to release

I have one question on this that I want to get answered before it goes out - will make a call on that asap and loop back here to confirm I'm good for it to go.

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 2:47 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Ready to release

Yep!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 2:43 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Ready to release

Tomorrow?

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 2:15:35 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Ready to release

FYI

From: Mayers, Patricia A - DOR <PatriciaA.Mayers@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 2:15:07 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Ready to release

Planning on this afternoon or tomorrow morning. Any preference?

Patty Mayers

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Communications Director

Wisconsin Department of Revenue



PatriciaA.mayers@wisconsin.gov



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Twitter: @wi_revenue

Wisconsin Department of

Revenue



Connect with us!

Twitter: @wi_revenue







From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Back to School
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 7:19:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Have a few thoughts but can save for tomorrow – thanks, CU!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 6:15 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fw: Back to School

Any flags with the below b2s visits for the LG? I will be asking that they do NOT go to Oregon as DPI will be going on that exact day. Any other flags? I'll have on my list for tomorrow.

Best,

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Feller, Marissa - LTGOV <marissa.feller@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 1:50 PM
To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Denhart, Chandler - LTGOV <chandler.denhart@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Back to School

Hi Corissa,

Thanks for sending this over – super helpful! Just wanted to flag that we added a couple of entries to our scheduling request tracker for your team’s approval so we can start outreach ASAP. Below is some more information, and it’s already in the tracker, but please let me know if you have questions or concerns!

9/5 Back to School Visits: *Oregon School District (Forest Edge – from GO)*, **Columbia County (proposed districts are below, not looking to stop in all of them but this is just what we’re considering), and Beaver Dam Unified School District**

1. **Dane County**

a. Oregon School District

- i. Forest Edge Elementary School
- ii. From GO, locking in with district staff

2. **Columbia County (NEW)**

a. Fall River, town

- i. 2 public
- ii. 2021-22 District Report Card Score: **75.7 – Exceeds Expectations**
- iii. 2021-22 District Enrollment: **489**

b. Lodi, town

- i. 5 public, 1 private
- ii. 2021-22 District Report Card Score: **76.3 – Exceeds Expectations**
- iii. 2021-22 District Enrollment: **1,500**

c. Poynette, rural

- i. 3 public, 1 private
- ii. 2021-22 District Report Card Score: **78.5 – Exceeds Expectations**
- iii. 2021-22 District Enrollment: **1,024**

d. Rio Community, rural

- i. 2 public
- ii. 2021-22 District Report Card Score: **75.4 – Exceeds Expectations**
- iii. 2021-22 District Enrollment: **367**

3. **Dodge County (NEW)**

a. Beaver Dam Unified School District

- i. Beaver Dam Middle School: winners of 2023 NLGA Lt. Governors Scholarship
- ii. We realize this is in the Milwaukee media market, so open to moving to a different day if necessary. We just received the information about it today and it would work nicely on the way back from Columbia County.

9/6 Back to School Visits: **Kewaunee County (again not looking to stop at all necessarily but these are what we’re considering)**

1. **Kewaunee County (NEW)**

a. Kewaunee, town

- i. 3 public, 1 private
- ii. 2021-22 District Report Card Score: **63.9 – Meets Expectations**
- iii. 2021-22 District Enrollment: **906**

b. Algoma, town

- i. 3 public, 1 private
- ii. 2021-22 District Report Card Score: **58.3 – Meets Expectations**
- iii. 2021-22 District Enrollment: **678**

c. Luxemburg-Casco, rural

- i. 4 public, 1 private
- ii. 2021-22 District Report Card Score: **75.9 – Exceeds Expectations**
- iii. 2021-22 District Enrollment: **1,943**

Thanks,

Marissa Feller (*she/her*)

Director of Scheduling

Office of Lieutenant Governor Sara Rodriguez

p: [REDACTED]

e: marissa.feller@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 7:45 PM

To: Feller, Marissa - LTGOV <marissa.feller@wisconsin.gov>; Denhart, Chandler - LTGOV <chandler.denhart@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Back to School

Hey, Team LG,

Just following up with the rest of the day for b2s as you plan your travels 9/5. Outside of joining DPI for that morning event, our ask is that you **avoid** the following districts (as they will already be visited by the Governor or DPI - and we want to spread the love)

- Stanley Boyd
- Viroqua
- MPS
- MMSD
- Markesan
- Greenwood
- Menomonie
- Lomira

- Bristol
- Janesville
- Laona
- Rib Lake
- Prescott
- Maple
- Platteville
- DC Everest
- Shorewood
- Racine
- Fox Point
- Elkhorn
- Oregon
- Westfield
- Washington Island
- Franklin
- Mukwanago
- De Pere

Additionally, to continue to optimize the day, staying away from the Milwaukee Media Market as well as the Duluth/Superior Media Market would likely help optimize the day (as that's where Gov will be!).

Let me know if you have any questions!

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov











From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: ICYMI
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 7:23:38 PM

<https://twitter.com/MattD4th/status/1696608518382444827?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: RE: UWL Chancellor retiring
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 11:47:27 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

IDK If this is the right number, but I have: [REDACTED]

Its definitely from several several years ago.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 11:36 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: UWL Chancellor retiring

Gov will want to call if someone can please get the phone number.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 11:21 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: UWL Chancellor retiring

Buhrandt left a vm letting us know that UWL Chancellor is announcing his retirement today. (Could be out already as I've been in meetings but wanted to send around in case others haven't seen it)

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Thelke, Emma - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Re: Aging Letter
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 2:36:26 PM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image001.png](#)

Reviewed

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 1:47 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Aging Letter

Hi all,

Here is the updated aging letter: [📄 Aging letter.docx](#)

I added an additional paragraph discussing ageism specifically, but can add more if need be.

Thank you,
Emma

Emma Thelke (*she/her*)
Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov



From: Thelke, Emma - GOV

Sent: Friday, August 11, 2023 9:28 AM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: Aging Letter

I agree that there needs to be more on ageism—I know the budget/policy things we have done, but wasn't sure about the discrimination side of things.

The letter that was sent to us talks about how ageism is found in all parts of society (healthcare, housing, technology, financial institutions, etc.) so I could add a sentence to each paragraph I have to relate the budget issues to ageism. For example, I could expand the Medigap Helpline point and discuss the challenges seniors face in getting health insurance coverage and quality care.

I think adding a paragraph that talks solely about ageism and its impacts on older adults could be an option. I could also add in Jacob's transportation suggestion, discuss pandemic isolation, highlight the importance of older adults in Wisconsin communities, etc. Additionally, if comms has any existing language on ageism, I would happily include it in this letter.

Let me know your thoughts on these suggestions or make any new ones. I can get the edits done today.

Thanks,
Emma

Emma Thelke (*she/her*)
Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p [REDACTED]
e. emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, August 11, 2023 9:04 AM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Aging Letter

I also am concerned this talks more about the things we did for seniors but not the discrimination issue?

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2023 10:26:41 PM

To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review

<GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Aging Letter

Incidentally, I'd like to note that none of our content that I'm aware of attributes our workforce challenges to an aging population.

In fact, our team took great care to discuss this issue as a "labor pool shortage," such that it doesn't in any way place blame or even remotely implicate the common attack on aging and older Wisconsinites. So.

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2023 1:16:50 PM

To: GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Aging Letter

Please see response to the attached letter here: [Aging letter](#)

If people could review by EOD Tuesday, that would be appreciated.

Thank you to Emma for drafting this!

Wenona Wolf (*she/her/hers*)

Director of Political Engagement and Planning

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov

c. [REDACTED]

















From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#)
Cc: [Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Tomorrow's AM Check In Call
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:04:31 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-The Instag.png](#)

Might just note that I will connect with him as necessary on any prep for the day.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 3:03 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Tomorrow's AM Check In Call

Hey, all!

GTE is set to be in the air during the 8:15 am Check In Call. Are we all okay if this gets taken down tomorrow? Just looking at his schedule there might not be a lot of time to reschedule. Let me know your thoughts!!

Best,

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov











From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#)
Subject: RE: huddling up
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:09:14 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

I have a 4:00 PM – but will be done by 4:30. If you guys want to start early though – totally fine with me!

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:05 PM
To: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: huddling up

Works for me.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 2:56 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: huddling up

So DHS did not end particularly early. Want me to just come over as soon as my 4pm is done? I think it will be quick.

Mel Barnes

Chief Legal Counsel
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov



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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: huddling up
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:23:13 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Have another item for list - saying this so I don't forget.

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:04:43 PM
To: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: huddling up

Works for me.

--
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 2:56 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: huddling up

So DHS did not end particularly early. Want me to just come over as soon as my 4pm is done? I think it will be quick.

Mel Barnes

Chief Legal Counsel
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov



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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Fwd: Child care bills
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:26:07 PM
Attachments: [FW Co-sponsorship of LRB-3528 LRB-4243 relating to creating a child care reimbursement account program.msg](#)
[FW Co-sponsorship of LRB-3294 LRB-4237 relating to modifying administrative rules relating to assistant child care teachers..msg](#)
[FW Co-sponsorship of LRB-4198 LRB-4242 relating to allowing certified care operators to provide care to up to six children..msg](#)
[FW Co-sponsorship of LRB-3168 LRB-4239 relating to the regulation of large family child care centers.msg](#)
[FW Co-sponsorship of LRB-4197 LRB-4238 relating to Modifying administrative rules regarding the number of child care workers and children in group child care centers.msg](#)

FYI

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Alexander Shur <AShur@madison.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:24:42 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Child care bills

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Can you tell me the governor's thoughts on these new child care bills?

From: Sen.Agard [Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov]
To: Sen.Agard [Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB-3528 / LRB-4243 relating to: creating a child care reimbursement account program
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 15:14:43
Attachment 1: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) 1.jpg
Attachment 2: 23-3528_2.pdf

FYI _____ From: Rep. Goeben
<Rep.Goeben@legis.wisconsin.gov> Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:12 PM To:
*Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate
<ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
ZjQcmQRYFpfptBannerStart
This Message Is From an External Sender
This message came from outside your organization.

ZjQcmQRYFpfptBannerEnd
FYI

From: Rep. Goeben <Rep.Goeben@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:12 PM
To: *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate
<ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Co-sponsorship of LRB-3528 / LRB-4243 relating to: creating a child care reimbursement account program

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 30, 2023
TO: All Legislators
FROM: Rep. Joy Goeben
Sen. Romaine Robert Quinn

RE: Co-sponsorship of LRB-3528 / LRB-4243 relating to: creating a child care reimbursement account program, providing an income tax subtraction for certain contributions to a child care reimbursement account and granting rule-making authority.

DEADLINE: Thursday, August 31, 2023 5:00 P.M.

Families in Wisconsin are facing rising costs across several sectors, including for child care. The average monthly cost for full-time care is \$915 per child—nearly 20% of a family’s income for a family with the median household income. At the same time, child care providers are faced with rising labor costs that make it difficult to attract and retain employees. Additionally, Wisconsin providers are challenged with some of the most rigorous regulations in our nation.

This package of legislation aims to help families afford child care and increase the accessibility of child care in our state through helping providers boost capacity and bringing our regulation

in line with our neighboring states.

LRB-3528 creates a program, similar to a healthcare flexible spending account. Parents or legal guardians may establish accounts from which qualifying child care expenses are paid on a pre-tax basis.

Under the bill, beginning in 2024, a qualifying individual may create a dependent care account. Contributions from all parties (parents, guardians, family members, employers, etc.) cannot exceed \$10,000 in a calendar year and must be used for qualifying child care expenses.

While some individuals have access to dependent care accounts through their employer, LRB-3528 would ensure all Wisconsin families can take advantage of these tax benefits, lowering their state tax liability to make child care more affordable. This plan works in conjunction with the existing Wisconsin state child and dependent care credits. Expenses paid from the account cannot be used to calculate child or dependent care tax credits.

To be added as a co-sponsor to LRB 3528, please reply to this email or call Rep. Goeben's office at 9105 or Sen. Quinn's office at 6-3510 by 5:00 PM on August 31st. All co-sponsors to the Assembly bill will be added to the Senate bill, unless otherwise requested.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Financial Institutions to establish a child care reimbursement account program under which a parent or other legal guardian may create a tax-advantaged account to pay qualifying expenses of a qualifying child. A "qualifying child" is a dependent who is less than 13 years of age. "Qualifying expenses" are, with limitations, expenses for the care of a qualifying child or household services incurred to enable the parent or legal guardian to be gainfully employed.

Under the bill, after a parent or legal guardian (account owner) of a qualifying child has established a child care reimbursement account (account), any person, with the account owner's permission, may contribute to the account, but the maximum total contribution per account per calendar year is \$10,000. Persons may deduct contributions to an account for state income tax purposes. A person may not establish an account if the person or the person's spouse participates in an employer-sponsored dependent care assistance program that for federal income tax purposes excludes any amount of income used to pay dependent care expenses. Only an account owner may withdraw funds held in an account, and the account owner may withdraw these funds only to pay for the qualifying expenses of a qualifying child. Generally, if funds contributed to an account are not expended for qualifying expenses in the calendar year they were contributed, the funds are forfeited.

The bill requires DFI to contract with a vendor to administer the program. The program vendor may charge fees to account owners to cover the cost of administering the program and may retain any unused contributions that are forfeited at the end of the year. The contract between DFI and the vendor must require the vendor, upon request, to provide information to the Department of Revenue for purposes of verifying account contributions and withdrawals. Because this bill relates to an exemption from state or local taxes, it may be referred to the Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions for a report to be printed as an appendix to the bill.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to

this bill.

Choices in Childcare

Expanding Access to Quality Care



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3528/2
ARG&KP:skw

2023 BILL

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 16.705 (1b) (d) and 16.71 (5r); and *to create* 71.05 (6) (a) 30.,
2 71.05 (6) (b) 57. and 224.55 of the statutes; **relating to:** creating a child care
3 reimbursement account program, providing an income tax subtraction for
4 certain contributions to a child care reimbursement account, and granting
5 rule-making authority.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Financial Institutions to establish a child care reimbursement account program under which a parent or other legal guardian may create a tax-advantaged account to pay qualifying expenses of a qualifying child. A “qualifying child” is a dependent who is less than 13 years of age. “Qualifying expenses” are, with limitations, expenses for the care of a qualifying child or household services incurred to enable the parent or legal guardian to be gainfully employed.

Under the bill, after a parent or legal guardian (account owner) of a qualifying child has established a child care reimbursement account (account), any person, with the account owner’s permission, may contribute to the account, but the maximum total contribution per account per calendar year is \$10,000. Persons may deduct contributions to an account for state income tax purposes. A person may not establish an account if the person or the person’s spouse participates in an employer-sponsored dependent care assistance program that for federal income tax purposes excludes any amount of income used to pay dependent care expenses. Only

BILL

an account owner may withdraw funds held in an account, and the account owner may withdraw these funds only to pay for the qualifying expenses of a qualifying child. Generally, if funds contributed to an account are not expended for qualifying expenses in the calendar year they were contributed, the funds are forfeited.

The bill requires DFI to contract with a vendor to administer the program. The program vendor may charge fees to account owners to cover the cost of administering the program and may retain any unused contributions that are forfeited at the end of the year. The contract between DFI and the vendor must require the vendor, upon request, to provide information to the Department of Revenue for purposes of verifying account contributions and withdrawals.

Because this bill relates to an exemption from state or local taxes, it may be referred to the Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions for a report to be printed as an appendix to the bill.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 16.705 (1b) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 16.705 **(1b)** (d) The department of financial institutions under s. 224.51 or
3 224.55.

4 **SECTION 2.** 16.71 (5r) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 16.71 **(5r)** The department shall delegate authority to the department of
6 financial institutions to enter into vendor contracts under s. 224.51 and to enter into
7 vendor contracts under s. 224.55 (3).

8 **SECTION 3.** 71.05 (6) (a) 30. of the statutes is created to read:

9 71.05 **(6)** (a) 30. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023, any
10 amount distributed during the taxable year from a child care reimbursement
11 account established under s. 224.55 that was not used to pay for a qualifying expense,
12 as defined in s. 224.55 (1) (d), except that this subdivision applies only to amounts
13 for which a subtraction was made under par. (b) 57.

14 **SECTION 4.** 71.05 (6) (b) 57. of the statutes is created to read:

BILL

1 71.05 (6) (b) 57. a. For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023, an
2 amount equal to a contribution made during the taxable year to a child care
3 reimbursement account established under s. 224.55.

4 b. The total of the subtraction made under this subdivision and any deduction
5 under section 162 of the Internal Revenue Code for contributions to a child care
6 reimbursement account established under s. 224.55 may not exceed an amount equal
7 to \$10,000 in a taxable year, or \$5,000 for an account owned by a person who is
8 married and files separately.

9 c. No subtraction may be made under this subdivision for an amount
10 distributed from a child care reimbursement account established under s. 224.55 and
11 used to claim a credit under section 21 of the Internal Revenue Code.

12 **SECTION 5.** 224.55 of the statutes is created to read:

13 **224.55 Child care reimbursement accounts. (1) DEFINITIONS.** In this
14 section:

15 (a) “Account owner” means the parent or legal guardian of a qualifying child
16 who has established a child care reimbursement account under this section.

17 (b) “Child care reimbursement account” means an account established under
18 this section.

19 (c) “Qualifying child” has the meaning given for “qualifying individual” under
20 section 21 (b) (1) (A) of the Internal Revenue Code.

21 (d) “Qualifying expenses” has the meaning given for “employment-related
22 expenses” under section 21 (b) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code.

23 **(2) PROGRAM.** (a) The department shall establish a child care reimbursement
24 account program. The program shall allow a parent or other legal guardian with a

BILL

1 qualifying child to establish a child care reimbursement account from which
2 qualifying expenses are paid.

3 (b) Any person, with the account owner's permission, may contribute to a child
4 care reimbursement account. The maximum contribution that may be made to such
5 an account in a calendar year is \$10,000.

6 (c) Subject to par. (e), only an account owner may withdraw funds held in a child
7 care reimbursement account, and the account owner may withdraw these funds only
8 to pay for the qualifying expenses of a qualifying child.

9 (d) Subject to par. (e), any funds contributed to a child care reimbursement
10 account during a calendar year that are not expended for qualifying expenses
11 incurred by December 31 of that year are forfeited to the program vendor under sub.
12 (3) (a).

13 (e) If a qualifying child's death results in there being no qualifying child for a
14 child care reimbursement account, all of the following apply:

15 1. The account owner may direct the vendor to distribute the balance of the
16 child care reimbursement account, including principal and earnings, to those
17 persons who contributed to the account in proportion to their contributions, except
18 that contributions made by the account owner's employer shall not be so distributed.

19 2. If the vendor required the account owner to make an advance commitment
20 of contributions for the calendar year in which the death occurs, the account owner
21 may rescind this commitment and halt future contributions to the account.

22 (f) No person may establish a child care reimbursement account or contribute
23 to the person's child care reimbursement account if, for the same taxable year, any
24 amount is excluded from the income of the person or the person's spouse under
25 section 129 of the Internal Revenue Code.

From: Sen.Agard [Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov]
To: Sen.Agard [Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB-3294 / LRB-4237 relating to: modifying administrative rules relating to assistant child care teachers.
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 15:13:32
Attachment 1: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) 1.jpg
Attachment 2: 23-3294_1.pdf

FYI _____ From: Rep. Goeben
<Rep.Goeben@legis.wisconsin.gov> Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:11 PM To:
*Legislative All Senate <ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Assembly
<ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>
ZjQcmQRYFpfptBannerStart
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ZjQcmQRYFpfptBannerEnd
FYI

From: Rep. Goeben <Rep.Goeben@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:11 PM
To: *Legislative All Senate <ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Assembly
<ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Co-sponsorship of LRB-3294 / LRB-4237 relating to: modifying administrative rules relating to assistant child care teachers.

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 30, 2023
TO: All Legislators
FROM: Rep. Joy Goeben
Sen. Joan Ballweg

RE: Co-sponsorship of LRB-3294 / LRB-4237 relating to: modifying administrative rules relating to assistant child care teachers.

DEADLINE: Thursday, August 31, 2023, 5:00 P.M.

Families in Wisconsin are facing rising costs across several sectors, including child care. The average monthly cost for full-time care is \$915 per child—nearly 20% of a family’s income for a family with the median household income. At the same time, child care providers are faced with rising labor costs that make it difficult to attract and retain employees. Additionally, Wisconsin providers are challenged with some of the most rigorous regulations in our nation.

This package of legislation aims to help families afford child care and increase the accessibility of child care in our state through helping providers boost capacity and bringing our regulation

in line with our neighboring states.

The goal of LRB-3294 is to assist in alleviating the shortage of qualified child care workers by modifying DCF rules pertaining to assistant child care teachers in group child care centers. Under current administrative code, a person hired to be an assistant child care teacher in a licensed group child care facility must be at least 18 or 17 years old, depending upon the person's qualifications. This bill:

1. Lowers the minimum age from 17 to 16 years to become an assistant child care teacher or school-age group leader.
2. Lowers the minimum age from 18 to 16 years to independently provide sole supervision to a group of children.
3. Allows assistant child care teachers to supervise children in full-day care centers without restrictions related to opening and closing hours, designated nap times, and time limits.

This bill maintains the current requirement for training of assistant child care teachers and the requirement that sole supervision by assistant child care teachers is allowed only if there is a qualified school-age program leader on the premises.

These changes will allow Wisconsin high schools offering early childhood education classes and programs to recommend their 16-year-old students to local child care centers to build practical experience and interest in the field. Additionally, child care centers can count the 16-year-old students in DCF required worker to child ratios, which will help open child care slots, alleviate the child care worker shortage and lessen the burden of overworked child care providers.

To be added as a co-sponsor, please reply to this email or call Rep. Goeben's office at 9105 or Sen. Ballweg's office at 6-0751 by 5:00 PM on August 31st. All co-sponsors to the Assembly bill will be added to the Senate bill, unless otherwise requested.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Children and Families regulates child care providers and is required to promulgate rules to carry out that function. Under rules promulgated by DCF, a person hired to be an assistant child care teacher must be at least 18 or 17 years old, depending on the qualifications the person meets. An assistant child care teacher or school-age group leader who is at least 18 years old and has completed the training required for the position may provide sole supervision to a group of school-age children for up to 45 minutes if there is a qualified school-age program leader or child care teacher on the premises, and an assistant child care teacher may provide sole supervision to a group of children in full-day centers for up to two hours during opening and closing hours and during the center's designated naptime.

This bill modifies the DCF rules to lower the minimum age at which a person may become an assistant child care teacher or school-age group leader from 17 to 16 and to lower the minimum age at which an assistant child care teacher or school-age group leader may provide sole supervision to a group of children from 18 to 16. The bill also removes the restrictions that a supervising assistant child care teacher may provide sole supervision to a group of children in

full-day centers only during opening and closing hours and during the center's designated naptime and only for up to two hours and that a supervising school-age group leader or assistant child care teacher may provide sole supervision to a group of school-age children only for up to 45 minutes.



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3294/1
MDE:cjs

2023 BILL

1 **AN ACT relating to:** modifying administrative rules relating to assistant child
2 care teachers.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Children and Families regulates child care providers and is required to promulgate rules to carry out that function. Under rules promulgated by DCF, a person hired to be an assistant child care teacher must be at least 18 or 17 years old, depending on the qualifications the person meets. An assistant child care teacher or school-age group leader who is at least 18 years old and has completed the training required for the position may provide sole supervision to a group of school-age children for up to 45 minutes if there is a qualified school-age program leader or child care teacher on the premises, and an assistant child care teacher may provide sole supervision to a group of children in full-day centers for up to two hours during opening and closing hours and during the center's designated naptime.

This bill modifies the DCF rules to lower the minimum age at which a person may become an assistant child care teacher or school-age group leader from 17 to 16 and to lower the minimum age at which an assistant child care teacher or school-age group leader may provide sole supervision to a group of children from 18 to 16. The bill also removes the restrictions that a supervising assistant child care teacher may provide sole supervision to a group of children in full-day centers only during opening and closing hours and during the center's designated naptime and only for up to two hours and that a supervising school-age group leader or assistant child

BILL

care teacher may provide sole supervision to a group of school-age children only for up to 45 minutes.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** DCF 251.05 (3) (g) 2. a. of the administrative code is amended to
2 read:

3 DCF 251.05 **(3)** (g) 2. a. Be at least ~~18~~ 16 years old and have satisfactorily
4 completed 2 credits in early childhood education or its equivalent within 6 months
5 after assuming the position.

6 **SECTION 2.** DCF 251.05 (3) (g) 2. b. of the administrative code is amended to
7 read:

8 DCF 251.05 **(3)** (g) 2. b. Be at least ~~18~~ 16 years old and have satisfactorily
9 completed one, non-credit department-approved course in early childhood
10 education within 6 months after assuming the position.

11 **SECTION 3.** DCF 251.05 (3) (g) 2. c. of the administrative code is amended to
12 read:

13 DCF 251.05 **(3)** (g) 2. c. Be at least ~~17~~ 16 years of age and have satisfactorily
14 completed an assistant child care teacher training program approved by the
15 Wisconsin department of public instruction, 2 credits in early childhood education
16 or its equivalent, or a noncredit department-approved course in early childhood
17 education.

18 **SECTION 4.** DCF 251.055 (1) (c) of the administrative code is amended to read:

19 DCF 251.055 **(1)** (c) Assistant child care teachers who are at least ~~18~~ 16 years
20 of age and have completed the training required for the position may provide sole
21 supervision to a group of children in full-day centers ~~for opening and closing hours,~~

BILL

1 ~~not to exceed the first 2 hours and the last 2 hours of center operation, and during~~
2 ~~the center's designated naptime, not to exceed 2 hours.~~

3 **SECTION 5.** DCF 251.055 (1) (i) of the administrative code is amended to read:

4 DCF 251.055 (1) (i) No person under ~~18~~ 16 years of age shall be left in sole
5 charge of a child.

6 **SECTION 6.** DCF 251.095 (2m) (d) of the administrative code is amended to read:

7 DCF 251.095 (2m) (d) Notwithstanding s. DCF 251.055 (1) (c), a school-age
8 group leader who has completed the training required under s. DCF 251.094 (5) (c)
9 3. or an assistant child care teacher who has completed the training required under
10 s. DCF 251.05 (3) (g) 2. and is age ~~18~~ 16 or over may provide sole supervision for a
11 group of school-age children ~~for no more than 45 minutes~~ if there is a qualified
12 school-age program leader or child care teacher on the premises.

13 **SECTION 7. Effective date.**

14 (1) Notwithstanding s. 227.265, this act takes effect on the day after
15 publication.

16 (END)

From: Sen.Agard [Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov]
To: Sen.Agard [Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4198 / LRB-4242 relating to: allowing certified care operators to provide care to up to six children.
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 15:13:12
Attachment 1: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) 1.jpg
Attachment 2: 23-4198_1.pdf

FYI _____ From: Rep. Goeben
<Rep.Goeben@legis.wisconsin.gov> Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:11 PM To:
*Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate
<ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
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FYI

From: Rep.Goeben <Rep.Goeben@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:11 PM
To: *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate
<ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4198 / LRB-4242 relating to: allowing certified care operators to provide care to up to six children.

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 30, 2023
TO: All Legislators
FROM: Rep. Joy Goeben
Sen. Romaine Robert Quinn

RE: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4198 / LRB-4242 relating to: allowing certified care operators to provide care to up to six children.

DEADLINE: Thursday, August 31, 2023 5:00 P.M.

Families in Wisconsin are facing rising costs across several sectors, including child care. The average monthly cost for full-time care is \$915 per child—nearly 20% of a family’s income for a family with the median household income. At the same time, child care providers are faced with rising labor costs that make it difficult to attract and retain employees. Additionally, Wisconsin providers are challenged with some of the most rigorous regulation in our nation.

This package of legislation aims to help families afford child care and increase the accessibility of child care in our state through helping providers boost capacity and to some degree, associates our regulations with neighboring states.

Certified child care providers are an important component in solving Wisconsin’s child care

crisis. Certified providers are restrained by outdated state regulations which limit the number of children a provider can supervise, while discouraging unregulated providers from becoming certified.

Under current law, certified providers can only care for up to 3 children that are not their own. In addition, they are permitted to care for 3 of their own children, for a maximum of 6 total children.

This bill allows a certified child care provider to, for compensation including payments under Wisconsin Shares, provide care and supervision to up to six children under the age of seven regardless of whether the children are related to the provider and without having to obtain a license from DCF. These numbers are reduced if caring for younger children (See table).

Certification requirements ensure child care programs offer healthy and safe environments for children to grow and learn. By updating current statutes, LRB-4198 equalizes ratios for certified child care providers to practice to the full extent of their training.

Proposed Maximum Number of Children in Certified Care

Number of Children in Certified Care (Related or Unrelated)	Maximum Number of Children
0 - 6	6

WHEN CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 2 YEARS ARE PRESENT

Number of Children Under 2 Years of Age	Maximum Number of Children
0	6
1	6
2	6
3	5
4	4

To support LRB-4198 as a co-sponsor, please reply to this email or call Rep. Goeben's office at 9105 or Sen. Quinn's office at 6-3510 by 5:00 PM on August 31st. All co-sponsors to the Assembly bill will be added to the Senate bill, unless otherwise requested.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person must obtain a license from the Department of Children and Families in order to, for compensation including payments under Wisconsin Shares, provide care and supervision for four or more children under the age of seven for less than 24 hours a day. A person who provides care for fewer than four children under the age of seven for less than 24 hours a day may receive Wisconsin Shares payments if the person is certified by DCF. Under current DCF rules, a person certified by DCF, called a certified child care operator, may care for up to three children who are unrelated to the operator and up to six children in total.

Under this bill, certified child care operators may care for up to six children under the age

of seven in total, regardless of whether the children are related to the operator.



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4198/1
MDE:wlj

2023 BILL

1 **AN ACT to amend** 48.65 (1); and **to create** 48.651 (4) of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** allowing certified child care operators to provide care to up to six children.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person must obtain a license from the Department of Children and Families in order to, for compensation including payments under Wisconsin Shares, provide care and supervision for four or more children under the age of seven for less than 24 hours a day. A person who provides care for fewer than four children under the age of seven for less than 24 hours a day may receive Wisconsin Shares payments if the person is certified by DCF. Under current DCF rules, a person certified by DCF, called a certified child care operator, may care for up to three children who are unrelated to the operator and up to six children in total.

Under this bill, certified child care operators may care for up to six children under the age of seven in total, regardless of whether the children are related to the operator.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 48.65 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:
4 48.65 (1) ~~No~~ Except as provided under s. 48.651 (4), no person may for
5 compensation provide care and supervision for 4 or more children under the age of

BILL**SECTION 1**

1 7 for less than 24 hours a day unless that person obtains a license to operate a child
2 care center from the department. To obtain a license under this subsection to operate
3 a child care center, a person must meet the minimum requirements for a license
4 established by the department under s. 48.67, meet the requirements specified in s.
5 48.686, and pay the license fee under sub. (3). A license issued under this subsection
6 is valid until revoked or suspended, but shall be reviewed every 2 years as provided
7 in s. 48.66 (5).

8 **SECTION 2.** 48.651 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

9 48.651 (4) (a) Except as provided in pars. (b) and (c), a person certified under
10 this section may care for up to 6 children under the age of 7, regardless of whether
11 the children are related to the provider.

12 (b) If the person is caring for 3 children under the age of 2, the person may care
13 for up to 5 children in total.

14 (c) If the person is caring for 4 children under the age of 2, the person may care
15 for up to 4 children in total.

16 (END)

From: Sen.Agard [Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov]
To: Sen.Agard [Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB-3168 / LRB-4239 relating to: the regulation of large family child care centers
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 15:12:42
Attachment 1: Picture (Device Independent Bitmap) 1.jpg
Attachment 2: 23-3168_1.pdf

FYI _____ From: Rep. Goeben
<Rep.Goeben@legis.wisconsin.gov> Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:12 PM To:
*Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate
<ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
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FYI

From: Rep. Goeben <Rep.Goeben@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:12 PM
To: *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate
<ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Co-sponsorship of LRB-3168 / LRB-4239 relating to: the regulation of large family child care centers

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 30, 2023
TO: All Legislators
FROM: Rep. Joy Goeben
Sen. Joan Ballweg

RE: Co-sponsorship of LRB-3168 / LRB-4239 relating to: the regulation of large family child care centers.

DEADLINE: Thursday, August 31, 2023 5:00 P.M.

Families in Wisconsin are facing rising costs across several sectors, including child care. The average monthly cost for full-time care is \$915 per child—nearly 20% of a family's income for a family with the median household income. At the same time, child care providers are faced with rising labor costs that make it difficult to attract and retain employees. Additionally, Wisconsin providers are challenged with some of the most rigorous regulations in our nation.

This package of legislation aims to help families afford child care and increase the accessibility of child care in our state through helping providers boost capacity and bringing our regulation in line with our neighboring states.

Finding available child care has become a significant problem for Wisconsin's working families. Some estimates place the deficit of child care slots at over 100,000, with rural areas hit especially hard.

LRB 3168 is aimed at helping to expand the supply of new child care slots by creating a new category in Wisconsin for family day care providers, a program that is already offered in 37 other states. Currently, there are three different categories of state licensed child care:

1. Family Child Care Centers (Family Centers) provide care for between four and eight children. Care is usually in the provider's home.
2. Group Child Care Centers (Group Centers) provide care for nine or more children. These centers are usually located somewhere other than a residence and may be small or large in size.
3. Day Camps are seasonal programs that provide experiences for four or more children three years of age and older. These programs usually operate in an outdoor setting.

A fourth category created under this bill is called 'Large Family Child Care Centers' (Large Family). Large Family will provide care and supervision for between four and 12 children with two employees providing care and supervision to the children at all times. Large Family care will be subject to worker-to-child ratios, just like family and group centers.

This bill creates a win-win environment benefiting working parents and parent owner-operators of child care centers. Creating a Large Family license will add up to four child care slots per center, thereby helping to alleviate the backlog of parents seeking care, shortening wait list times and maintaining quality care.

To be added as a co-sponsor, please reply to this email or call Rep. Goeben's office at 9105 or Sen. Ballweg's office at 6-0751 by 5:00 PM on August 31st. All co-sponsors to the Assembly bill will be added to the Senate bill, unless otherwise requested.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person must obtain a license from the Department of Children and Families in order to, for compensation, provide care and supervision for four or more children under the age of seven for less than 24 hours a day. Under current DCF rules, DCF regulates a child care center that provides care and supervision for four to eight children as a "family child

care center” and one that provides care and supervision for nine or more children as a “group child care center.” The rules specify, among other things, the required ratio of providers to children in each type of child care center.

This bill requires DCF to establish a category of licensed child care centers that provide care and supervision for four to 12 children (“large family child care centers”). The bill requires DCF to regulate a large family child care center in the same way that it regulates smaller family child care centers with two exceptions: 1) DCF must require that, for a group of nine to 12 children, two employees must provide care and supervision to the children at all times, and 2) DCF's regulation of large family child care centers may differ from those of smaller family child care centers to the extent necessary to safely accommodate a larger group of children. The bill prohibits a large family child care center from providing care and supervision for more than eight children at one time who are two years of age or younger. Under the current DCF rule for family child care centers, that limit is four children at one time who are two years of age or younger.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3168/1
EHS:cdc

2023 BILL

1 **AN ACT** *to renumber and amend* 48.67; *to amend* 48.65 (3) (a); and *to create*
2 48.67 (1b) and 48.67 (2m) of the statutes; **relating to:** the regulation of large
3 family child care centers.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a person must obtain a license from the Department of Children and Families in order to, for compensation, provide care and supervision for four or more children under the age of seven for less than 24 hours a day. Under current DCF rules, DCF regulates a child care center that provides care and supervision for four to eight children as a “family child care center” and one that provides care and supervision for nine or more children as a “group child care center.” The rules specify, among other things, the required ratio of providers to children in each type of child care center.

This bill requires DCF to establish a category of licensed child care centers that provide care and supervision for four to 12 children (“large family child care centers”). The bill requires DCF to regulate a large family child care center in the same way that it regulates smaller family child care centers with two exceptions: 1) DCF must require that, for a group of nine to 12 children, two employees must provide care and supervision to the children at all times, and 2) DCF’s regulation of large family child care centers may differ from those of smaller family child care centers to the extent necessary to safely accommodate a larger group of children. The bill prohibits a large family child care center from providing care and supervision for more than eight children at one time who are two years of age younger. Under the

BILL

current DCF rule for family child care centers, that limit is four children at one time who are two years of age or younger.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 48.65 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 48.65 (3) (a) Except as provided in par. (c), before the department may issue
3 a license under sub. (1) to a child care center that provides care and supervision for
4 4 to 8 children or 4 to 12 children, the child care center must pay to the department
5 a biennial fee of \$60.50. Except as provided in par. (c), before the department may
6 issue a license under sub. (1) to a child care center that provides care and supervision
7 for ~~9~~ 13 or more children, the child care center must pay to the department a biennial
8 fee of \$30.25, plus a biennial fee of \$16.94 per child, based on the number of children
9 that the child care center is licensed to serve. A child care center that wishes to
10 continue a license issued under sub. (1) shall pay the applicable fee under this
11 paragraph by the continuation date of the license. A new child care center shall pay
12 the applicable fee under this paragraph no later than 30 days before the opening of
13 the child care center.

14 **SECTION 2.** 48.67 of the statutes is renumbered 48.67 (1m), and 48.67 (1m) (d)
15 2. and 3., as renumbered, are amended to read:

16 48.67 (1m) (d) 2. The training under ~~par. (a)~~ subd. 1. shall be available to a
17 kinship care relative, as defined in s. 48.40 (1m), upon request of the kinship care
18 relative.

19 3. For a foster parent receiving an initial license, the training under ~~par. (a)~~
20 subd. 1. shall be completed before the first child is placed with the foster parent.

BILL

1 **SECTION 3.** 48.67 (1b) of the statutes is created to read:

2 48.67 **(1b)** In this section, “provider” means an individual who provides care
3 and supervision to children in a child care center licensed under s. 48.65 (1).

4 **SECTION 4.** 48.67 (2m) of the statutes is created to read:

5 48.67 **(2m)** (a) In the rules under sub. (1m), the department shall establish a
6 category of child care centers licensed under s. 48.65 (1) that provide care and
7 supervision for 4 to 12 children.

8 (b) The department shall regulate a child care center described in par. (a) in the
9 same way that it regulates centers that are licensed to provide care and supervision
10 for 4 to 8 children except for all of the following:

11 1. The department shall require that for a group of 9 to 12 children, 2 providers
12 provide care and supervision at all times.

13 2. The department may regulate a child care center described under par. (a)
14 differently from a child care center that provides care and supervision for 4 to 8
15 children to the extent necessary to safely accommodate a larger group of children.

16 (c) A child care center described under par. (a) may not provide care and
17 supervision for more than 8 children at one time who are 2 years of age or younger.

18

(END)

From: [Sen.Agard](#)
To: [Sen.Agard](#)
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4197 / LRB-4238 relating to: Modifying administrative rules regarding the number of child care workers and children in group child care centers
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:12:36 PM
Attachments: [23-4197_2.pdf](#)

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FYI

From: Rep.Goeben <Rep.Goeben@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:11 PM
To: *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate <ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4197 / LRB-4238 relating to: Modifying administrative rules regarding the number of child care workers and children in group child care centers



CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 30, 2023
TO: All Legislators
FROM: Rep. Joy Goeben
Sen. Joan Ballweg

RE: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4197 / LRB-4238 relating to: Modifying administrative rules regarding the number of child care workers and children in group child care centers.

DEADLINE: Thursday, August 31, 2023

Families in Wisconsin are facing rising costs across several sectors, including child care. The average monthly cost for full-time care is \$915 per child—nearly 20% of a family's income for a family with the median household income. At the same time, child care providers are faced with rising labor costs that make it difficult to attract and retain employees. Additionally, Wisconsin providers are challenged with some of the most rigorous regulations in our nation.

This package of legislation aims to help families afford child care and increase the accessibility of child care in our state through helping providers boost capacity and bringing our regulation in line with our neighboring states.

LRB-4149 increases the maximum group size and minimum number of child care workers for certain child age categories in a Group Child Care Center (Group Centers) as regulated by the Department of Children and Families (DCF). These changes support Wisconsin families and providers by more closely aligning our ratios with child care ratios found in our neighboring states, including recognizing key developmental stages (such as separating the infancy stage

from 1-2 year olds). The legislation will also allow child care centers to lower their ratio based upon the class sizes for the same age group at the local school district.

Under current administrative code, group centers must adhere to the following staffing ratios and maximum group sizes:

Age of Children	Minimum	Maximum
Birth to Age 2	1 - 4	8
2 Years to 2.5 Years	1 - 6	12
2.5 Years to 3 Years	1 - 8	16
3 Years to 4 Years	1 - 10	20
4 Years to 5 Years	1 - 13	26
5 Years and Over	1 - 18	36

LRB-4197 adjusts ratios and maximum group sizes to the following:

Age of Children	Minimum	Maximum
Birth to Age 1	1 - 4	8
1 Year to 2.5 Years	1 - 6	12
2.5 Years to 3 Years	1 - 9	18
3 Years to 4 Years	1 - 12	24
3 Years to 5 Years	1 - 15	30
5 Years and Over	1 - 20	40

This bill aligns Wisconsin's worker-to-child ratio requirements to our neighboring states, while maintaining the discretion of group center administrators, who can choose to continue with higher ratios based on the needs of their workers, children and families. These adjustments will benefit parents and group centers by increasing the availability of child care slots and bringing in additional revenue for group centers.

To be added as a co-sponsor, please reply to this email or call Rep. Goeben's office at 9105 or Sen. Ballweg office at 6-0751 by 5:00 PM on August 31st. All co-sponsors to the Assembly bill will be added to the Senate bill, unless otherwise requested.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill changes the administrative code to increase 1) the number of children in the ratio of minimum number of child care workers to children in a group child care center and 2) the maximum number of children per age who can be in a group child care center.

The bill also provides that a group child care center may adjust its ratio of child care workers to children to match the average ratio of teachers to pupils in the school district where the group child care center is located.



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4197/2
MDE:wlj&klm

2023 BILL

1 **AN ACT relating to:** modifying administrative rules regarding the number of
2 child care workers and children in group child care centers.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill changes the administrative code to increase 1) the number of children in the ratio of minimum number of child care workers to children in a group child care center and 2) the maximum number of children per age who can be in a group child care center.

The bill also provides that a group child care center may adjust its ratio of child care workers to children to match the average ratio of teachers to pupils in the school district where the group child care center is located.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** DCF 251.055 (2) (b) of the administrative code is amended to read:

4 DCF 251.055 (2) (b) The Except as provided in par. (n), the ratio of child care
5 workers to children may not be less than the minimum number of child care workers
6 to children specified in Table 251.055.

7 **SECTION 2.** DCF 251.055 (2) (n) of the administrative code is created to read:

BILL

1 DCF 251.055 (2) (n) 1. If the center is located in a school district where, in
 2 4-year-old kindergarten, the average ratio of teachers to pupils is lower than the
 3 number specified in Table DCF 251.055 for children ages 4 years to 5 years, the
 4 center may lower its ratio of child care workers to children for children ages 4 years
 5 to 5 years to match the average ratio in 4-year-old kindergarten in the school
 6 district.

7 2. If the center is located in a school district where, in 5-year-old kindergarten
 8 to 5th grade, the average ratio of teachers to pupils is lower than the number
 9 specified in Table DCF 251.055 for children ages 5 years and older, the center may
 10 lower its ratio of child care workers to children for children ages 5 years and older
 11 to match the average ratio in 5-year-old kindergarten to 5th grade in the school
 12 district.

13 **SECTION 3.** DCF 251.055 (table) of the administrative code is amended to read:

TABLE DCF 251.055		
Maximum Group Size and Minimum Number of		
Child Care Workers in Group Child Care Centers		
Age of Children	Minimum Number of Child Care Workers to Children	Maximum Number of Children in a Group
Birth to 2 Years <u>1</u> Year	1:4	8
2 years <u>1</u> Year to 2 1/2 Years	1:6	12
2 1/2 Years to 3 Years	1:8 <u>1:9</u>	16 <u>18</u>
3 Years to 4 Years	1:10 <u>1:12</u>	20 <u>24</u>
4 Years to 5 Years	1:13 <u>1:15</u>	26 <u>30</u>
5 Years and Over	1:18 <u>1:20</u>	36 <u>40</u>

14 **SECTION 4. Effective date.**

15 (1) Notwithstanding s. 227.265, this act takes effect on the day after
 16 publication.

17 (END)

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Campbell, Derek - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Thelke, Emma - GOV](#)
Subject: RE: Letter to State Medicaid Directors
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:51:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Let us know what you hear back.

From: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:40 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to State Medicaid Directors

FYSA. Forwarded to HJ and Jamie in they didn't already receive it. Can check with DHS to see if there is anything unexpected in this letter.

--

Derek Campbell
State Federal Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov



From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 1:04 PM
To: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>; Kahan, Zach (OS/IEA) <Zach.Kahan@hhs.gov>
Subject: Letter to State Medicaid Directors

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear State Partners,

Attached please find a letter to State Medicaid Directors from CMS regarding the Medicaid redeterminations process. As part of its ongoing work to make sure all Americans have access to health care coverage, CMS sent a letter to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands requiring them to determine whether they have an eligibility systems issue that could cause people, especially children, to be disenrolled from Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) even if they are still eligible for coverage, and requiring them to

immediately act to correct the problem and reinstate coverage.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions. Best,

Lee

Lee Stevens
Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary
Intergovernmental and External Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
[REDACTED]







From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Subject: RE: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:00:15 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Good here

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:54 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

Her thought was to have the following additional items: (She said to let her know if there are other things we would like to add to the list)

Jackets, t-shirts, polos, and vests in addition to the button up.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 2:41 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

I think this looks good assuming there are other clothes options to put the logo on....

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 12:45 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

Thoughts?

Kelly Becker *(she/her)*

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 12:32 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

Hi Kelly, see attached the new mock up of the apparel logo.

Amelia Neas

Trips Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov

From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 9:15:46 AM
To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

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Amelia-

Please see attached updated logo

LMK your thoughts

Thanks!

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative

8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300) (o) | [608.712.8081](tel:608.712.8081) (m)



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Hi Chuck,

I apologize for the delay on my end in getting back to you. I got final feedback from the team and the consensus is they would like to see a proof of the logo without the State Seal in it. Instead hoping we can get a logo that say "Office of the Governor Tony Evers" This would be in the same font as the first logo you sent over.

-thanks!

Amelia Neas

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative

8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Chuck Chandler** <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Date: Fri, Jul 28, 2023 at 9:26 AM

Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Amelia-

Please see attached proofs on a long sleeve dress shirt & polo shirt with an embroidered logo

LMK your thoughts

Thanks!

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative
8505 University Green #110
Middleton WI 53562

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From: **Neas, Amelia - GOV** <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Thu, Jul 27, 2023 at 11:45 AM

Subject: RE: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

To: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Hi Chuck,

This is what I was able to get from our digital team. Would it be possible to see proofs of both the logo and the seal on clothing? Additionally, for the logo would we be able to have it navy and white? Thinking it would be nice to have white on navy or black shirts and then the navy color on white shirts. Let me know if this is better for your graphic designers or if they will need something else from us.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2023 9:20 AM
To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

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content is safe.**

Amelia-

Please see the email below from our graphics team

LMK

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative

8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jessie Fuschino** <jfuschino@thinkitmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jul 27, 2023 at 8:33 AM
Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel
To: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Do they have vector artwork? I cannot grab this logo at all from a word document.

From: **Neas, Amelia - GOV** <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Wed, Jul 26, 2023 at 2:11 PM

Subject: RE: Office Apparel

To: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Hi Chuck,

Thanks so much for the chat! I will start looking at the online store and get things narrowed down for what we are looking to have. I have attached the logo to this email, I am not a graphic designer so let me know if you need this in a different format. The goal would be to have the Office of the Governor logo but in color. I can not find a color option that exists so I included a separate color version. Wondering if it would be possible to get proofs of the color logo just by itself and then an option with Governor Tony Evers below it. Again, let me know if you need anything additional from me for logo purposes.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2023 1:54 PM
To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Office Apparel

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Amelia-

Thanks for taking time to speak with me this afternoon. I enjoyed our conversation!

As promised below is the link to our "on-line" catalog. If there are certain apparel items that you'd like me to get you suggestions on, please let me know

<https://catalog.companycasuals.com/>

I'll forward any logo/graphics info you can get to me onto our graphics team to start preparing proofs & begin building the new web store

Thanks again!

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative

8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

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On Wed, Jul 26, 2023 at 10:29 AM Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov> wrote:

Hi Chuck,

I could connect at 1:30 today if that works on your end.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:58 PM

To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Office Apparel

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the content is safe.**

Amelia-

Thanks for the follow up. Would sometime between 1:30-3pm tomorrow work?

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative

8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

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On Mon, Jul 24, 2023 at 9:15 AM Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov> wrote:

Hi Chuck,

Thanks so much for sending this over. I would have some time tomorrow for a call if that works on you end.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 4:37 PM

To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Office Apparel

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know the content is safe.**

Amelia-

Thanks for reaching out. Yes, we specialize in "on-line web stores". Below are a few samples of current web stores we're hosting for customers

Winn Med (Decorah IA)

https://stores.thinkittheninkit.com/apparel/WinnMed_Apparel_Store

WI Office of Insurance Commissioner

<https://stores.thinkittheninkit.com/Campaigns/Campaign.aspx>

PSC of Wisconsin

<https://stores.thinkittheninkit.com/Campaigns/Campaign.aspx>

Could we set-up a time to have a phone discussion, maybe sometime on Thursday or Friday?

LMK your thoughts

Thanks again!

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative

8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300) (o) | [608.712.8081](tel:608.712.8081) (m)

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On Wed, Jul 19, 2023 at 12:54 PM Neas, Amelia - GOV
<amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov> wrote:

Hi Chuck,

I wanted to reach out to you because our office is hoping to get some office apparel. In talking with other State Agencies it sounds like they have worked with you in the past to set up an online shop for apparel. Hoping to get some more details from you on how this would work and what you would need from me to get this up and running.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



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ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300)

8505 University Green, Middleton, WI 53562

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Jessica Fuschino | Graphic Artist

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300)

8505 University Green, Middleton, WI 53562

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Jessica Fuschino | Graphic Artist

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300)

8505 University Green, Middleton, WI 53562

--

Jessica Fuschino | Graphic Artist

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300)

8505 University Green, Middleton, WI 53562













From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: RE: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:00:44 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Reviewed

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW

Reviewed. Good here.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:58 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW

FROM ME:

While it's great to hear some legislative Republicans are finally acknowledging the child care crisis facing our state, legislation that reduces the quality of care for our kids, fails to keep child care center doors open tomorrow, and provides no immediate help to make child care more affordable for working families simply will not cut it.

The looming collapse of our state's child care industry will be devastating for our kids, families, workers, and economy. Republicans must get serious about meaningfully addressing our state's generational workforce challenges, and that includes making sure child care is affordable and accessible for families across our state.

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov







From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Tomten, Amanda - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:26:31 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)

Thanks, all! Shipping this out.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 4:14 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW

Good here

Amanda Tomten

Legislative Affairs Assistant
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Amanda.Tomten1@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:08 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV

<britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW

Good here!

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:01 PM

To: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW

Good!

From: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:01 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW

Good here

--

Katie Domina

Policy Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:01 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW

Reviewed

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW

Reviewed. Good here.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:58 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: NEED IMMEDIATE REVIEW

FROM ME:

While it's great to hear some legislative Republicans are finally acknowledging the child care crisis facing our state, legislation that reduces the quality of care for our kids, fails to keep child care center doors open tomorrow, and provides no immediate help to make child care more affordable for working families simply will not cut it.

The looming collapse of our state's child care industry will be devastating for our kids, families, workers, and economy. Republicans must get serious about meaningfully addressing our state's generational workforce challenges, and that includes making sure child care is affordable and accessible for families across our state.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov



















From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#)
Cc: [Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV](#)
Subject: RE: Tomorrow's AM Check In Call
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:29:59 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

OK

From: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:29 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Tomorrow's AM Check In Call

I have an item or two but can probably squeeze them in Friday in between other meetings.

Mel Barnes

Chief Legal Counsel
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]
e: mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:04:29 PM
To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Tomorrow's AM Check In Call

Might just note that I will connect with him as necessary on any prep for the day.

--
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 3:03 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Tomorrow's AM Check In Call

Hey, all!

GTE is set to be in the air during the 8:15 am Check In Call. Are we all okay if this gets taken down tomorrow? Just looking at his schedule there might not be a lot of time to reschedule. Let me know your thoughts!!

Best,

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov











From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FW: statement re: GOP child care bills
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:32:42 PM

This is out to press. Amanda, feel free to share with Dems if appropriate so they know we've weighed in.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 4:31 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: statement re: GOP child care bills

See the below statement you may attribute to me regarding the Republican child care bills released late this afternoon:

While it's great to hear some legislative Republicans are finally acknowledging the child care crisis facing our state, legislation that could reduce the quality of care for our kids, fails to keep child care center doors open tomorrow, and provides no immediate help to make child care more affordable for working families simply will not cut it.

The looming collapse of our state's child care industry will be devastating for our kids, families, workers, and economy. Republicans must get serious about meaningfully addressing our state's generational workforce challenges, and that includes making sure child care is affordable and accessible for families across our state.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 7:08:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

And more colors? Or are these it? Sorry these are dumb q's but we've literally talked about doing this for years and IT'S FINALLY HAPPENING so I want to make sure we've got plenty of options.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 4:00 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

Good here

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:54 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

Her thought was to have the following additional items: (She said to let her know if there are other things we would like to add to the list)

Jackets, t-shirts, polos, and vests in addition to the button up.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 2:41 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

I think this looks good assuming there are other clothes options to put the logo on....

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 12:45 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

Thoughts?

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 12:32 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

Hi Kelly, see attached the new mock up of the apparel logo.

Amelia Neas

Trips Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov

From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 9:15:46 AM
To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

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Amelia-
Please see attached updated logo

LMK your thoughts

Thanks!

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative
8505 University Green #110
Middleton WI 53562
ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300) (o) | [608.712.8081](tel:608.712.8081) (m)



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Hi Chuck,

I apologize for the delay on my end in getting back to you. I got final feedback from the team and the consensus is they would like to see a proof of the logo without the State Seal in it. Instead hoping we can get a logo that say "Office of the Governor Tony Evers" This would be in the same font as the first logo you sent over.

-thanks!

Amelia Neas

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative
8505 University Green #110
Middleton WI 53562

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300) (o) | [608.712.8081](tel:608.712.8081) (m)



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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Chuck Chandler** <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>
Date: Fri, Jul 28, 2023 at 9:26 AM
Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel
To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Amelia-

Please see attached proofs on a long sleeve dress shirt & polo shirt with an embroidered logo

LMK your thoughts

Thanks!

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative
8505 University Green #110
Middleton WI 53562

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300) (o) | [608.712.8081](tel:608.712.8081) (m)



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From: **Neas, Amelia - GOV** <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Thu, Jul 27, 2023 at 11:45 AM
Subject: RE: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel
To: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Hi Chuck,

This is what I was able to get from our digital team. Would it be possible to see proofs of

both the logo and the seal on clothing? Additionally, for the logo would we be able to have it navy and white? Thinking it would be nice to have white on navy or black shirts and then the navy color on white shirts. Let me know if this is better for your graphic designers or if they will need something else from us.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2023 9:20 AM
To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

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content is safe.**

Amelia-

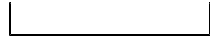
Please see the email below from our graphics team

LMK

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative
8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300) (o) | [608.712.8081](tel:608.712.8081) (m)



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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jessie Fuschino** <jfuschino@thinkitmail.com>

Date: Thu, Jul 27, 2023 at 8:33 AM

Subject: Re: Office of Gov Evers - Web Store Apparel

To: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Do they have vector artwork? I cannot grab this logo at all from a word document.

From: **Neas, Amelia - GOV** <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Wed, Jul 26, 2023 at 2:11 PM

Subject: RE: Office Apparel

To: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Hi Chuck,

Thanks so much for the chat! I will start looking at the online store and get things narrowed down for what we are looking to have. I have attached the logo to this email, I am not a graphic designer so let me know if you need this in a different format. The goal would be to have the Office of the Governor logo but in color. I can not find a color option that exists so I included a separate color version. Wondering if it would be possible to get proofs of the color logo just by itself and then an option with Governor Tony Evers below it. Again, let me know if you need anything additional from me for logo purposes.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 26, 2023 1:54 PM

To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Office Apparel

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content is safe.**

Amelia-

Thanks for taking time to speak with me this afternoon. I enjoyed our conversation!

As promised below is the link to our "on-line" catalog. If there are certain apparel items that you'd like me to get you suggestions on, please let me know

<https://catalog.companycasuals.com/>

I'll forward any logo/graphics info you can get to me onto our graphics team to start preparing proofs & begin building the new web store

Thanks again!

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative

8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300) (o) | [608.712.8081](tel:608.712.8081) (m)



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On Wed, Jul 26, 2023 at 10:29 AM Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov> wrote:

Hi Chuck,

I could connect at 1:30 today if that works on your end.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. 

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 25, 2023 3:58 PM

To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Office Apparel

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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the content is safe.**

Amelia-

Thanks for the follow up. Would sometime between 1:30-3pm tomorrow work?

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative

8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300) (o) | [608.712.8081](tel:608.712.8081) (m)



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On Mon, Jul 24, 2023 at 9:15 AM Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov> wrote:

Hi Chuck,

Thanks so much for sending this over. I would have some time tomorrow for a call if that works on you end.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



From: Chuck Chandler <cchandler@thinkitmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 4:37 PM

To: Neas, Amelia - GOV <amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Office Apparel

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know the content is safe.**

Amelia-

Thanks for reaching out. Yes, we specialize in "on-line web stores". Below are a few samples of current web stores we're hosting for customers

Winn Med (Decorah IA)

https://stores.thinkittheninkit.com/apparel/WinnMed_Apparel_Store

WI Office of Insurance Commissioner

<https://stores.thinkittheninkit.com/Campaigns/Campaign.aspx>

PSC of Wisconsin

<https://stores.thinkittheninkit.com/Campaigns/Campaign.aspx>

Could we set-up a time to have a phone discussion, maybe sometime on Thursday or Friday?

LMK your thoughts

Thanks again!

Chuck Chandler | Sales Representative

8505 University Green #110

Middleton WI 53562

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300) (o) | [608.712.8081](tel:608.712.8081) (m)



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On Wed, Jul 19, 2023 at 12:54 PM Neas, Amelia - GOV
<amelia.neas@wisconsin.gov> wrote:

Hi Chuck,

I wanted to reach out to you because our office is hoping to get some office apparel. In talking with other State Agencies it sounds like they have worked with you in the past to set up an online shop for apparel. Hoping to get some more details from you on how this would work and what you would need from me to get this up and running.

-Thanks,

Amelia Neas

Trips Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. Amelia.Neas@wisconsin.gov



--

Jessica Fuschino | Graphic Artist

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300)

8505 University Green, Middleton, WI 53562

--

Jessica Fuschino | Graphic Artist

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300)

8505 University Green, Middleton, WI 53562

--

Jessica Fuschino | Graphic Artist

ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:608.845.5300)

8505 University Green, Middleton, WI 53562



--

Jessica Fuschino | Graphic Artist
ThinkitTheninkit.com | [608.845.5300](tel:6088455300)
8505 University Green, Middleton, WI 53562













From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Campbell, Derek - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [Thelke, Emma - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Letter to State Medicaid Directors
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 7:10:10 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

FYI – DHS has received press inquiries on this:

CMS is sending letters to the states today asking them to make sure automated Medicaid eligibility systems are making determinations on an individual rather than household basis. That’s creating concerns that children are getting dropped from coverage based parents’ ineligibility or failure to return information. Has this been an issue in Wisconsin and if so is DHS doing anything to address it? My deadline is immediate. Thanks.

They plan to respond with this yet tonight:

Wisconsin received a letter like every other state. Wisconsin has been consulting with federal partners to ensure that our automated system determines eligibility at an individual level so that members of our Medicaid programs are not excluded from administrative renewals because someone else in their household does not meet the criteria to be renewed in this way. DHS plans to maintain coverage for people determined eligible at the individual level even if members of their household fail to complete the renewal process. We are working quickly to restore coverage for anyone who lost eligibility in June or July for this reason.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 3:52 PM
To: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Letter to State Medicaid Directors

Let us know what you hear back.

From: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:40 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Letter to State Medicaid Directors

FYSA. Forwarded to HJ and Jamie in they didn't already receive it. Can check with DHS to see if there is anything unexpected in this letter.

--

Derek Campbell

State Federal Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov



From: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 1:04 PM
To: Stevens, Lee (OS/IEA) <Lee.Stevens@hhs.gov>; Kahan, Zach (OS/IEA) <Zach.Kahan@hhs.gov>
Subject: Letter to State Medicaid Directors

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Dear State Partners,

Attached please find a letter to State Medicaid Directors from CMS regarding the Medicaid redeterminations process. As part of its ongoing work to make sure all Americans have access to health care coverage, CMS sent a letter to all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands requiring them to determine whether they have an eligibility systems issue that could cause people, especially children, to be disenrolled from Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) even if they are still eligible for coverage, and requiring them to immediately act to correct the problem and reinstate coverage.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions. Best,

Lee

Lee Stevens

Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary
Intergovernmental and External Affairs
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: HHS recommendation to reclassify cannabis released today
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 7:12:55 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Can we get some additional info on what this means in practice? I'm not totally clear on mpx.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 2:21 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fw: HHS recommendation to reclassify cannabis released today

FYSA

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: demstatescaucus@googlegroups.com <demstatescaucus@googlegroups.com> on behalf of Sheldon, Mara E. <mara.sheldon@squirepb.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 2:20 PM
To: DEM CAUCUS LIST <demstatescaucus@googlegroups.com>
Subject: HHS recommendation to reclassify cannabis released today

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content is safe.**

All,

You may have seen already but if not, HHS is recommending that cannabis be reclassified on the Controlled Substance List to a Schedule III. This gets rid of the 280(E) tax—a good start. Now DOJ gets to weigh-in.

Mara

Bloomberg Government

[HHS Calls for Moving Marijuana to Lower-Risk US Drug Category](#)

By Riley Griffin / August 30, 2023 12:12PM ET / Bloomberg Government

US health officials are recommending easing restrictions on marijuana, a move that sets the stage for potentially expanding the cannabis market.

A top official at the Department of Health and Human Services wrote Drug Enforcement Agency administrator Anne Milgram calling for marijuana to be reclassified as a Schedule III drug under the Controlled Substances Act, according to a letter dated Aug. 29 seen by Bloomberg News. This would mark a critical shift from its current status as a Schedule I substance, which includes drugs with a high abuse risk like heroin.

Assistant Secretary for Health Rachel Levine said in the letter that her recommendation was based on a Food and Drug Administration review of marijuana's classification. The Controlled Substances Act places substances regulated under federal law into one of five schedules based on its medical use, potential for abuse, and safety or dependence liability.

Marijuana's current classification as a schedule I substance indicates a high potential for abuse with no accepted medical use in the US and a lack of accepted safety for use under medical supervision. Though many US states have allowed use of marijuana, only the FDA has the federal authority to approve drugs for medicinal use across the US.

HHS and DEA didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

In October, President [Joe Biden](#) rolled out initiatives focused on marijuana, including a pardon of all prior federal offenses of simple possession, while urging governors to do the same with state offenses. As a part of the effort, Biden asked the HHS secretary and the US Attorney General to initiate the administrative process to review how marijuana is scheduled under federal law.

--With assistance from Ike Swetlitz.

Mara E. Sheldon

Principal
Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP
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Denver, CO 80202
T +1 303 894 6109
O +1 303 830 1776
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M +1 720 840 1638

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Over 40 Offices across 4 Continents

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To view this discussion on the web visit <https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/demstatescaucus/E8D9530A-7666-432D-BAE5-17AA64F2C6B4%40squirepb.com>.







From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: 16.515/505
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 7:20:34 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Do we have an ETA?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 9:50 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: 16.515/505

Spoke with SBO. They have a draft which can be updated (if needed) as soon as we are square on numbers, and I've asked them to make sure that they are ready as to all other aspects, so hopefully we will be in good shape.

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Tomten, Amanda - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 7:55:03 AM
Attachments: [image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image013.png](#)

Reviewed

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 7:12:08 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports

FWIW – the link doesn't seem to work for me and appears to require a login.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 3:48 PM
To: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports

Reviewed.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:08 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports
Importance: High

<https://wigov.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/wigovernor/Shared%20Documents/Leg-Policy%20Meeting%20Materials/Legislative%20Affairs/Document44.docx?d=weecfe2bbc0914f76bded87e61663a125&csf=1&web=1&e=P1MF6P>

Amanda Tomten

Legislative Affairs Assistant
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]
e. Amanda.Tomten1@wisconsin.gov



From: Connors, Cara - DOA <cara.connors@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:00 PM
To: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports
Importance: High

Hi Amanda,

Please see the draft letter in the attached word document. This is due to be submitted by Friday – apologies for the quick turnaround.

Thank you!



Cara Connors | Legislative Advisor
pronouns: she/her(s)
Department of Administration
cara.connors@wisconsin.gov
O: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED]

From: Cook, Tristan -DOA <tristan.cook2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 11:19 AM
To: Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>; Connors, Cara - DOA <cara.connors@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Zanol, Trina K - DOA <Trina.Zanol@wisconsin.gov>; Sylla, James L - DOA <James.Sylla@wisconsin.gov>; Przekurat, Jennifer - DOA <jennifer.przekurat@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports Ready for Review and Submittal to the Legislature

Hello!

As I noted in my July message, the Large, High IT Project Reports (“LHR”) are due to the Legislature no later than September 1st. In line with the process we established with Carly, I’ve attached a draft letter from Deputy Secretary Hammer that includes a link to the reports and contracts. Former Deputy Secretary Patton was the signatory on the prior LHR report letters. I’ve attached a copy of the March 2023 LHR transmittal letter for your reference.

I’ve also added the link here for your convenience if you wish to review the reports and contracts:
<https://detcc.wi.gov/Shared%20Documents/September2023LHRReports.zip>

I would ask that you forward the email you send to the Legislature so we have a copy for our records.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Tristan



Tristan Cook | Program and Policy Analyst
Department of Administration
Division of Enterprise Technology
Direct: [REDACTED]
Tristan.Cook2@wisconsin.gov

















DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Tomten, Amanda - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 8:24:08 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)

Oh, weird. Maybe it was just me. Thx, KD.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 at 8:13 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports

Reviewed – I was able to get a zip file to download with the link after clicking ‘state employee’

--

Katie Domina
Policy Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 7:55 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports

Reviewed

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 7:12:08 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports

FWIW – the link doesn't seem to work for me and appears to require a login.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 3:48 PM
To: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports

Reviewed.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:08 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports
Importance: High

<https://wigov.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/wigovernor/Shared%20Documents/Leg-Policy%20Meeting%20Materials/Legislative%20Affairs/Document44.docx?d=weecfe2bbc0914f76bded87e61663a125&csf=1&web=1&e=P1MF6P>

Amanda Tomten

Legislative Affairs Assistant
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]
e. Amanda.Tomten1@wisconsin.gov



From: Connors, Cara - DOA <cara.connors@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:00 PM
To: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Quick Turnaround: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports
Importance: High

Hi Amanda,

Please see the draft letter in the attached word document. This is due to be submitted by Friday – apologies for the quick turnaround.

Thank you!



Cara Connors | Legislative Advisor
pronouns: she/her(s)
Department of Administration
cara.connors@wisconsin.gov
O: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED]

From: Cook, Tristan -DOA <tristan.cook2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 11:19 AM
To: Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>; Connors, Cara - DOA <cara.connors@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Zanow, Trina K - DOA <Trina.Zanow@wisconsin.gov>; Sylla, James L - DOA <James.Sylla@wisconsin.gov>; Przekurat, Jennifer - DOA <jennifer.przekurat@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Large, High-Risk IT Project Reports Ready for Review and Submittal to the Legislature

Hello!

As I noted in my July message, the Large, High IT Project Reports (“LHR”) are due to the Legislature no later than September 1st. In line with the process we established with Carly, I’ve attached a draft letter from Deputy Secretary Hammer that includes a link to the reports and contracts. Former Deputy Secretary Patton was the signatory on the prior LHR report letters. I’ve attached a copy of the March 2023 LHR transmittal letter for your reference.

I’ve also added the link here for your convenience if you wish to review the reports and contracts:
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I would ask that you forward the email you send to the Legislature so we have a copy for our records.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Tristan



Tristan Cook | Program and Policy Analyst
Department of Administration
Division of Enterprise Technology
Direct: [REDACTED]
Tristan.Cook2@wisconsin.gov

















DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4a
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 9:11:37 AM

<https://twitter.com/AlexanderShur/status/1697250091118321773?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Thelke, Emma - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: RE: Aging Letter
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 9:32:28 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image013.png](#)
[image014.png](#)
[image015.png](#)
[image016.png](#)
[image017.png](#)

Much better. Reviewed!

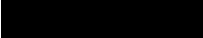
From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 8:50 AM
To: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Aging Letter

REviewed

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. 

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 8:25 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Aging Letter

Reviewed

--

Katie Domina

Policy Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

P: [REDACTED]

E: katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 2:36 PM

To: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Aging Letter

Reviewed

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

P: [REDACTED]

E: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 at 1:47 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: Aging Letter

Hi all,

Here is the updated aging letter: [📎 Aging letter.docx](#)

I added an additional paragraph discussing ageism specifically, but can add more if need be.

Thank you,

Emma

Emma Thelke (*she/her*)
Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov



From: Thelke, Emma - GOV
Sent: Friday, August 11, 2023 9:28 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Aging Letter

I agree that there needs to be more on ageism—I know the budget/policy things we have done, but wasn't sure about the discrimination side of things.

The letter that was sent to us talks about how ageism is found in all parts of society (healthcare, housing, technology, financial institutions, etc.) so I could add a sentence to each paragraph I have to relate the budget issues to ageism. For example, I could expand the Medigap Helpline point and discuss the challenges seniors face in getting health insurance coverage and quality care.

I think adding a paragraph that talks solely about ageism and its impacts on older adults could be an option. I could also add in Jacob's transportation suggestion, discuss pandemic isolation, highlight the importance of older adults in Wisconsin communities, etc. Additionally, if comms has any existing language on ageism, I would happily include it in this letter.

Let me know your thoughts on these suggestions or make any new ones. I can get the edits done today.

Thanks,
Emma

Emma Thelke (*she/her*)
Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov



From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 11, 2023 9:04 AM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Aging Letter

I also am concerned this talks more about the things we did for seniors but not the discrimination issue?

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2023 10:26:41 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Aging Letter

Incidentally, I'd like to note that none of our content that I'm aware of attributes our workforce challenges to an aging population.

In fact, our team took great care to discuss this issue as a "labor pool shortage," such that it doesn't in any way place blame or even remotely implicate the common attack on aging and older Wisconsinites. So.

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2023 1:16:50 PM
To: GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Aging Letter

Please see response to the attached letter here: [Aging letter](#)

If people could review by EOD Tuesday, that would be appreciated.

Thank you to Emma for drafting this!

Wenona Wolf (*she/her/hers*)
Director of Political Engagement and Planning
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e. wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov
c. [REDACTED]























From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: RE: See if this works...
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 12:23:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

It works!

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 12:22 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: See if this works...

Sorry for earlier error.

[2023 Senate Bill 395 \(wisconsin.gov\)](#)

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: See if this works...
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 1:04:20 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Ope. Was searching for the wrong term, which is why I couldn't find earlier. TY!!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 at 12:23 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: See if this works...

It works!

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 12:22 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: See if this works...

Sorry for earlier error.

[2023 Senate Bill 395 \(wisconsin.gov\)](#)

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4a
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 1:17:19 PM

<https://twitter.com/sbauerAP/status/1697312270764679533?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle; Thelke, Emma - GOV](#)
Subject: Fwd: FYSA and Review please
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 1:31:17 PM

fyi

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Goodsitt, Elizabeth S - DHS <Elizabeth.Goodsitt@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 1:23:24 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FYSA and Review please

Hi –

We have a response to send to Bryan Polcyn at FOX 6 in Milwaukee – hopefully this afternoon. His questions are in black and our answers are in blue, plus an additional few paragraphs...

Thank you in advance,

1. How many total psychiatric inpatient beds are there, currently, at MMHI? [308 beds \(16 civil geriatric beds; the remaining 292 are forensic beds\)](#)

How many total beds does DHS have statewide? [492 beds](#) (this includes beds at MMHI and WMHI. this does not include beds at Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (max of 29 beds). MJTC serves boys who do not respond to the rehabilitation services provided at Wisconsin's youth correctional institution.

*Based on bed availability, there are two other DHS operated facilities that could potentially serve another 80 forensic patients. These 80 beds are not included in the total bed count of 492.

Can you break these down by type (adult vs. juvenile, male/female/coed, forensic/civil)? [This often varies based on needs within the institutes, particularly related to civil patients. For example, a civil geriatric patient may not be admitted to a geriatric-specific bed based on bed availability.](#)

The following totals include WMHI and MMHI combined. Please note – some of these patients are counted more than once. For example, an adult male forensic patient is counted in the forensic, male, and adult categories. [Forensic patients ~336. Civil patients ~156. Adult patients ~450 \(does not include 16 geriatric patient beds\). Youth patients ~55 \(includes MJTC beds\). Geriatric ~16. Male and female beds are fluid](#)

based on need.

2. The 2023-25 biennial budget signed by Governor Evers appears to include \$10-million in supplemental appropriations for regional Crisis Urgent Care and Observation Facilities. Can you tell me the current status of any plans DHS is aware of to build or fund regional crisis urgent care and observation facilities in Wisconsin? If such plans exist, where would those facilities be located? How many inpatient psychiatric beds would they have?

Gov. Evers' 2023-2025 budget provides \$10 million GPR over the biennium in the Joint Committee on Finance supplemental appropriation to establish up to two crisis urgent care and observation centers that will:

- serve as regional crisis receiving and stabilization facilities;
- offer seamless transitions between levels of services offered at the centers;
- arrange for the transfer to more appropriate treatment options as needed;
- coordinate the connection to ongoing care; and
- promote the effective sharing of information between providers to improve service delivery and patient outcomes.

Beyond providing access to these additional services, the centers will help reduce the amount of time law enforcement and first responders currently must dedicate to emergency detention cases by offering a dedicated first responder drop-off location that accepts custody of emergency detention cases and does not require that medical clearances be completed before drop-off.

DHS is working with the legislature to develop the framework for the crisis urgent care and observation centers.

3. At a hearing in Waukesha County Criminal Case No. 2022CF345, DHS Deputy Chief Legal Counsel Ann Bensky told the court, "Despite very significant efforts from the department over the last several years to increase bed space, that hasn't been able to keep up with the increased referrals for competency evaluations and treatment to competency." What specific efforts has DHS made over the last several years to increase bed space at Mendota?

Please see the attached letter that was filed with the court in November 2021. A summary is below:

Since 2016, through budget requests and other means, DHS has added 114 inpatient beds for treatment to competency and NGI (not guilty by reason of mental disease or defect) patients at Mendota. The 114 inpatient capacity was possible only through requests to renovate and repurpose buildings and hire more staff. Our ability to build,

acquire, and staff facilities is governed by statute. Building and acquiring property is vested by statute not with DHS, but with the Department of Administration, the Building Commission, and the Governor. See Wis. Stat. §§ 13.48; 16.84(5); 20.867; 20.924(1)(b). State agency expenditures and staffing increases must be approved by legislative committee and the governor through the biennial budget process. See Wis. Stat. §§ 16.42-47; 16.505.

Since the 2013-15 budget cycle, DHS has requested and received funding for capital renovations and staff at Mendota, which has resulted in 54 additional beds. In February 2018, DHS opened a vacant 20-bed unit at Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center (SRSTC) to treat NGI patients, which freed up 20 more beds at Mendota for forensic admissions. In March 2020, DHS expanded its SRSTC operation by opening 20 more beds. To staff the SRSTC unit, the 2019-21 biennial budget provided DHS with 36.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) one-year project position authority. In addition to legislative initiatives, DHS has recently modified its operations at the Wisconsin Resource Center (WRC) by realigning staffing, occupancy and general operations to expand its current jail-based treatment to competency program by 25 beds.

4. When Beth Dodsworth provided me with data in response to an open records request earlier this year, the data included
 1. The number of competency evaluations requested each year,
In fiscal year 23, there were 2,479 orders for competency evaluation.
 2. The number of TTC orders per year, and
In fiscal year 2023, there were 877 orders for competency treatment.
 3. The average time each client under a TTC order spends at MMHI.
We don't have the average time someone spends at MMHI. We do have the average number of days between patient (MMHI, WMHI, WRC) admission date and the date of disposition. In FY 23, that average was 104 days.

As for the answer to your question about whether declining the interview is a matter of timing or topic, I can tell you, the answer is both. As you can imagine, Greg is extremely busy and does not have a lot of availability. And at this point, we will not be able to allow a crew on campus.

Also, we know you have been delving into this issue for a while and we appreciate that. But we are concerned you may not be allowed the time to devote to the nuances and complexities of this topic. We are happy to continue working with you to get some questions answered in writing ahead of a future interview, but I am unable to get one on the books at this time.

Elizabeth Goodsitt

Communications Specialist - Advanced

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

██████████ | Media Line: 608-266-1683

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From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#)
Subject: Fwd: From Mark Belling, WISN-AM
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 1:47:50 PM

From: BELLING, MARK C. <MARKBELLING@iheartmedia.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 1:46:17 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: From Mark Belling, WISN-AM

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Ms. Gau and Ms. Cudaback

I have waited 24 hours since sending emails to each of you and have not received a response. I sincerely would prefer not to file a voluminous open records request covering expense accounts, communications, pay stubs, etc., and would prefer that my simple questions just be answered.

I have been told by multiple sources that the two of you have a close relationship. My own employer bans all supervisors from having any type of close relationship with individuals that directly oversee or manage and that policy is in place at most major employers.

I am asking what the Evers administration policy is. What is the nature of your relationship? Is the Governor aware of your relationship and has he approved? Was Maggie involved in Britt's promotion to lead communications director? Is Maggie the supervisor of Britt? Does the chief of staff oversee communications as part of the chief's responsibilities?

I am aware that at least one prominent journalist has been inquiring on this and I have been told by individuals in Madison (I'm not normally in that gossip loop) that the relationship between the two of you is a widely discussed matter. I simply would like to get your answers as to what the relationship is and whether it is permissible under the governor's office's policies.

Mark Belling
WISN-AM
Milwaukee

markbelling@iheartmedia.com

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FW: DRAFT Press Release: DOA Celebrates Black Business Month with Supplier Diversity Roundtable:
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 3:20:48 PM

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Spellman, Derek - DOA <derek.spellman1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 at 3:20 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FYI: DRAFT Press Release: DOA Celebrates Black Business Month with Supplier Diversity Roundtable:

Good afternoon,
Sharing this draft release for your visibility. We plan to send out tomorrow morning. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.
Thanks!
Derek

From: DOA Communications <DOACommunications@doa.wi.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 3:18 PM
To: Spellman, Derek - DOA <derek.spellman1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Press Release: DOA Celebrates Black Business Month with Supplier Diversity Roundtable: TEST

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STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
Tony Evers, Governor
Kathy Blumenfeld, Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 1, 2023
Contact: DOACommunications@wisconsin.gov

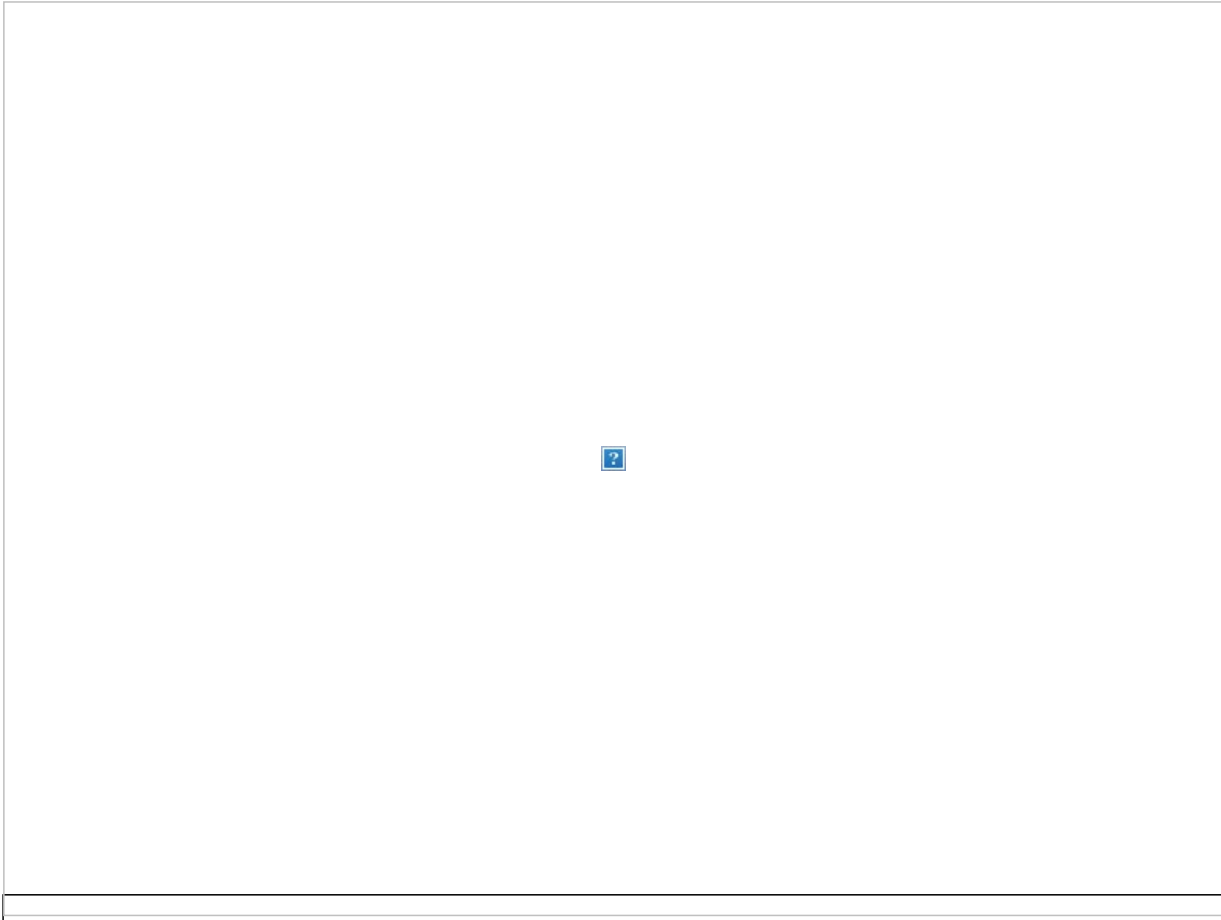
DOA Celebrates Black Business Month with Supplier Diversity Roundtable

Future Supplier Diversity Webinar Set for September 21

Milwaukee – Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA) Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld today celebrated [Black Business Month](#) and the 40th anniversary of the Wisconsin Supplier Diversity Program with a roundtable to help

entrepreneurs do business with the State of Wisconsin and expand the State's diverse suppliers.

Blumenfeld joined Nikki Purvis, President and CEO of the African American Chamber of Commerce, Marjorie Rucker, Executive Director of The Business Council and Chair of the Ethnic & Diverse Business Coalition, Alex Ysquierdo, Director of the [Wisconsin Supplier Diversity Program](#), business owners, and state lawmakers for a robust discussion about the opportunities available to businesses through the Supplier Diversity program and other investments made by the State to support the success of minority-owned businesses and communities.



From left: Alex Ysquierdo, Director of the Wisconsin Supplier Diversity Program, Nikki Purvis, President and CEO of the African American Chamber of Commerce, State Rep. Dora Drake, DOA Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld, and Marjorie Rucker, Executive Director of The Business Council and Chair of the Ethnic & Diverse Business Coalition.

“Advancing economic equity means diversifying the supply chain for State contracts, promoting investment in historically underserved communities, and making it easier for businesses to get certified to do business with the State of Wisconsin,” Blumenfeld said. “The Supplier Diversity program plays a vital role in building a Wisconsin economy that works for everyone, and we’re so grateful to many chambers and partners that are working with us to build business resilience and sustainability for the long term.”



Alex Ysquierdo, Director of the Wisconsin Supplier Diversity Program, talks about the program during a roundtable discussion at the African American Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, August 31.

The Wisconsin Supplier Diversity Program certifies minority-owned business enterprises (MBEs), disabled service veteran-owned businesses (DVBs), and women-owned business enterprises (WBEs) to provide better opportunities for doing business with the State. Certified MBEs and DVBs may receive a 5-percent bid preference when they bid on state contracts, per state statute, and be listed in the [State's Certified Business Database](#). For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, Wisconsin spent a record-setting \$200 million with diverse businesses and exceeded the statewide goal of spending 5-percent of state dollars with MBEs for the third consecutive year.

Business owners who would like to know more about the Supplier Diversity program are encouraged to [register for an upcoming webinar](#) on Thursday, Sept. 21. This free program in conjunction with the [DOA Office of Business Development](#) will provide information on the certification and state bidding process, cover tips and instructions on how to navigate the contracting process, and answer additional questions. The webinar will be open to all Wisconsin business owners and the recording will be made available on the [DOA YouTube channel](#).

More information about the Wisconsin Supplier Diversity program is available at [SupplierDiversity.gov](#).

###

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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: CU not on Huddle Tomorrow AM
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 4:18:20 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-The Instag.png](#)

I'll likely also miss huddle as I'll be staffing gov but will try to hop on if I can.

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 3:47:00 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: CU not on Huddle Tomorrow AM

Hey, all!

I have an appt and will not be able to make it to huddle tomorrow - I'll send any items on my list to Wenona to cover

Best,

Corissa Uselmann
Scheduling Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov











From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Friday PMU
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 8:57:19 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

AHHHHHHH

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 8:56:11 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Friday PMU

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From: Kristen Paquet <kpaquet@wearecp.org>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 8:34 AM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV
Subject: Photo from the Gov's visit yesterday

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Hello Wenona, I wasn't sure who to send this to, so please feel free to pass it along if interested.

I was able to capture a really cute photo from the Governor's visit to CP Early Education & Care yesterday. Just wanted to share.

Everyone loved his visit and he took time to meet and say hello to every teacher. It was a wonderful experience!

Have a great long weekend,

Kristen Paquet



Kristen Paquet | Director of Donor Engagement & Marketing

p (920) 337-1122 x1257 **f** (920) 337-1126

e kpaquet@wearecp.org **w** wearecp.org



WE ARE CP

Learning what's possible

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4A
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 2:54:57 PM

[Here](#)

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: FW: FYSA: Worker's Comp Works briefing next week at Capitol
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 3:42:43 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dipko, John A - DWD <johna.dipko@dwd.wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 at 2:32 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Sereno, Jennifer A - DWD <jennifera.sereno@dwd.wisconsin.gov>, Exner, Arielle R - DWD <arielle.exner@dwd.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FYSA: Worker's Comp Works briefing next week at Capitol

Hi Britt and Cara,

We wanted to make sure you have awareness of a briefing slated for next Thursday, Sept. 7, at the State Capitol by an organization titled Worker's Comp Works, as the registration list we were provided includes more than 50 legislators and/or legislative aides. Our Worker's Compensation Division Administrator Steve Peters (non-voting Chair of the WC Advisory Council) will be one of the speakers and will share brief remarks. We will have comms/legislative staff attending the briefing to listen in. Please let us know if you have questions as we have a partial list of attendees. Many thanks!

INVITATION TO BRIEFING



Pre-event registration is required. Click [here](#) to sign up.

You are invited to a briefing on the history, importance and unique bi-partisan support for Wisconsin's Worker's Compensation Advisory Council. Listen as leaders highlight methods used in Wisconsin for decades to update the state's worker's compensation law.

You'll hear officials from Wisconsin AFL-CIO, Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce, the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), the Wisconsin Worker's Compensation Advisory Council and the Wisconsin Compensation Rating Bureau. Speakers will discuss why labor likes it, why business likes it and why the Worker's Comp Works Coalition has grown to include more than 5,000 employers and more than 750,000 workers in Wisconsin.



SPEAKERS



Stephanie Bloomingdale
Wisconsin AFL-CIO



James Buchen
Wisconsin Worker's
Compensation Advisory
Council



Steven Peters
Wisconsin DWD



Bernard Rosauer
Wisconsin Compensation
Rating Bureau



Rachel VerVelde
Wisconsin Manufacturers &
Commerce

John Dipko
Communications Director
Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development

Mobile: [REDACTED]
201 E. Washington Ave.
Madison, WI 53703

Johna.Dipko@dwd.wisconsin.gov



Department of Workforce Development

STATE OF WISCONSIN



Department of Workforce Development

INVITATION TO BRIEFING



Thursday
Sept 7, 2023



10:00 am
Room 412 E
State Capitol

Pre-event registration is required. Click [here](#) to sign up.

You are invited to a briefing on the history, importance and unique bi-partisan support for Wisconsin's Worker's Compensation Advisory Council. Listen as leaders highlight methods used in Wisconsin for decades to update the state's worker's compensation law.

You'll hear officials from Wisconsin AFL-CIO, Wisconsin Manufacturers & Commerce, the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), the Wisconsin Worker's Compensation Advisory Council and the Wisconsin Compensation Rating Bureau. Speakers will discuss why labor likes it, why business likes it and why the Worker's Comp Works Coalition has grown to include more than 5,000 employers and more than 750,000 workers in Wisconsin.



SPEAKERS



Stephanie Bloomingdale
Wisconsin AFL-CIO



James Buchen
Wisconsin Worker's
Compensation Advisory
Council



Steven Peters
Wisconsin DWD



Bernard Rosauer
Wisconsin Compensation
Rating Bureau



Rachel VerVelde
Wisconsin Manufacturers &
Commerce

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#); [Mercer, Anna - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Another PMU!! Fwd: Message from Grandmother, Shenk Elementary
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 5:16:47 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Awwwwwe!!!

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 5:11:58 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Another PMU!! Fwd: Message from Grandmother, Shenk Elementary

Another Friday PMU!! Thanks for sharing Anna!

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From: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 4:05 PM
To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV; Wolf, Wenona - GOV; Wallace, Mitch - GOV
Subject: Message from Grandmother, Shenk Elementary

Too cute, CSP received this message this morning.

Message from Grandmother, Shenk Elementary
You made quite an impression on my kindergarten granddaughter this morning at Shenk elementary school . She says she's going to become famous too . Thank you for being there

Anna Mercer (*she/her*)
Director of Constituent Services and Proclamations
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov
c: [REDACTED]









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: NEWS RELEASE: Extreme Fire Danger For Sunday, Sept. 3, 2023
Date: Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:14:44 AM

FYI

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources <widnr@service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:04:04 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: NEWS RELEASE: Extreme Fire Danger For Sunday, Sept. 3, 2023

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Sept. 3, 2023
Contact: DNR Office Of Communications
DNRPress@wisconsin.gov

Extreme Fire Danger For Sunday, Sept. 3, 2023
Red Flag Warning Issued For 22 Southwestern & Central Wisconsin Counties

MADISON, Wis. – The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in

conjunction with the National Weather Service, has issued a Red Flag Warning for today, Sunday, Sept. 3, 2023, from 1 to 7 p.m. for the following counties in southwestern and central Wisconsin:

Adams, Columbia, Crawford, Dane, Grant, Green Lake, Green, Iowa, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Lafayette, Marquette, Monroe, Portage, Richland, Sauk, Trempealeau, Vernon, Waupaca, Waushara and Wood counties.

Several adjacent counties will experience High or Very High danger.

A Red Flag Warning is issued when a variety of weather factors come together to create hazardous wildland fire conditions. Hot temperatures, low humidity, gusty winds and exceptionally dry vegetation from ongoing drought are anticipated and can result in catastrophic fires.

The DNR will prohibit burning with all DNR-issued burn permits where the DNR has burn restriction authority. The DNR is asking the public to be especially careful with any activities that could potentially throw sparks and lead to a wildland fire. If you've had a fire of any sort in the last couple of days, please be sure to check to ensure they are properly extinguished.

Campfires, ashes from fireplaces, outdoor grills, smoking, chainsaws, off-road vehicles or other small engines have the potential to throw a spark, ignite a fire and spread quickly. Please use extreme caution until the fire weather and dry conditions improve.

FIRE SAFETY TIPS

- Avoid outdoor burning until conditions improve. Burn permits for debris burning are currently suspended in numerous counties.
- Operate equipment (chainsaws, off-road vehicles, lawn mowers, etc.) early in the morning or late in the day to avoid sparks at peak burn hours.
- Secure trailer chains to keep them from dragging.
- Report fires early, dial 911.

The DNR responded to 15 wildfires throughout the state in the last week. Several fires occurred in central and southern Wisconsin, where much of the Red Flag Warning has been declared.

Fire control officials will be on high alert across the entire state, pre-positioning equipment for rapid response and checking any fires from previous days. The DNR anticipates continued dry, elevated fire conditions again on Monday, with a slight chance of scattered rain throughout the week.

[Check current fire danger, wildfire reports and burning restrictions on the DNR website.](#)



Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources | dnr.wi.gov

Call 1-888-936-7463 (TTY Access via relay - 711) from 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.



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This email was sent to britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of:
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources · 101 S. Webster Street · Madison, WI 53707-7921 · 608-266-2621



From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Fwd: REMINDER-Mayor's Executive Capital Budget Press Conference, Tuesday morning
Date: Monday, September 4, 2023 4:50:10 PM
Attachments: [capitalbudgetpresser923 mb \(1\).docx](#)

FYI

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 4, 2023 3:16:32 PM
To: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: REMINDER-Mayor's Executive Capital Budget Press Conference, Tuesday morning

fyi

Chet Agni (*he/him*)
Research and Press Specialist
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov



From: Crawley, Katie <KCrawley@cityofmadison.com>
Sent: Monday, September 4, 2023 11:37:55 AM
Subject: REMINDER-Mayor's Executive Capital Budget Press Conference, Tuesday morning

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Katie Crawley
Deputy Mayor

Public Works and Administration
Office of the Mayor
City-County Building, Room 403
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53703

[REDACTED]

Cell [REDACTED]



Office of the Mayor

Satya Rhodes-Conway, Mayor
City-County Building, Room 403
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53703
Phone: (608) 266-4611 | Fax: (608) 267-8671
mayor@cityofmadison.com
cityofmadison.com

For Immediate Release
October 5, 2023

Contact: Katie Crawley
608-266-4611

MEDIA ADVISORY

Mayor Rhodes-Conway to Release Executive Capital Budget Tuesday

When: Tuesday, September 5

Time: 11:00 am

Where: Black Business Hub (corner of Park Street and Hughes Place)

Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway is announcing her 2024 Executive Capital budget at the Urban League of Greater Madison's new Black Business Hub alongside community leaders who are helping to catalyze the South Madison renaissance.

"This Executive Capital Budget includes key investments in affordable housing, land acquisition, public facilities and transit that help make the vision laid out in the South Madison Plan a reality," said Mayor Rhodes-Conway.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: n4a
Date: Monday, September 4, 2023 5:00:09 PM

<https://x.com/tannerkahler/status/1698809978939691252?s=46>

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Thelke, Emma - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: N4A
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 9:40:16 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

[Updated](#)

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 7:44 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: N4A

Yep, I will bring it up this morning.

Emma Thelke (*she/her*)
Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 4, 2023 8:54 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: N4A

Emma, can you please call Sara or HJ first thing tomorrow to get info and then get the readout to me or Katie?

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, September 4, 2023 5:50:52 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: N4A

See [here](#). According to this thread, appear to be licensed through DHS—can we get more details, please?

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.







From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: FW: Baldwin Calls on Biden Administration to Bring Tech Hub to Wisconsin
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 11:11:10 AM

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Baldwin, Press (Baldwin) <Press_Baldwin@baldwin.senate.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 11:01 AM
To: Baldwin, Press (Baldwin) <Press_Baldwin@baldwin.senate.gov>
Subject: Baldwin Calls on Biden Administration to Bring Tech Hub to Wisconsin

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*****MEDIA RELEASE*****

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, September 5, 2023
Contact: press@baldwin.senate.gov
202-224-6225

Baldwin Calls on Biden Administration to Bring Tech Hub to Wisconsin

Push comes after Baldwin hosted events in Madison and Milwaukee to highlight Wisconsin's strong application and thriving biohealth industry

WISCONSIN – Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) called on the Biden administration to bring a Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (Tech Hub) to Wisconsin to help grow the state's biohealth sector – spurring innovation, growing our economy, and boosting American competitiveness in this cutting-edge industry. Earlier this month, a consortium of 15 public and private partners organized by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) submitted Wisconsin's application for a Tech Hub to bolster the state as a leader in personalized medicine and biohealth technology.

“With a rich history of innovation, backed by world-class research institutions, a robust Made in Wisconsin manufacturing economy, and the necessary pipeline of new talent to continue growing for the future,

Wisconsin is poised to become a growth center in this cutting-edge industry,” **wrote Senator Baldwin in a letter to Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo.** “A Regional Tech Hub in Wisconsin would allow for the continued advancement of our state’s biohealth sector, representing increased opportunities for collaboration and innovation among key stakeholders – including educational institutions, biohealth companies, precision manufacturers, and investors – throughout the state.”

Senator Baldwin voted to create the Tech Hubs program in the *CHIPS and Science Act* and helped secure \$500 million in funding in the FY2023 budget. Under the Tech Hubs program, the Economic Development Administration will first designate promising Tech Hubs across the country and award strategy development grants to accelerate the development of future Tech Hubs. From there, EDA will make at least five implementation awards to selected Tech Hubs.

By focusing on biohealth and personal medicine, a Regional Tech Hub in Wisconsin would accelerate growth in this cutting-edge industry in the state, enhance the health and economic well-being of Wisconsinites, and safeguard national security by keeping sensitive biohealth and genomic data in the U.S.

“A Wisconsin Regional Tech Hub would also help to accelerate advances in health care, spur economic growth in our communities, and create good-paying jobs in the process,” **wrote Senator Baldwin.** “By selecting Wisconsin’s proposal, the Administration has the opportunity to demonstrate support for our domestic gene sequencing industry, help build domestic capacity, and accelerate innovation. Wisconsin stands ready and is uniquely capable of leading the way.”

The letter follows two events that Senator Baldwin [hosted in Madison and Milwaukee](#) to highlight Wisconsin’s strong biohealth industry and Tech Hub application. Senator Baldwin first toured the Wisconsin Institutes for Medical Research on the UW-Madison campus to discuss Wisconsin’s cutting-edge research and integral role in the world’s biohealth industry. Senator Baldwin then hosted a roundtable at Rockwell Automation in Milwaukee with business, education, and workforce development leaders to discuss Wisconsin’s unique position to be a growth center and the economic impact of bringing a Tech Hub to Wisconsin.

A full version of this letter is available [here](#) and below. An online version of this release is available [here](#).

Dear Secretary Raimondo,

I write in strong support of Wisconsin’s application to bring a Regional Technology and Innovation Hub (Tech Hub) to Wisconsin. The Tech Hub program was created through the bipartisan CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (P.L. 117-167), which I proudly helped to pass as a member of the Senate Commerce Committee, and is administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Economic Development Administration. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I also worked to secure an initial \$500 million to fund this program aimed at driving technology and innovation-centric growth and creating good-paying jobs.

Wisconsin’s application comes from a consortium of 15 public and private partners organized by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to help bolster Wisconsin’s leadership in personalized medicine and biohealth technology. With a rich history of innovation, backed by world-class research institutions, a robust Made in Wisconsin manufacturing economy, and the necessary pipeline of new talent to continue growing for the future, Wisconsin is poised to become a growth center in this cutting-edge industry.

A Regional Tech Hub in Wisconsin would allow for the continued advancement of our state’s biohealth sector, representing increased opportunities for collaboration and innovation among key stakeholders – including educational institutions, biohealth companies, precision manufacturers, and investors – throughout the state. A Wisconsin Regional Tech Hub would also help to accelerate advances in health care, spur economic growth in our communities, and create good-paying jobs in the process.

The Wisconsin Biohealth Tech Hub is aligned with economic and national security objectives that drove Congress to pass the CHIPS and Science Act and are the focus of the Biden Administration’s Executive Orders that emphasize the importance of advancing biotechnology to revitalize domestic manufacturing. A key aspect of Wisconsin’s proposed focus on personalized medicine is genomic sequencing. The U.S. must foster growth and innovation in this sector domestically for both national security and military readiness. Moreover,

we must protect U.S. citizens from having their genetic data exploited by foreign entities. By selecting Wisconsin's proposal, the Administration has the opportunity to demonstrate support for our domestic gene sequencing industry, help build domestic capacity, and accelerate innovation. Wisconsin stands ready and is uniquely capable of leading the way.

Again, I am proud to support Wisconsin's application to bring a Regional Tech Hub to the Badger State, and I urge the Department of Commerce to give full and fair consideration to Wisconsin's proposal. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

###

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Roets, Steven - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#); [Henney, Cara - GOV](#)
Cc: [Wallace, Mitch - GOV](#); [Tomten, Amanda - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Flag Order for Review
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 11:19:46 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Comms has completed review.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 10:18 AM
To: Roets, Steven - GOV <steven.roets@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>, Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>, Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Flag Order for Review

Reviewed.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Roets, Steven - GOV <steven.roets@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 9:45 AM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>; Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>; Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Flag Order for Review

Good morning,

Please review and make any edits to the Day of Service/September 11th Flag Order linked below by **Noon tomorrow, Wednesday, September 6th, 2023.**

 [EO212-DayofService2023.docx](#)

Best,
Steven

Steven M. Roets
Compliance Officer
Office of Governor Tony Evers









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4a
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 3:01:24 PM

<https://twitter.com/sbauerAP/status/1699147999656444179?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Thelke, Emma - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: You're Invited | The Hunt Institute's Early Childhood Leadership Summit
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 5:43:29 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

I do not think that is necessary, most especially since it's in Tennessee and starts tomorrow.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 5:40 PM
To: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: You're Invited | The Hunt Institute's Early Childhood Leadership Summit

Given that this is tomorrow, I do not think she needs to rearrange to go? Unless I am missing something.

We've discussed their invites previously and have deferred them to agencies given capacity. I don't know if DCF is attending.

From: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 4:32:53 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: You're Invited | The Hunt Institute's Early Childhood Leadership Summit

Hi all,

Sarah wanted to know if we have had any communications from the Hunt Institute about this? She said Sec. Johnson can't attend, but Sarah said she could move things around if its absolutely necessary for someone to go.

I haven't heard of the Hunt Institute before, but flagging here in case someone else is aware of this.

Thank you,

Emma Thelke (*she/her*)
Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov



From: Valencia, Sarah E - DHS <sarah.valencia@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 4:23 PM
To: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: You're Invited | The Hunt Institute's Early Childhood Leadership Summit

WI Reps: The WI team is Rep Sheila Stubbs, Sen LaTonya Johnson and Jackie Anderson

Sarah Valencia | she, her, hers
Assistant Deputy Secretary
Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Sarah.valencia@dhs.wisconsin.gov

P: [REDACTED] | [Chat with me in Teams](#)



NOTICE: [Get the most up to date confidentiality statement here.](#)

From: Odegaard, Karen L - DHS <karen.odegaard@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 12:49 PM
To: Waukau, Hilary J - DHS (HJ) <hilary.waukau@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Gugel, Andrea M - DHS <andrea.gugel@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Valencia, Sarah E - DHS <sarah.valencia@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: You're Invited | The Hunt Institute's Early Childhood Leadership Summit

HJ and Andrea, do you know of anyone from the legislature who is attending?

Sarah and HJ, has this event come up at all on the Governor's Office calls?

Sarah, I wonder if anyone from DCF is attending?

Thanks!
Karen

Karen Odegaard ([pronouns: she|her|hers](#))
External Affairs Liaison, Office of the Secretary

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

C: [REDACTED] | karen.odegaard@dhs.wisconsin.gov

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From: Johnson, Kirsten L - DHS <kirstenl.johnson@dhs.wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 12:29 PM

To: DHS OS Scheduling <dhs.osscheduling@dhs.wisconsin.gov>; Odegaard, Karen L - DHS <karen.odegaard@dhs.wisconsin.gov>

Subject: FW: You're Invited | The Hunt Institute's Early Childhood Leadership Summit

Thoughts on this? And od we know anyone else who is attending? I thought it was a blind invite.

K

From: John Battaglia <jbattaglia@hunt-institute.org>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 2:39 PM

To: Johnson, Kirsten L - DHS <kirstenl.johnson@dhs.wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: You're Invited | The Hunt Institute's Early Childhood Leadership Summit

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello Ms. Johnson,

I wanted to follow up on the invitation that was sent to attend [The Hunt Institute's 2023 Early Childhood Leadership Summit, September 6-8, 2023, at the Gaylord Opryland Resort in Nashville, Tennessee](#). We hope that you are able to attend to be a part of the Wisconsin state team as a representative from the Governor's office to participate with the legislators and state representatives already in attendance. If your are unable to attend, would you happen to have a colleague that you would recommend, who would be able to represent the office and support the robust conversation. If you do, you can connect them with me and we can see about transferring the invitation.

Thank you and we hope to see you in Music City!

Regards,

John



John M. Battaglia | Deputy Director of Early Learning

The Hunt Institute

Main: (984) 377-5200 | Cell: (718) 986-3227

[Website](#) | [Blog](#) | [Twitter](#) | [CEO Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Facebook](#)

From: John Battaglia <jbattaglia@hunt-institute.org>

Sent: Wednesday, August 16, 2023 12:06 PM

To: kirsten.johnson@dhs.wisconsin.gov <kirsten.johnson@dhs.wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Fw: You're Invited | The Hunt Institute's Early Childhood Leadership Summit

You're Invited!



THE HUNT INSTITUTE'S
**EARLY CHILDHOOD
LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**

 **NASHVILLE, TN**

 **SEPTEMBER 6-8, 2023**



#ECLS



Dear Kirsten Johnson,

I wanted to take a moment to personally invite you to attend [The Hunt Institute's 2023 Early Childhood Leadership Summit, September 6-8, 2023, at the Gaylord Opryland Resort in Nashville, Tennessee](#). We hope that you are able to join us in Nashville and be a part of the Wisconsin state team. With the Summit quickly approaching we do ask for a prompt reply if you are planning on attending so we can ensure that your travel and lodging gets booked.

The Summit is an **invitation-only, bipartisan gathering** of state teams comprised of senior elected officials, gubernatorial staff, and key early childhood system leaders. This year we are pleased to extend invitations to teams from all 50 states, territories, and the District of Columbia.

This is an opportunity to meet with early childhood thought partners within your state and across the nation to:

- Learn the latest research, innovations, and policy successes for young children, families, the early childhood workforce, as well as state economic implications;
- Collaborate with state elected officials and early childhood administrators to analyze data and develop goals specific to your states early childhood education and policy needs;
- Network with elected policymakers and early childhood experts from across the nation.

As part of your exclusive, non-transferable invitation, **The Hunt Institute will cover your costs to participate, including meals, lodging, and travel.**

To confirm your participation and indicate lodging and travel needs please press ctrl button and double click purple register button below:



REGISTER

Please RSVP and book your round-trip flight to Nashville by August

9th.

The Summit begins with a **Welcome Reception & Dinner including a Fireside Chat with elected leaders 6:30 PM Central on Wednesday, September 6th and concludes at 1:30 pm Central on Friday, September 8th**. We recommend that you plan to arrive in Nashville on the afternoon of September 6th. I have attached is a schedule-at-a-glance as well.

Special Guests Include:

<p>The Honorable Laura Kelly Governor of Kansas</p>	<p>Dr. Jack Shonkoff Director Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University</p>	<p>D.J. Pryor Actor, Comedian, Writer, and Infant Mental Health Advocate</p>
		

We hope you can join us in Music City in September.

Regards,

John



John M. Battaglia | Deputy Director of Early Learning

The Hunt Institute

Main: (984) 377-5200 | Cell: (718) 986-3227

[Website](#) | [Blog](#) | [Twitter](#) | [CEO Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Facebook](#)

You're Invited!



THE HUNT INSTITUTE'S
**EARLY CHILDHOOD
LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**



NASHVILLE, TN



SEPTEMBER 6-8, 2023

 **THE** hunt
institute

#ECLS



REGISTER

Special Guests Include:

**The Honorable
Laura Kelly**
Governor of Kansas

Dr. Jack Shonkoff
Director
Center on the Developing Child at
Harvard University

D.J. Pryor
Actor, Comedian, Writer, and Infant
Mental Health Advocate



















From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4a
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 5:45:04 PM

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/09/05/uw-oshkosh-threatens-collections-if-alumni-dont-pay-suprise-bills/70768675007/>

Would like to discuss.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Fwd: Work Authorization Tools
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 10:03:58 PM
Attachments: [USCIS EAD Flyer English.pdf](#)
[USCIS EAD Flyer Spanish.pdf](#)

From: Cancela, Yvanna D. EOP/WHO <Yvanna.D.Cancela@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 6:37:33 PM
To: Cancela, Yvanna D. EOP/WHO <Yvanna.D.Cancela@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Work Authorization Tools

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Good evening,

Over the coming days and weeks, I'll use this thread to keep you and your teams updated on actions the Administration is taking to close the gap between non-citizens who are eligible for work authorization and those who have applied. While the data isn't perfect, it tells us there are large populations of work authorization eligible individuals across the country.

As of today, USCIS has sent out over 200,000 emails and more than 500,000 texts in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole to individuals who fall into this category. You can read more about the ongoing efforts [here](#).

In addition, USCIS has created the attached flyer to help people quickly access information on work authorization based on their entry pathway. These are meant to be used as a key tool to simplify the application process. They could, for example, be used by legal service providers to streamline their work in immigrant communities. Please share with the appropriate leaders in your state.

Looking forward to talking with you all about this.

Thanks for all you do,
Yvanna



Online Flyer



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT WORKING LEGALLY IN THE UNITED STATES

You are likely eligible to apply for an employment authorization document (EAD) to legally work in the U.S. if:

- You were recently paroled into the U.S. through the parole processes for nationals of Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela (CHNV), or after receiving a CBP One App appointment and presenting at a Port of Entry; or
- You have applied for asylum by filing Form I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal, and your asylum application has been pending for at least 150 days.

If you have not already started the EAD application process, you can begin by going to https://myaccount.uscis.gov/users/sign_up to create a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) account online. Then you can go to <https://www.uscis.gov/i-765> to file your Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization online. USCIS will mail your EAD to the address you provided in your EAD application if your Form I-765 application is approved.

CREATE AN ACCOUNT AND FILE ONLINE

Submitting your EAD application online provides helpful instructions and tips from USCIS as you complete your form using the secure online filing system. The online system also helps you avoid common mistakes, such as leaving critical parts of the application blank or forgetting to sign your name and you can upload evidence electronically.

You can also check your case status online at <https://egov.uscis.gov>. For more information, review our video, “How to Create a USCIS Online Account” at:

<https://www.uscis.gov/file-online/how-to-create-a-uscis-online-account>.

If necessary, you can also file a paper application for Form I-765. The form is available at <https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/forms/i-765.pdf>.

FILING FEES

For those individuals with a pending Form I-589, there is no fee to file your Form I-765 but you may not file until 150 days after you submit your asylum application.

For those individuals paroled into the U.S., there is a \$410 filing fee. To learn more about your eligibility for a waiver of this filing fee, go to:

<https://www.uscis.gov/forms/filing-fees/additional-information-on-filing-a-fee-waiver>.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Items you will need to provide as evidence for your Form I-765 include:

- Either a copy of your stamped Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record (front and back), a printout of your electronic Form I-94, a copy of your passport, or other travel document;
- A copy of your last EAD (if applicable);
- If you were not previously issued an EAD, a copy of a government-issued identity document; and
- Form G-28 (if you are represented by an attorney or accredited representative).

If you need to retrieve a copy of your Form I-94, go to <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/i94/#/recent-search>.

If you apply for an EAD, USCIS will notify you of the decision in writing.

If your application is approved, we will either mail your EAD to you or we may require you to visit your local USCIS office to pick it up.

If your address has changed, you must update it. You may do so through your USCIS online account if you filed your form online or by filing a Form AR-11, Alien's Change of Address Card. For more information on changing your address with USCIS, visit <https://www.uscis.gov/addresschange>.

Get an
Online Account



How to Create an
Online Account



Check Your
Case Status



EAD Application
Form & Instructions



Request a
Fee Waiver



Change Your
Address



Get Your
I-94





Folleto En Línea



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE CÓMO TRABAJAR LEGALMENTE EN ESTADOS UNIDOS

Es probable que usted sea elegible para solicitar un Documento de Autorización de Empleo (EAD) para trabajar legalmente en Estados Unidos si:

- Obtuvo recientemente el permiso de permanencia temporal (“parole”) en Estados Unidos a través de los procesos de permisos de permanencia temporal para nacionales de Cuba, Haití, Nicaragua y Venezuela (CNHV), o tras recibir una cita por medio de la aplicación CBP One y presentarse en un puerto de entrada; o
- Solicitó asilo mediante la presentación del Formulario I-589, Solicitud de Asilo y de Suspensión de Remoción, y su solicitud de asilo ha estado pendiente durante al menos 150 días.

Si usted aún no ha comenzado el proceso de solicitud del EAD, puede comenzar por ir a la página https://myaccount.uscis.gov/users/sign_up para crear una cuenta del Servicio de Ciudadanía e Inmigración de Estados Unidos (USCIS) en línea. Luego, puede ir a <https://www.uscis.gov/es/I-765> para presentar su Formulario I-765, Solicitud de Autorización de Empleo en línea. USCIS le enviará su EAD a la dirección que usted proporcionó en su solicitud, si su Formulario I-765 es aprobado.

CREAR UNA CUENTA Y PRESENTAR SU SOLICITUD EN LÍNEA

Al presentar su solicitud de EAD en línea, USCIS le ofrece instrucciones y consejos útiles para completar su formulario mediante el sistema seguro de presentación en línea. El sistema también le ayuda a evitar errores comunes, como dejar partes importantes de la solicitud en blanco u olvidarse de firmar con su nombre, y puede subir evidencia de manera electrónica.

Usted también puede verificar el estatus de su caso en <https://egov.uscis.gov>. Para obtener información adicional, vea nuestro video Cómo Crear una Cuenta de USCIS En Línea en <https://www.uscis.gov/es/presentacion-de-solicitudes-en-linea/como-crear-una-cuenta-de-uscis-en-linea>.

Si es necesario, usted puede presentar un Formulario I-765 en formato impreso en lugar de presentar en línea. El formulario está disponible en <https://www.uscis.gov/es/i-765>.

TARIFAS DE PRESENTACIÓN

Las personas que tienen un Formulario I-589 pendiente, no tienen que pagar una tarifa por presentar su Formulario I-765, pero no podrán presentarlo hasta 150 días después de haber presentado su solicitud de asilo.

Hay una tarifa de presentación de \$410 para las personas que obtuvieron un permiso de permanencia temporal (“parole”). Para conocer más acerca de su elegibilidad para obtener una exención de esta tarifa de presentación, consulte la página <https://www.uscis.gov/es/exencion-tarifas>.

DETALLES ACERCA DE LA SOLICITUD

Entre los documentos que debe presentar como evidencia para su Formulario I-765 se incluyen:

- Una copia de su Formulario I-94, Registro de Entrada/Salida (frente y dorso) sellado, una copia impresa de su Formulario I-94 electrónico, una copia de su pasaporte u otro documento de viaje;
- Una copia de su último EAD (si corresponde);
- Una copia de un documento de identidad expedido por el gobierno si no se le expidió anteriormente un EAD; y
- El Formulario G-28 (si está representado por un abogado o representante acreditado).

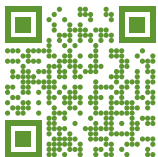
Si necesita obtener una copia de su Formulario I-94, vaya a <https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov/I94/#/recent-search>.

Si usted solicita un EAD, USCIS le notificará su decisión por escrito.

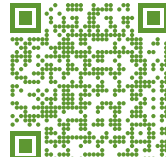
Si su solicitud es aprobada, le enviaremos su EAD por correo o puede que le pidamos que acuda a su oficina local de USCIS para recogerlo.

Si su dirección ha cambiado, debe actualizarla. Usted puede hacer esto a través de su cuenta de USCIS en línea si presentó su formulario en línea o mediante la presentación de un Formulario AR-11, Cambio de Dirección de Tarjeta de Extranjero. Para obtener información adicional sobre cómo cambiar su dirección con USCIS, visite <https://www.uscis.gov/es/cambiodireccion>.

Crear una
Cuenta



Cómo Crear una
Cuenta En Línea



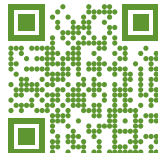
Verificar el Estatus
de su Caso



Formulario
I-765



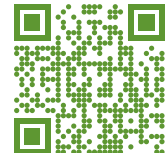
Exención
de Tarifas



Cambio de
Dirección



Obtengu su
Formulario I-94



From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Newman, Gaby - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#); [GOV DL COMMS](#)
Subject: Re: IMMEDIATE REVIEW
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 10:02:06 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Good, please get loaded, GT.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Newman, Gaby - GOV <gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 10:01 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>, [GOV DL COMMS](#) <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE REVIEW

Minor copy edit. Otherwise good.

Gaby Newman (*She/Her/Hers*)
Deputy Press Secretary
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: gaby.newman@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 9:57 AM
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; [GOV DL COMMS](#) <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: IMMEDIATE REVIEW

Huddle, need immediate sign off – if you see edits, plz send them as I’m working v quickly.

Chet, please have him review.

Comms, please run through G baby, copy edit, message check, etc.

Digi, be prepared to load ASAP.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

1/ I delivered on my promise of proposing a 10% middle-class tax cut that provided \$1.2 billion in targeted tax relief to working families, seniors, caregivers, parents, and veteran families because I believe that when we deliver tax relief, we should do it responsibly.

2/ Republicans rejected my commonsense tax plan that would've kept taxes low now and into the future without driving our state into debt or causing devastating cuts to priorities like public schools, child care, public safety, and fixing our roads and bridges.

3/ After starting this biennium in the best fiscal position in state history, Republicans tried to give 11 filers who make \$75 million a year an average \$1.8 million tax cut per year.

Now, they're trying to pass yet another tax plan that puts our state on a path to bankruptcy.

4/ I'll veto it. Plain and simple.

I'm not going to sign an irresponsible Republican tax cut that jeopardizes our state's financial stability well into the future and the investments we need to be making today to address the real, pressing challenges facing our state.









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4199 - Relating to: elimination of tipped minimum wage
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:01:44 AM
Attachments: [23-4199_P1.pdf](#)

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Sen.Agard <Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 10:45 AM
To: Sen.Agard <Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4199 - Relating to: elimination of tipped minimum wage

FYI

From: Sen.Larson <Sen.Larson@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 9:39 AM
To: *Legislative All Senate <ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Co-sponsorship of LRB-4199 - Relating to: elimination of tipped minimum wage

TO: All Legislators
FROM: Senator Larson and Representative Hong
DATE: Wednesday, September 6th, 2023
RE: LRB 4199 - Relating to: elimination of tipped minimum wage.

Deadline: Friday, September 15th, 2023

The restaurant and hospitality industry has been experiencing a staffing crunch since patrons began to dine out again following the COVID-19 pandemic. The best way to alleviate staffing challenges is to ensure workers are treated with dignity and respect.

Wisconsin is one of just 15 states that still use the federal tipped minimum wage. With their wages frozen at \$2.13 and \$2.33 an hour for over 20 years, tipped workers lag behind other professions in achieving this goal. In fact, up to 60% of tipped workers report that their wages

are too low to meet unemployment benefits thresholds. According to the Economic Policy Institute ([EPI](#)), tipped workers have a poverty rate of 12.8%, and 46% rely on public benefits in some form. On the other hand, servers are less likely to experience [poverty](#) when receiving their state's full minimum wage.

In addition to economic uncertainty, tipped workers are [twice as likely to experience harassment](#) - especially [women](#) - who are sadly incentivized to tolerate this harassment and stay silent in order to provide for themselves and their families. Sixty percent of women in the restaurant industry have been targets of sexual harassment, and over 50% say they experience it *weekly*. Moreover, [one out of every seven](#) sexual harassment charges is from a tipped worker. However, the states that got rid of the tipped wages have seen half the rates of sexual harassment as states that have retained it.

Now is the time to provide stability, certainty, and economic relief to our tipped workforce. [This legislation is identical to 2021 SB 286/AB 278.](#)

To co-sponsor this legislation, please reply to this email or contact Sen. Larson (608) 266-7505 or Rep. Hong (608) 266-5342.

*Co-sponsors of the Senate version will automatically be added to the Assembly bill unless otherwise requested



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4199/P1
MIM:klm

PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 104.01 (7m), 104.035 (3) and 104.045 (1); and **to amend**
2 104.035 (1) (b) (intro.), 104.035 (2) (b) (intro.), 104.035 (2m) (a), 104.035 (2m)
3 (b) (intro.) and 104.045 (title) of the statutes; **relating to:** elimination of tipped
4 minimum wage.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill eliminates the separate, tipped minimum wage for all employees.

Generally, under current law, every wage paid by any employer to any employee must be at least the applicable minimum wage established under the statutes. However, if an employer of a tipped employee establishes that, when adding the tips received by the tipped employee in a week to the wages paid to the tipped employee in that week, the tipped employee receives not less than the applicable minimum wage (generally \$7.25 per hour), the minimum wage that the employer must pay the tipped employee is \$2.33 per hour or, with respect to an employee under 20 years of age in the first 90 consecutive days of employment with his or her employer (opportunity employee), \$2.13 per hour.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 104.01 (7m) of the statutes is repealed.

2 **SECTION 2.** 104.035 (1) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

3 104.035 (1) (b) *Allowances for meals and lodging.* (intro.) Except as provided
4 in subs. (2) (b), (2m) (b), and (4) (b) ~~and subject to sub. (3) (b)~~, if an employer furnishes
5 an employee with meals or lodging in accordance with rules promulgated by the
6 department under s. 104.045 (2), the employer may deduct the following amounts
7 from the wages of the employee:

8 **SECTION 3.** 104.035 (2) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 104.035 (2) (b) *Allowances for meals and lodging.* (intro.) Except as provided
10 in subs. (2m) (b) and (4) (b) ~~and subject to sub. (3) (b)~~, if an employer furnishes a minor
11 employee with meals or lodging in accordance with rules promulgated by the
12 department under s. 104.045 (2), the employer may deduct the following amounts
13 from the wages of the employee:

14 **SECTION 4.** 104.035 (2m) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 104.035 (2m) (a) *Minimum rates.* Except as provided in subs. ~~(3)~~ (4) to (8), the
16 minimum wage for an opportunity employee is \$5.90 per hour.

17 **SECTION 5.** 104.035 (2m) (b) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 104.035 (2m) (b) *Allowances for meals and lodging.* (intro.) Except as provided
19 in sub. (4) (b) ~~and subject to sub. (3) (b)~~, if an employer furnishes an opportunity
20 employee with meals or lodging in accordance with rules promulgated by the
21 department under s. 104.045 (2), the employer may deduct the following amounts
22 from the wages of the employee:

23 **SECTION 6.** 104.035 (3) of the statutes is repealed.

24 **SECTION 7.** 104.045 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

25 **104.045** (title) ~~Tips, meals~~ **Meals, lodging, and hours worked.**

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: FW: WEBINAR: Supporting Newcomer Students
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:13:13 AM

Sharing in case others did not receive

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Honeysett, Adam <Adam.Honeysett@ed.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 9:41 AM
To:
Subject: WEBINAR: Supporting Newcomer Students

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

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Image removed by sender.



Save-The-Date

- Lessons from the Field Webinar Series -

Supporting Newcomer Students

Wednesday, September 6, 2023 | 3:00 - 4:30 PM ET

Attention: State and District Leaders, School Administrators, Educators, Student Support Personnel, Parents, and Education Stakeholders

The U.S. Department of Education is hosting a webinar series to address topics that are on the top of educators' minds. After sharing federal updates, the series features lessons learned and best practices from faculty, staff, schools, districts, institutions of higher education, and other places of educational instruction. It also shares a variety of useful resources.

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education's Office of Safe and Supportive Schools, the National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments (NCSSLE) invites you to join our next webinar, *Supporting Newcomer Students*.

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

3:00 – 4:30 pm ET

U.S. schools are critical institutions for supporting all types of newcomers to the United States. 'Newcomers' refers to K-12 students born outside the U.S. who have arrived in the country in the last three years and are still learning English. Newcomer students and their families are also learning how to adjust to the U.S. education system. In this webinar, speakers will highlight several new resources including the U.S. Department of Education's recently updated Newcomer Toolkit, which helps educators support newcomers and their families in and out of the classroom. Our speakers will discuss their own lived experience as newcomers and present the latest data trends. The webinar will also feature a robust panel discussion with experts from around the country discussing the tools, strategies, and best practice examples they use to meet the needs of newcomers and help them build the skills needed to thrive socially, emotionally, and academically.

Speakers

- **Montserrat Garibay**, Assistant Deputy Secretary & Director for the Office of English Language Acquisition, U.S. Department of Education
- **Dr. Brenda Calderon**, Senior Advisor, Office of Elementary & Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education
- **Dr. Melissa Castillo**, Senior Advisor, Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA), U.S. Department of Education
- **Dr. Fernanda Kray**, Senior Technical Assistance Consultant, American Institutes for Research
- **Diana Torres**, Technical Assistance Consultant, American Institutes for Research

Panelists

- **Dr. Karime Asaf**, Chief of Language and Cultural Education, Chicago Public Schools, IL
- **Jessica Gonzalez**, EL Coordinator/SEI Instructor, Ludlow Public Schools, MA
- **Andrew Johnson**, International Welcome Center Coordinator, Austin Independent School District, TX
- **Ryan Rumpf**, Program Administrator, Kansas City Public Schools International Welcome Center, MO

Moderator

- **Gabriela Uro**, Director for English Language Learner Policy and Research, Council of the Great City Schools, Washington D.C.

Related Resources

Below is a selection of related resources you can consult in advance of the webinar. These resources and more will be posted on the [event webpage](#). Specifically, on the day of the event, the slides, speaker bios, and other resources will be posted. The recording and other webinar materials will be posted a day after the event.

- [Newcomer Toolkit](#), U.S. Department of Education
- [Raise the Bar: Lead the World](#), U.S. Department of Education
- [Newcomer Education in California](#), Policy Analysis for California Education

Registration

You must register to participate in this presentation.

[Register](#)

Assistance

Please contact [NCSSE](#) if you have any questions. We look forward to sharing this information with you and hearing about the important work you are doing in your schools, communities, and states to meet the needs of students and staff.

More on the Lessons from the Field Webinar Series

To access archived materials from previous webinars and to find out what is coming next, go [here](#).

**National Center on Safe Supportive
Learning Environments** | [Website](#)



AIR | 1400 Crystal Drive, 10th Floor, Crystal City, VA 22202

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FW: Wisconsin private schools object to their finances being made public
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:13:49 AM

FYSA below

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Pahnke, Brian D - DOA <briand.pahnke@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 9:24 AM
To: Kretschmann, Kyle - DOA <Kyle.Kretschmann@wisconsin.gov>, Hynek, Sara - DOA <Sara.Hynek@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>, Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Wisconsin private schools object to their finances being made public

FYI

<https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-private-schools-object-finances-public-dashboard-vouchers>

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4a
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:20:58 AM

<https://twitter.com/sbauerAP/status/1699453221821976719?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Message from KM_224e
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 1:04:06 PM

Great! Thanks for checking on that.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 1:00 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Message from KM_224e

Mayor is fine with us promoting their Resolution.

[Carl Woitekaitis](#) (*He/Him*)
Northeast Wisconsin Regional Director
Office of the Governor
e. carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov
c. [REDACTED]



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:02:41 AM
To: Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Message from KM_224e

Ok, thank you, Carl!!!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 10:34 AM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: Message from KM_224e

I contacted Mayor Malke this morning thanking her and the city council for passing the resolution. I asked her if she was okay with the office thanking them for passing the resolution.

Carl

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 10:30 AM

To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Message from KM_224e

(specifically giving Peshtigo a shoutout for passing, I mean)

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 10:28 AM

To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>, Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Message from KM_224e

LOVE it! Can we post about this on social?

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 10:26 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>, Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Message from KM_224e

We got our first local resolution passed! Great work Carl and Mitch!!!!

Let's hear it for Peshtigo!!!!

From: Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 10:05 AM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Message from KM_224e

From: Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 10:04 AM
To: Wallace, Mitch - GOV <mitch.wallace@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Message from KM_224e

From: Cathi Malke <cathim@cityofpeshtigo.us>
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 9:11 PM
To: Woitekaitis, Carl - GOV <carl.woitekaitis@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Message from KM_224e

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Carl,

We had our monthly meeting tonight and the Resolution passed unanimously. If we can do anything else, let me know. I know you have already marked Sept. 26th at 5pm for ground breaking ceremony.

Have a great day, Cathi

From: citykm224e@cityofpeshtigo.us [<mailto:citykm224e@cityofpeshtigo.us>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 9:21 PM

To: Cathi Malke <cathim@cityofpeshtigo.us>

Subject: Message from KM_224e

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Agni, Chet - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#); [GOV DL COMMS](#)
Subject: Re: McD PMU
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 1:14:13 PM

LOVE IT.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Agni, Chet - GOV <chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 1:12 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: McD PMU

Gov got lots of applause from the employees at the McDonalds we're eating at and spoke with her owner's wife and their general manager. Lots of folks wanted pics, it was very cute!

"Do you know who this wonderful man is? He's working so hard for us everyday!"

Chet Agni (*he/him*)
Research and Press Specialist
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov



From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Agni, Chet - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#); [GOV DL COMMS](#)
Subject: RE: McD PMU
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 1:30:44 PM

The. Best.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 1:14 PM
To: Agni, Chet - GOV <chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: McD PMU

LOVE IT.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Agni, Chet - GOV <chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 1:12 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: McD PMU

Gov got lots of applause from the employees at the McDonalds we're eating at and spoke with her owner's wife and their general manager. Lots of folks wanted pics, it was very cute!

"Do you know who this wonderful man is? He's working so hard for us everyday!"

Chet Agni (*he/him*)
Research and Press Specialist
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov



From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4A
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 2:32:38 PM

<https://x.com/repGRETA/status/1699500597043499454?s=46>

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FW: Governor Evers Letter from the Social Security Administration Requesting Additional Data in Enumeration at Birth
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 2:34:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Governor Letter - EAB Wisconsin.pdf](#)
[including-race-ethnicity-data-through-EAB.pdf](#)

For Huddle tomorrow

From: ^SSAExecSec <SSAExecSec@ssa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 2, 2023 12:50 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Pennoyer, Kara - PSC <kara.pennoyer@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Britton, Temika <Temika.Britton@ssa.gov>; Olsen, Anya <Anya.Olsen@ssa.gov>; Zapote, Abigail <abigail.zapote@ssa.gov>
Subject: Governor Evers Letter from the Social Security Administration Requesting Additional Data in Enumeration at Birth

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Governor Evers,

The Social Security Administration mailed a letter dated August 2, 2023, to your office on behalf of our Acting Commissioner, Kilolo Kijakazi. She requests your help to collect additional race and ethnicity data for Social Security Number (SSN) holders in your State. For your convenience, we have attached the letter along with a fact sheet that provides additional information.

Please let us know if you would like additional information or have any questions.

We appreciate your review of the letter and action on this important initiative.

Thank you.

Abigail Zapote
Senior Advisor
Social Security Administration



Securing today
and tomorrow



Securing today
and tomorrow



SOCIAL SECURITY

The Commissioner

August 2, 2023

The Honorable Tony Evers
Governor of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 7863
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Governor Evers:

Our Social Security programs provide income security for the diverse populations we serve. Since 1936, individuals have voluntarily provided us their race and ethnicity data when applying for a Social Security number (SSN). We use this data to conduct research and analysis to help improve our programs. I am writing to request your help to collect additional race and ethnicity data for SSN holders.

In 1987, we began the Enumeration at Birth (EAB) process so that parents can efficiently obtain an SSN as part of the state's birth registration process without having to visit a Social Security field office. We pay States for data collected through EAB. Today, almost all new SSNs are processed through EAB. In fiscal year 2022, EAB accounted for 99 percent of SSNs issued for children under the age of one. However, the current EAB process does not allow for voluntary submission of race and ethnicity data, like the standard SSN application process does.

We are asking you to encourage your Vital Statistics Agency to collect and share – with parental consent – newborn and parent race and ethnicity data. We will work with your Vital Statistics Agency on the technical details concerning how to obtain and transmit the information to us as well as funding.

If you have questions or wish to discuss this issue in more detail, please contact me, or have your staff contact Christopher McDermott, our Acting Associate Commissioner for the Office of Data Exchange, Policy Publications, and International Negotiations, at (443) 379-3079.

Sincerely,

Kilolo Kijakazi, Ph.D., M.S.W.
Acting Commissioner



Including Race and Ethnicity Data Through the Enumeration at Birth (EAB) Process



Percentage of Living SSN Holders **With Race Data**, by Age Group, 2020

Aged 30 or Older



Younger than 30



Background

- ▶ Since 1936, individuals can voluntarily share their race and ethnicity with the Social Security Administration (SSA) through the Social Security Number (SSN) paper application process.
- ▶ In 1987, SSA started the EAB process with states as a more efficient way for parents at a hospital or birthing center, or those using a licensed midwife, to obtain an SSN for their newborn during the birth registration process. Since then, almost all new SSNs are processed through EAB.
- ▶ While both processes are used to issue new SSNs, EAB is an automated process that differs from the [Form SS-5](#) paper application process. Form SS-5 allows for the capture of voluntarily provided race and ethnicity data, whereas the EAB process currently does not.
- ▶ Providing race and ethnicity information does not affect decisions on applications. SSA requests this information for research and statistical purposes, to ensure all our customers receive fair and equal treatment.

Unintended Consequence of the EAB Process

- ▶ As the share of SSNs created by EAB grows, the share of SSA's records that include race and ethnicity data continues to decrease.
- ▶ By 2012, this diminishing data availability contributed to statistical accuracy concerns, resulting in the removal of statistics by race from SSA publications. *For more details, see ["Why Researchers Now Rely on Surveys for Race Data on OASDI and SSI Programs: A Comparison of Four Major Surveys"](#).*

Rebuilding for the Future

- ▶ SSA recognizes the importance of identifying and addressing systemic inequities relating to race and ethnicity in the programs we administer.
- ▶ Incomplete race and ethnicity data in our records hamper our ability to determine whether programs are equitably serving our applicants and beneficiaries.
- ▶ In support of Executive Orders 13985 and 14091 on advancing racial equity, and to begin to address these data barriers, we need to increase the collection of race and ethnicity in our records.

How You Can Help

- ▶ We ask states and jurisdictions to partner with SSA to collect and provide newborn race and ethnicity data and provide parent race and ethnicity data as part of the EAB process.
- ▶ This partnership will contribute to future research and evaluation of SSA's programs to ensure that residents of your state, particularly in underserved communities, are treated fairly and equitably.

Executive Orders—[13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government](#) (January 2021) and [14091: Further Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through The Federal Government](#) (February 2023).

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4A
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 4:10:00 PM

<https://x.com/ap/status/1699516048305762320?s=46>

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Request to Meet
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 4:13:30 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Unlikely I'll be able to join but would be interested in a readout!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 4:09 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Request to Meet

Sure, that would be great. Thanks!

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 3:38 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Request to Meet

I don't think there's a rush? I can push it till you're back if you'd like to participate

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 3:24:30 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Request to Meet

What date are you hoping to schedule this for?

If it's while I'm out, can you join Mitch?

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 10:32 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fw: Request to Meet

FYSA. We will do a meeting, but thought others would want visibility on the hires. Wenona, do you or someone from your team want to join?

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Michael Blumenfeld <mblumenfeld@mblumenfeld.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 11:19 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Request to Meet

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hi Jenni:

I hope you are well. As you know there have been some changes at AARP Wisconsin. The most recent addition is former Rep. David Bowen as the new Associate State Director of Advocacy. I would like to request to meet with you to discuss AARP priority issues that they will be working on in the coming weeks. I would be joined by Martha Cranley, the state Director and David. Please feel free to include any other staff that you feel would be appropriate.

I appreciate your consideration.

Take care,
Michael








From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: N4A
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 5:21:10 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

See  [here](#).

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: 
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 3:39 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: N4A

<https://x.com/danodonnellshow/status/1699469509008965947?s=46>

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.



From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: USDA Secretary Vilsack Visit to WI (9/13)
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 6:25:49 PM

From: Soto, Rudy - RD, ID <Rudy.Soto@usda.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 4:20:53 PM
To: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: USDA Office of External & Intergovernmental Affairs <EIA@usda.gov>
Subject: USDA Secretary Vilsack Visit to WI (9/13)

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Office of Governor Evers,

I am writing to provide you with a notification and invitation regarding an upcoming visit to Waukesha, Wisconsin on Wednesday, September 13th by the USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack.

Secretary Vilsack will convene a panel discussion on Partnerships for Climate Smart Commodities. At this event, Secretary Vilsack will convene Wisconsin partners enrolled in this initiative – on the one-year anniversary of its launch – and highlight the historic investment by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to expand markets for climate-smart commodities, leverage the greenhouse gas benefits of climate-smart commodity production and provide direct, meaningful benefits to production agriculture in Wisconsin and across the country, including for small and underserved producers. This investment will increase the competitive advantage of U.S. agriculture both domestically and internationally, combat the climate crisis, and strengthen rural America.

The meeting will be open press and take place indoors at the Gwenyn Hill Farm (N130W294 Bryn Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188).

If you or any member of your team have any questions or would like further information about Secretary Vilsack's visit, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

Rudy Soto

Acting Director
Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs
United States Department of Agriculture
PH: [REDACTED]

rudy.soto@usda.gov

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From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Roets, Steven - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Laurent, Bridget - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Today's Meeting
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 10:34:13 AM

Ok! Thanks, Steven!

From: Roets, Steven - GOV <steven.roets@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 10:32:45 AM
To: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Laurent, Bridget - GOV <bridget.laurent@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Today's Meeting

Good morning,

We can pull down this morning's meeting to free up time – I don't have any major updates and I know that folks' schedules are quite busy today!

Best,
Steven

Steven M. Roets
Compliance Officer
Office of Governor Tony Evers

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#)
Cc: [Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:17:09 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-The Instag.png](#)

Works for me.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 2:15 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

How does:

9/11 from 9:45 am - 10:00 am
9/13 from 9:30 - 9:45 am
9/15 from 9:15 - 9:30 am
9/19 from 8:15 - 8:30 am (immediately before SS)

work for everyone? It is close with huddles etc., but fits best with GTE's EOD overseas

Best,

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 6:27 PM

To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

Got it. Personally, I think we should have them up, but based on session and time change, not sure T/Th makes the most sense. Might be better to do M/W/F afternoon our time so we can use that time for any last-minute decisions as it relates to session? But open to other ideas - I don't have a strong preference.

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 3:44:53 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

He is ~7 hours ahead at all times. Kyra also got his calendar updated for his trip so you can see our time versus their time/schedule in his calendar too

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 3:42 PM

To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

Do you have a handy thing as to the time difference(s) while he's out?

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 at 2:59 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

Hey, all!

I am just checking in on the team's preferences on your AM Check In Calls during the Governor's Trade Mission. Do we just want to rearrange the time so it works with his mission schedule? Or are there other preferences here?

Best,

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov











From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#)
Cc: [Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:23:37 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-The Instag.png](#)

Sure

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:17:07 PM
To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

Works for me.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 2:15 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
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9/13 from 9:30 - 9:45 am
9/15 from 9:15 - 9:30 am
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Best,

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 6:27 PM

To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>

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Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

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—

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 3:44:53 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

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Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 3:42 PM
To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

Do you have a handy thing as to the time difference(s) while he's out?

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Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 at 2:59 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Baumgartner, Shelby - GOV <shelby.baumgartner@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: AM Check In Calls During International Travel

Hey, all!

I am just checking in on the team's preferences on your AM Check In Calls during the Governor's Trade Mission. Do we just want to rearrange the time so it works with his mission schedule? Or are there other preferences here?

Best,

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov











From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV Press](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Ground Breaking, NIF Grant, Lancaster, WI
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:26:59 PM

Per DOA, “we were invited but doubt we can make it work” but “hoping we’ll be able to return once the project is completed”

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 2:15 PM
To: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Ground Breaking, NIF Grant, Lancaster, WI

Will flag for DOA.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 1:51 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Ground Breaking, NIF Grant, Lancaster, WI

This isn’t exactly an event invite and it’s next week anyway, but FYI on a groundbreaking on Sept. 13 for an apartment complex in Lancaster that was supported with NIF grant funds.

Chet Agni (*he/him*)
Research and Press Specialist
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]
e. chet.agnil@wisconsin.gov



From: David Carlson <davidc@lancasterwisconsin.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 10:15:08 AM
To: GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Ground Breaking, NIF Grant, Lancaster, WI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lea Vesperman, City of Lancaster
Phone: 608.723.3702
Email: cityhall@lancasterwisconsin.com

**ARROW RIDGE APARTMENTS GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY
SEPTEMBER 13, 1:00 pm - 444 S. ROOSEVELT STREET
40 new workforce housing apartment homes begin construction.**

Lancaster, Wisconsin, September 5, 2023
Wednesday September 13th at 1:00 pm, Wisconsin Management Company (WMC) along with Mayor Harper and City Administrator David Carlson welcome the public to a groundbreaking of the future Arrow Ridge Apartments.

Mayor Harper stated, "We appreciate the assistance from the State of Wisconsin and are excited to increase housing options in our community."

Working with Wisconsin Management Company (WMC) which owns and operates Sunrise Apartments in Lancaster, Russ Endres, President of WMC said, "We have a long relationship with the city and citizens of Lancaster and recognize the huge need for quality workforce housing that this project will address." The City received a grant from the State of Wisconsin Neighborhood Investment Fund Program and funds from the Great Day in the City of Lancaster Fund (GDCLF) both of which support and encourage economic development within the community through housing.

City Administrator David Carlson stated, "Once housing is developed, this project will benefit our community by supporting business growth throughout the area".

This grant is part of a nearly \$650 million investment allocated by the State of Wisconsin for community building and recovery efforts statewide. The Neighborhood Investment Fund program is administered by the Wisconsin Department of Administration (DOA).

It's a Great Day in the City of Lancaster

###

If you would like more information about this topic, contact David Carlson at 608-723-5196, or at davidc@lanasterwisconsin.com.

David A. Carlson
Administrator, City of Lancaster, WI



Need to send me a large file? Send it to <https://bracket.email/davidcarlson>

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Office of Environmental Justice
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:53:11 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Got it. If nothing further, I'll plan to send this over in 10 mins or so.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 2:46 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Office of Environmental Justice

One more suggested edit highlighted

All the Best,

Jacob Pankratz (*he/him/his*)
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:38 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Office of Environmental Justice

Suggested update

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 2:34 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Office of Environmental Justice

Please let me know if you have concerns with the below. Note this is derived, in part, from previous press responses on this topic.

Our administration has been working to fill the position of director for the office. **Governor Evers once again proposed additional positions and funding for the office in his 2023-25 budget proposal, which was once again removed by the Legislature.**

For your background, the most recent recruitment effort earlier this year did not yield a qualified candidate, but I understand **the department expects to move forward again with the position in the near future.** *position will be reopened for new applicants in the near future.*

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Richmond, Todd <TRichmond@ap.org>
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 1:52 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Office of Environmental Justice

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Britt:

What's the status of the OEJ? Is anyone working in that office? I don't see any funding provisions for it in the state budget and in the 2021-23 budget
Republicans killed money for it.

Todd Richmond
Associated Press
608-658-1120 (cell)
Twitter: @trichmond1

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From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Mercer, Anna - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: DHS News Release - Thursday, 9/7
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 4:41:33 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-The Instag.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-The Instag.png](#)

Great! Ty for doing that.

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 4:41:13 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: DHS News Release - Thursday, 9/7

From Derrick: "Call made, left a VM at first and then she called back right away. He took the call and congratulated her, brief convo on her recent work. No flags. "

Corissa Uselmann
Scheduling Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 1:12 PM
To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: DHS News Release - Thursday, 9/7

Thank you!

--
Britt Cudaback

Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Thursday, September 7, 2023 at 12:42 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: DHS News Release - Thursday, 9/7

Apologies for my delay here! We're working on a call for today. Will loop back once that's done

Corissa Uselmann
Scheduling Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:10 AM
To: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: DHS News Release - Thursday, 9/7

Thanks, Anna! Appreciate it.

CU, let me know if you want me to take this off your list given ***gestures broadly*** and coordinate a call at some point.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 11:03 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle

<GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: DHS News Release - Thursday, 9/7

Hi Britt,

I am sure I can put together a personalized certificate with the info below and elsewhere. If not, I have Ali's info below.

I have added this to the queue and will work to have this sent out within the next two weeks.

Anna Mercer (*she/her*)

Director of Constituent Services and Proclamations

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e: anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov

c: [REDACTED]



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 5:39 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: FW: DHS News Release - Thursday, 9/7

We should have gov call this week and also put together a citation, please.

Anna, I'm sure Ali or Deb would be able to get you any info you need on Paula—let me know if you want us to connect you with one of them directly.

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Maresh, Alison B - DHS <alison.maresh@dhs.wisconsin.gov>

Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 3:24 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: DHS News Release - Thursday, 9/7

Hi Britt and Cara,

We have another news release for this week. On Thursday, we're planning to announce Paula Tran being recognized by de Beaumont Foundation's 40 Under 40 in public health.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Ali

Wisconsin State Health Officer Earns National Recognition

Paula Tran named to de Beaumont Foundation's '40 under 40 in Public Health'

Today, Paula Tran, state health officer and administrator for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) Division of Public Health, has been selected by the de Beaumont Foundation as one its Class of 2023 [40 Under 40 in Public Health](#) leaders.

The de Beaumont Foundation, a national nonprofit that supports and invests in public health solutions and partnerships, announced its third class of public health leaders after reviewing nominations from hundreds of public health professionals across the United States. Honorees were selected for demonstrating determination, commitment, innovation, and resilience in the public health field, and will now participate in a two-year professional development program that will provide them with new opportunities for collaboration, mutual support, and growth.

"We are thrilled to see Paula recognized for this truly unique opportunity alongside dedicated and innovative public health leaders in Wisconsin and across the U.S.," said Kirsten Johnson, DHS Secretary-designee. "Paula's commitment to the core mission of public health and her spirit of innovation, collaboration, and partnership are unmatched. We are excited to know her work and ideas will be shared more broadly through this opportunity and look forward to the new concepts and strategies she will bring back to Wisconsin from her colleagues in this select group of leaders."

Tran has been with DHS since 2021. Prior to this role, she advanced public health and health equity efforts in a variety of agencies, including as director for the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute's Mobilizing Action Toward Community Health (MATCH) group, assistant director at the Wisconsin Center for Community and Nonprofit Studies, and the Transform Wisconsin Health Equity Coordinator at the Wisconsin Clearinghouse for Prevention Resources. She holds a Master of Public Health degree and Bachelor of Science in biology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"I'm honored to join this distinguished group of public health leaders who share my passion for and commitment to public health," said Tran. "I have spent my career—at the

community level, in academia, and in government—highlighting the connection between community conditions and health outcomes and building relationships that work collectively to increase equitable opportunities for thriving. I look forward to partnering with and learning from similarly focused colleagues nationwide.”

In addition to Tran, the program’s honorees include individuals representing state, local, and territorial health departments; colleges and universities; nonprofit organizations; and the private sector. Honorees from Wisconsin include Tran, as well as Katarina Grande from Public Health Madison Dane County and Treemanisha Stewart from Sauk County Public Health.

For more information about the 40 Under 40 in Public Health, including a full list of honorees, visit the [de Beaumont Foundation webpage](#).

###

Ali Maresh

she/her/hers

Communications Director

Office of the Secretary

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

cell: [REDACTED]



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WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES









From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#); [Taylor, Jorna - GOV](#)
Subject: RE: USDA Secretary Vilsack Visit to WI (9/13)
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:34:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Jorna, can you just let her know he's out of the state that day and can't make it

From: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 9:50 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: USDA Secretary Vilsack Visit to WI (9/13)

fyi

All the Best,

Jacob Pankratz (*he/him/his*)
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov



From: Lassa, Julie - RD, WI <Julie.Lassa@usda.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 9:07 AM
To: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: USDA Secretary Vilsack Visit to WI (9/13)

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hi Jacob.

Just flagging this invitation for you regarding Secretary Vilsack's upcoming visit to Wisconsin next week. The invitation was sent on Wednesday which may be why OSEC has not heard yet if the governor or anyone from his administration will be able to attend. Any help you could provide us with this scheduling request would be greatly appreciated.

Thanks!
Julie

From: Soto, Rudy - RD, ID <Rudy.Soto@usda.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 8:49 AM
To: Lassa, Julie - RD, WI <Julie.Lassa@usda.gov>
Subject: FW: USDA Secretary Vilsack Visit to WI (9/13)

From: Soto, Rudy - RD, ID
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 5:21 PM
To: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <Maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: USDA Office of External & Intergovernmental Affairs <EIA@usda.gov>
Subject: USDA Secretary Vilsack Visit to WI (9/13)

Dear Office of Governor Evers,

I am writing to provide you with a notification and invitation regarding an upcoming visit to Waukesha, Wisconsin on Wednesday, September 13th by the USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack.

Secretary Vilsack will convene a panel discussion on Partnerships for Climate Smart Commodities. At this event, Secretary Vilsack will convene Wisconsin partners enrolled in this initiative – on the one-year anniversary of its launch – and highlight the historic investment by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to expand markets for climate-smart commodities, leverage the greenhouse gas benefits of climate-smart commodity production and provide direct, meaningful benefits to production agriculture in Wisconsin and across the country, including for small and underserved producers. This investment will increase the competitive advantage of U.S. agriculture both domestically and internationally, combat the climate crisis, and strengthen rural America.

The meeting will be open press and take place indoors at the Gwenyn Hill Farm (N130W294 Bryn Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188).

If you or any member of your team have any questions or would like further information about Secretary Vilsack's visit, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thank you,

Rudy Soto
Acting Director
Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs
United States Department of Agriculture
PH: [REDACTED]
rudy.soto@usda.gov

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.







From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV.DI Review](#)
Subject: FW: Registration for Advancing Prison Birth Justice in Wisconsin
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:35:00 AM

From: Danielle Johnson <event-information@certain.com>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 9:17 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: egerrity@ostarainitiative.org
Subject: Registration for Advancing Prison Birth Justice in Wisconsin

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**



Dear Maggie,

The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread, Ostara Initiative, and W.K. Kellogg Foundation are pleased to invite you to register for the conference "Advancing Prison Birth Justice in Wisconsin" to be held at The Johnson Foundation facilities in Racine, Wisconsin from Friday, September 22, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. to Sunday, September 24, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

The statement of purpose for this conference is as follows: To convene critical and inclusive collaborators in the development of an action plan to implement a prison doula project in the state of Wisconsin.

To confirm your participation, **please register no later than September 8** by clicking this registration website link: [PARTICIPANT WEBSITE](#). To facilitate your registration, please have your travel plans at hand since this information is required to proceed through your registration. Once you register, we will reserve your room at our Guest House for the night(s) you indicated, and confirmation information will be emailed to you.

This registration website also contains answers to our most frequently asked questions, including travel and lodging details and information about the conference. If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Money Penny at amoneypenny@johnsonfdn.org or 262-681-3343. We look forward to greeting you and your colleagues.

Thank you,

Danielle Johnson
Program Officer
The Johnson Foundation at Wingspread

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Tomten, Amanda - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: RE: EXECUTIVE SESSION Joint Committee on Tax Exemptions
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 11:39:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Yes – I will come find you after this 1130 ends.

From: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 11:11 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: EXECUTIVE SESSION Joint Committee on Tax Exemptions

Attached. Let me know if folks would like to have additional conversation.

Amanda Tomten

Legislative Affairs Assistant
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]
e. Amanda.Tomten1@wisconsin.gov



From: McKinny, Christopher J. <McKinnyCJ@doj.state.wi.us>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 9:36 AM
To: Tomten, Amanda - GOV <amanda.tomten1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: EXECUTIVE SESSION Joint Committee on Tax Exemptions

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hey Amanda,

Can we touch base on this when it is convenient?

[REDACTED]

Thanks!

Chris

From: Keenan, Brian P. <keenanbp@doj.state.wi.us>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 9:33 AM

To: McKinny, Christopher J. <McKinnyCJ@doj.state.wi.us>
Subject: FW: EXECUTIVE SESSION Joint Committee on Tax Exemptions

Chris,

I received notice of another joint committee meeting on two different tax exemptions. Ballot is due by 2pm on Monday.

Brian

From: Beno, Ariana <Ariana.Beno@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 9:27 AM
To: Barca, Peter W - DOR <Peter.Barca@wisconsin.gov>; Keenan, Brian P. <keenanbp@doj.state.wi.us>; Kessler, Elizabeth - TAC <elizabeth.kessler@wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Goyke <Rep.Goyke@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.Swearingen <Rep.Swearingen@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Sen.Marklein <Sen.Marklein@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Sen.Taylor <Sen.Taylor@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Sen.Testin <Sen.Testin@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rep.August <Rep.August@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Bacher, Luke - LEGIS <Luke.Bacher@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Rostan, Jason <Jason.Rostan@legis.wisconsin.gov>; Nelson, Christina - LEGIS <Christina.Nelson@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: EXECUTIVE SESSION Joint Committee on Tax Exemptions

Hello Members of the Jt. Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions,

We will be having an executive session Monday, September 11th by paper ballot.

Our committee is deciding whether the tax exemption provisions in [AB 386](#) and [AB 387](#) are good public policy or not good public policy. Legislative Council has provided reports detailing the appropriate provisions in each bill. I've included them for your review.

I will be emailing you a paper ballot Monday morning at 10 AM (or you can come to 115- West to pick up a hard copy) that will have two motions (Good public policy/Not good public policy).

You will need to return either a scanned copy of a completed ballot or a hard copy to our office by 2:00 PM on Monday, September 11th. Emailing it to me is preferred.

mailto: Ariana.Beno@legis.wi.gov

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Ariana

Ariana Beno
Office of Rep. August

Assembly Majority Leader









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB 3081/1 relating to: filling vacancies in elective state offices in the executive branch
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 12:05:23 PM
Attachments: [23-3081_1.pdf](#)

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Sen.Agard <Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 at 11:22 AM
To: Sen.Agard <Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Co-sponsorship of LRB 3081/1 relating to: filling vacancies in elective state offices in the executive branch

FYI

From: Sen.Tomczyk <Sen.Tomczyk@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 7, 2023 4:34 PM
To: *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate <ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Co-sponsorship of LRB 3081/1 relating to: filling vacancies in elective state offices in the executive branch

To: All Legislators

From: Senator Cory Tomczyk
Representative Gae Magnafici

Date: September 7, 2023

Re: Co-sponsorship of LRB 3081/1 relating to: filling vacancies in elective state offices in the executive branch

Deadline: Friday, September 15th @ 12:00 p.m.

In the November, 2022 election, Wisconsin voters went to the polls to elect their representatives in government. The voters were under the impression that the candidates they chose would go on to fulfill the office they were elected to for their entire term. Unfortunately,

Wisconsin's Secretary of State chose to resign just 76 DAYS into his four-year term after serving for 42 years. At that point, the Governor was able to appoint his replacement, undercutting the ability of the electorate to choose the Secretary of State for the remainder of the term – over three and a half years. The Governor simply was able to hand-pick a replacement as a political favor. This is wrong and should not be allowed in state law.

Under LRB 3081/1, if an executive branch vacancy occurs on or after January 1 of a year in which there is a regularly scheduled election for said office, the vacancy would be filled by a nomination of the Governor and would go to the State Senate for a confirmation vote. If the vacancy occurs prior to January 1 of the year of the regularly scheduled election for said office, the Governor must call a special election to fill the remainder of the term.

LRB 3081/1 is not about politics, it is about good government. The residents of Wisconsin choose who represents them in the executive branch, NOT the Governor. Whether the move by the Secretary of State earlier this year was planned or not, it should never be allowed to happen again.

To cosponsor LRB 3081/1, please contact Mitch in Sen. Tomczyk's office (6-2502) or Jensen in Rep. Magnafici's office (9128) by Friday, September 15th at 12:00 p.m. Cosponsors will automatically be signed onto both bills.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, the governor fills by appointment all vacancies in the offices of secretary of state, treasurer, attorney general, and state superintendent of public instruction. The person appointed to fill any such vacancy is not subject to senate confirmation and holds office until a successor is elected by special election and qualified. If no special election is held, the person appointed by the governor holds office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

This bill eliminates the ability of the governor to fill vacancies in these offices by appointment without senate confirmation, instead providing that the vacancies are filled by special election. However under the bill, if a vacancy occurs in any of these offices on or after January 1 of a year in which there is a regularly scheduled election for the office, the vacancy must be filled by nomination of the governor and appointment with the advice and consent of the senate of a person to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3081/1
MPG:amn

2023 BILL

1 **AN ACT to amend** 17.19 (4) of the statutes; **relating to:** filling vacancies in
2 elective state offices in the executive branch.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Currently, the governor fills by appointment all vacancies in the offices of secretary of state, treasurer, attorney general, and state superintendent of public instruction. The person appointed to fill any such vacancy is not subject to senate confirmation and holds office until a successor is elected by special election and qualified. If no special election is held, the person appointed by the governor holds office for the remainder of the unexpired term.

This bill eliminates the ability of the governor to fill vacancies in these offices by appointment without senate confirmation, instead providing that the vacancies are filled by special election. However under the bill, if a vacancy occurs in any of these offices on or after January 1 of a year in which there is a regularly scheduled election for the office, the vacancy must be filled by nomination of the governor and appointment with the advice and consent of the senate of a person to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 17.19 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

BILL**SECTION 1**

1 17.19 (4) OTHER ELECTIVE STATE OFFICERS. In the office of secretary of state,
2 treasurer, attorney general, or state superintendent, by ~~appointment~~ as provided in
3 s. 8.50, except that a vacancy occurring in such office on or after January 1 of a year
4 in which there is a regularly scheduled election for the office shall be filled by
5 nomination of the governor; and ~~a person so appointed shall hold office until a~~
6 ~~successor is elected, as provided in s. 8.50, and qualifies, but if no such election is~~
7 ~~held, the person so appointed shall hold office for~~ appointment with the advice and
8 consent of the senate to serve the residue of the unexpired term. The governor may
9 not fill any vacancy under this subsection with a provisional appointment.

10

(END)

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Taylor, Jorna - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Any changes to the DL's for the trade mission schedules?
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 12:43:57 PM

Nothing from me.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 at 12:03 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Any changes to the DL's for the trade mission schedules?

I'm going to send out the trade mission weekend and week ahead schedules no later than 1:30 - they are ready now, but want to give you all enough time to weigh in.

Are there any changes to who gets them, due to the nature of the schedule and any sensitivity? Just wanted to be sure! This time around they will be the same thing, because we don't have any briefings we are sending on our end with the schedules like we typically would for Gov (which wouldn't go to the 2nd list) -

To recap, Gov's email goes to -

DOT DL DSP DPU;
GOV DL PM Schedule

And the regular "just schedule" email goes to:

GOV LTGOV DL Staff <GOVLTGOVDLStaff@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: DOA DL All DCP Cap Pol Executive Residence Detail <DOADLAllDCPCapPolExecutiveResidenceDetail@wisconsin.gov>; Erwin, David - DOA <David.Erwin@wisconsin.gov>; Litzkow, Christopher - DOA <Christopher.Litzkow@wisconsin.gov>; Haas, Adam - DOA <Adam.Haas@wisconsin.gov>; Hyatt, Andrew - DOA <Andrew.Hyatt@wisconsin.gov>; Von Haden, Malanie - DOA <Malanie.VonHaden@wisconsin.gov>;

cassi@tonyevers.com <cassi@tonyevers.com>; sam@tonyevers.com <sam@tonyevers.com>;
emma@tonyevers.com <emma@tonyevers.com>

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: n4a
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 12:48:05 PM

<https://twitter.com/AlexanderShur/status/1700202072711352534?s=20>


--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FOR REVIEW
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 12:48:08 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

See  [here](#).

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: 
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov



From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: FW: Co-Sponsorship of LRB-0284/1, relating to: authorizing certain full-time positions within the Department of Safety and Professional Services and making an appropriation
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 12:56:29 PM
Attachments: [23-0284 1.pdf](#)

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Sen.Agard <Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 at 10:30 AM
To: Sen.Agard <Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Co-Sponsorship of LRB-0284/1, relating to: authorizing certain full-time positions within the Department of Safety and Professional Services and making an appropriation

FYI

From: Rep.Doyle <Rep.Doyle@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 8:53 AM
To: *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate <ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Co-Sponsorship of LRB-0284/1, relating to: authorizing certain full-time positions within the Department of Safety and Professional Services and making an appropriation

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: All Legislators
FROM: Senator Brad Pfaff and Representatives Steve Doyle and Jill Billings
DATE: September 8, 2023
RE: Co-Sponsorship of LRB-0284/1, relating to: authorizing certain full-time positions within the Department of Safety and Professional Services and making an appropriation.
DEADLINE: September 22, 2023

As Wisconsin continues to grapple with a workforce shortage, one potential barrier to entry into the workforce is credentialing. The Department of Safety and Professional Services is responsible for approving credentials for over 200 different occupations. What's more, many of those 200+ occupations are in short supply and desperately needed in our state. Jobs in fields like nursing,

pharmacy, and psychology are all credentialed by DSPS. Further, depending on the credential itself, these approval processes can be complex and time-consuming, as it is important to ensure the applicant is prepared for the job they are applying for.

Unfortunately, the Department is currently understaffed, and in order to keep up with the quantity of credential applications they receive each day, they have requested additional staff for the purpose of professional credential processing. This bill funds those positions.

At a time when our hospitals need more nurses, our pharmacies need more pharmacists, and our mental health infrastructure is seeing substantially higher demand than they can meet, it is critical that we ensure those responsible for credentialing these workers have the staff they need.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation please reply to this email or call James Macken in Representative Doyle's office at 237-9194 by 5:00 PM on September 22, 2023.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill appropriates money for the Department of Safety and Professional Services to hire nine full-time staff to process professional license applications, eight full-time staff to communicate with customers and the public, and two full-time staff to help individuals, employers, and institutions of higher education understand the credential application and approval process.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0284/1
JPC:cdc

2023 BILL

1 **AN ACT relating to:** authorizing certain full-time positions within the
2 Department of Safety and Professional Services and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill appropriates money for the Department of Safety and Professional Services to hire nine full-time staff to process professional license applications, eight full-time staff to communicate with customers and the public, and two full-time staff to help individuals, employers, and institutions of higher education understand the credential application and approval process.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1. Fiscal changes.**

4 (1) PROFESSIONAL LICENSING STAFF; DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL
5 SERVICES. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the department
6 of safety and professional services under s. 20.165 (1) (g), the dollar amount for fiscal
7 year 2023-24 is increased by \$552,300 to increase the authorized FTE positions for

BILL**SECTION 1**

1 the department by 9.0 PR positions for staff to process professional credential
2 applications. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the
3 department of safety and professional services under s. 20.165 (1) (g), the dollar
4 amount for fiscal year 2024-25 is increased by \$708,900 to provide funding for the
5 positions authorized under this subsection.

6 (2) CUSTOMER COMMUNICATION STAFF; DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL
7 SERVICES. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the department
8 of safety and professional services under s. 20.165 (1) (g), the dollar amount for fiscal
9 year 2023-24 is increased by \$465,600 to increase the authorized FTE positions
10 within the department by 8.0 PR positions for staff to communicate with customers
11 and the public. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the
12 department of safety and professional services under s. 20.165 (1) (g), the dollar
13 amount for fiscal year 2024-25 is increased by \$581,800 to provide funding for the
14 positions authorized under this subsection.

15 (3) LICENSE NAVIGATORS; DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES. In
16 the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the department of safety and
17 professional services under s. 20.165 (1) (g), the dollar amount for fiscal year 2024-25
18 is increased by \$143,000 to increase the authorized FTE positions within the
19 department by 2.0 PR positions for staff to help individuals, employers, and
20 institutions of higher education understand the credential application and approval
21 process.

SECTION 2. Effective date.

22 (1) This act takes effect on the day after publication, or on the 2nd day after
23 publication of the 2023 biennial budget act, whichever is later.
24

25 (END)

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Taylor, Jorna - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:12:09 PM

Ok, thx.

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:07:32 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

I can try – but we're under a year until the race so I know they're antsy to get it out. I will go back to Paul.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:01 PM
To: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

21st is not ideal for many reasons. 25th is ok, I guess...are there no other dates thereafter available?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 at 11:08 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

I don't see an issue on my end with timing on the 21 in the morning, as long as we are back in the building by noon for State of Ed - they want us for the ceremony 12-1.

Otherwise the 25th is pretty wide open at this point.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:32 AM

To: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement


We're getting close to announcing this thing! They would like to do a press conference at State Fair Park. They offered up September 21 (anytime – yes I know it's state of ed day so we could do the morning) and Roger Penske could be there. Or they offered September 25 and Roger Penske will not be there.

Thoughts and flags?

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Campbell, Derek - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: RE: ACTION REQUESTED: COG Work Group Survey on Disaster Response and Recovery
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:16:00 PM
Attachments: [image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)

I definitely think we should respond to this... makes sense to touch base with Greg Engle and DOA first to get a good draft going.

From: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:14 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: ACTION REQUESTED: COG Work Group Survey on Disaster Response and Recovery

FYI. Request for survey response by the [Council of Governors](#) (COG) Emergency Management and Disaster Response work group regarding the federal government's approach to disaster response and recovery. I will include the survey questions below. Find a document  [here](#) that folks can add initial thoughts, if they'd like. Will also work with Jenni in the case we'd like to touch base with agency folks. Happy to discuss further at Week Ahead.

1. What are your top issues / concerns with the federal approach to disaster response/recovery? (For example: lack of coordination among federal agencies in the recovery process; heavy administrative burden on disaster victims etc)
2. Please provide some recommendations on how the federal government could address the issues you've identified: (For example: utilize a universal application for disaster programs across all federal agencies)
3. What FEMA initiatives or programs related to disaster response/recovery are working well or would you like to see expanded? Please also provide any best practices you have established in collaborating with FEMA on response/recovery that other states may benefit from.
4. Please provide an example of how current disaster response/recovery policies impacted your state negatively during a recent disaster, if applicable:
5. Do you feel that federal disaster response and recovery efforts create equitable recoveries for all those impacted in your state?
 - a. If no, please explain:
 - b. Please also provide suggestions on how recovery efforts can be more equitable:

--

Derek Campbell
State Federal Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. 
e. derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov



From: Scarbin, Courtney <CScarbin@NGA.ORG>

Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:55 AM

To: Scarbin, Courtney <CScarbin@NGA.ORG>

Cc: Davenport, Jessica <JDavenport@nga.org>

Subject: ACTION REQUESTED: COG Work Group Survey on Disaster Response and Recovery

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.

Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

The [Council of Governors](#) (COG) Emergency Management and Disaster Response work group is conducting a brief survey to gather state and territory feedback on the federal government's approach to disaster response and recovery.

For context, the Council of Governors, which consists of ten Governors appointed to two-year terms by the President, serves as a forum for Governors and key federal officials to improve and maximize state-federal partnerships to address matters pertaining to the National Guard, homeland defense, and civil support activity.

State and territory responses to the questions below should be submitted to [Courtney Scarbin](#) and [Jessica Davenport](#) by **COB on Friday, September 22nd**. Common themes in state and territory feedback will be compiled along with Governors' recommended reforms and presented to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the broader COG for action.

1. What are your top issues / concerns with the federal approach to disaster response/recovery? (For example: lack of coordination among federal agencies in the recovery process; heavy administrative burden on disaster victims etc)
2. Please provide some recommendations on how the federal government could address the issues you've identified: (For example: utilize a universal application for disaster programs across all federal agencies)
3. What FEMA initiatives or programs related to disaster response/recovery are working well or would you like to see expanded? Please also provide any best practices you have established in collaborating with FEMA on response/recovery that other states may benefit from.
4. Please provide an example of how current disaster response/recovery policies impacted your state negatively during a recent disaster, if applicable:
5. Do you feel that federal disaster response and recovery efforts create equitable recoveries for all those impacted in your state?
 - a. If no, please explain:
 - b. Please also provide suggestions on how recovery efforts can be more equitable:

Best,
Courtney

Courtney Scarbin
Legislative Associate
444 North Capitol St NW, Ste 267

Washington, D.C. 20001
o: 202.719.2874 | m: 304.280.4157
cscarbin@nga.org











From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: RE: For response by 4pm - WLEA contract
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:44:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

No flags here.

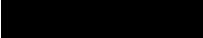
From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:34 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: For response by 4pm - WLEA contract

Troopers ratified their next contract and DOA is ready to submit to JCOER. They want to send over on Monday, as the Legislature has indicated they want to take it up at same time as comp plan. Please advise ASAP if any concern with that plan or will give them go ahead.

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. 

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: FW: FYSA: DHS News Release 9/12 - EMS & Falls Report
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 2:11:52 PM

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Maresh, Alison B - DHS <alison.maresh@dhs.wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 at 2:09 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FYSA: DHS News Release 9/12 - EMS & Falls Report

Hi Britt and Cara,

We're planning to issue the following news release on **Tuesday** re: a new report showing the number of fall-related injuries increasing.

Please reach out with any questions.

Ali

New Report Finds Wisconsin EMS Providers Are Responding to More Falls

Number of emergency calls for fall-related injuries increased by 10,000 since 2019

(Madison, WI) –A new report from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) finds that falls are a leading cause of injury and death in Wisconsin. The report, EMS and Falls in Wisconsin, shows that, in 2022, emergency medical services (EMS) providers responded to over 130,000 falls across the state, the top injury they responded to.

"This data provides unique insight into where and why falls are occurring, and sheds light on where resources are needed most," says State Health Officer Paula Tran. "Today, the number of falls Wisconsin EMS providers respond to continues to increase at an accelerated pace. As Wisconsin's population ages, preventing falls needs to be prioritized to support the health and independence of Wisconsinites statewide, and to reduce the impact of falls on Wisconsin's EMS and health care

systems.”

The report highlights data submitted to the Wisconsin Ambulance Run Data System (WARDS) and the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) by EMS providers across the state.

Key findings include:

- EMS providers responded to 25,055 more falls in 2022 than in 2019.
- The number of falls EMS responds to are increasing by nearly 10,000 a year statewide, with an average increase of 7.4% a year since 2019.
- Falls made up 18% of 911-related ambulance runs in 2022.
- Private residences are the most common place that EMS responds to falls or fall-related injuries. Over four years, falls in private residences increased by about 5,000 falls a year, an average increase of 7.3% each year.

While not all falls cause fatal injuries, they still impact health and well-being in other ways, causing long-term health conditions stemming from injuries or loss of confidence and independence for those who experience a fall.

“Falls can seriously impact a person’s life. The good news is that there are steps people can take to reduce their risk of a fall,” says Kris Krasnowski, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Institute for Healthy Aging (WIHA), a statewide nonprofit that convenes Wisconsin’s falls prevention coalition. “Our new Falls Free Wisconsin initiative has been designed to give older adults, their families, and caregivers the resources they need to assess their risk of a fall and be safer at home and in the community.”

According to WIHA, most falls happen in and around the home. Vision problems, medications, poor lighting, loss of balance and strength, even some kinds of footwear are all factors that can lead to a fall. Falls Free Wisconsin has the information, tools, and resources to help people make the changes that address these challenges.

“Falls may be common as we age, but there are things we can do to avoid them,” says Krasnowski. “Eliminating trip hazards such as cluttered walkways and throw rugs, installing grab bars to steady yourself in the bathroom, doing exercises to improve balance and strength, checking with a pharmacist or physician to learn how the medications you take affect you—all can help avoid a fall. It starts with believing you can make changes and knowing how to make them to improve safety.”

In addition to the Falls Free Wisconsin initiative, WIHA’s Stepping On program provides information for people who want to reduce their falls risk. Learn more at fallsfreewi.org and on WIHA’s [Falls Prevention Programs](#) website.

In addition to the work of WIHA, Wisconsin’s network of [Aging and Disability Resource Centers \(ADRCs\)](#) can support older adults in connecting with services and resources to encourage healthy aging. Find how to access your local ADRC on DHS’ [ADRC website](#).

To read the full report, visit [update with report link once available].

###

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Mercer, Anna - GOV](#); [Uselmann, Corissa - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 2:15:54 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

Defer to political – not sure if Carl or Tammie are attending, otherwise I have no concerns with mailing to the appropriate folks.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 at 2:14 PM
To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

Hey all.

We will have the In Memos finalized and ready to go on Monday. Is anyone planning to attend and would like these? Or can arrange a pick-up/mail out?

Anna Mercer (*she/her*)
Director of Constituent Services and Proclamations
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov
c: [REDACTED]



From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 1:04 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

As a follow up from the call this weekend, we did get the ask to make two more condolence calls. Let me know your thoughts!

Highway Commissioner Bob Doemel's cell is [REDACTED]

Next of kin:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Monday, September 4, 2023 2:41 PM

To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

Sorry - missed these emails yesterday. Thank you for helping make this happen.

Anna, FYI that I did indicate our office would plan to do in memoria and said Ethan could pass along any info he feels appropriate for that purpose. I copied Wenona on the email in case he has any additional folos and so she can share any info he provides to us with you when /if she gets it.

Please let me know if there's anything else anyone needs from me. Thanks!

—

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2023 6:14:51 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

Closing the loop on the call: Gov called about an hour ago and left a voicemail.

Best,
Corissa

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2023 2:03:45 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

An update: we have been unable to nail down a preferred time, but we do have the county executive's direct line (shoutout to Amanda!) so the Governor is planning to call and leave a voicemail yet today.

Best,

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:29 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

They have not yet! But hopeful we can knock out ASAP today.

Corissa Uselmann

Scheduling Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:15 AM
To: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

Was he able to connect? I was planning to respond to Ethan once I had a better idea.

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Uselmann, Corissa - GOV <corissa.uselmann@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2023 2:48:01 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

I can definitely do that! On it

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From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2023 2:46:52 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

A call makes sense. Corissa do you want to coordinate?

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From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2023 12:57:17 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Mercer, Anna - GOV <anna.mercer@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

Please see below. Gov should probably call the county exec but defer to political.

Anna, let me know if you want to reach out as to memoriam details or I can connect you with Ethan to coordinate with him directly.

—

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Hollenberger, Ethan <EHollenberger@winnebagocountywi.gov>

Sent: Saturday, September 2, 2023 12:54 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Madden, Zach A - GOV <zach.madden@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Winnebago County Mourning Two Public Servants

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hello Britt and Zach,

I wish I had better news to share with the Governor this Labor Day Weekend.

Last night, there was a fatal crash between a car and a motorcycle in Fond du Lac County. Sadly, the passengers on the motorcycle, Paul and Pam Delap, both succumbed to injuries. The couple are both long time public servants.

Paul was a 32 year employee with the Winnebago County Highway Department, who wore his heart on his sleeve. He was our paving foreman. He served the county well to plow snow and ensure our infrastructure was in good shape.

Pam was an advocate for people with developmental disabilities and from 2019 until recently served on the Board of People with Developmental Disabilities. She was instrumental in an all-abilities playground in the city of Oshkosh. We have been in contact with Beth Swedeen.

Fond du Lac County will be releasing the names of the victims later this afternoon. County Executive Jon Doemel will be issuing a statement simultaneously. We have been in contact with Secretaries

Craig Thompson and Kirsten Johnson.

The county will be setting up a memorial and would like to request an memorial proclamation. We will work to get any information you would like. If the Governor needs anything else, please let us know.

Thank you for your continued support of Winnebago County.

Thank you,
Ethan

Ethan J. Hollenberger
Assistant to the County Executive
112 Otter Avenue, Fourth Floor
Oshkosh, WI 54903
[REDACTED]















From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle; Lashua, Ryan - GOV](#)
Subject: n4a
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 2:29:00 PM

[here](#)

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Taylor, Jorna - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Microsoft groundbreaking
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 3:04:24 PM

Ok this is def a must do for us - Britt any flags with me trying to lock this in?

From: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 3:00:56 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Microsoft groundbreaking

He has a personal appt at 4p that day, but nothing else is scheduled so far. A number of requests have come in for Oct 10 recently but nothing so far which pops to me as a "must do", except for a potentially a UW EC event with President Rothman.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 2:42 PM
To: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Microsoft groundbreaking

They're looking at October 10 in the morning in Mt Pleasant... Brad will be flying in. Jorna, any scheduling flags?

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Taylor, Jorna - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Microsoft groundbreaking
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 3:07:07 PM

No concerns. Press time can be rescheduled to a different day that week.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 at 3:04 PM
To: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Microsoft groundbreaking

Ok this is def a must do for us - Britt any flags with me trying to lock this in?

From: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 3:00:56 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Microsoft groundbreaking

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From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 2:42 PM
To: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Microsoft groundbreaking

They're looking at October 10 in the morning in Mt Pleasant... Brad will be flying in. Jorna, any scheduling flags?

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4A
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 4:01:37 PM

<https://x.com/alexandershur/status/1700248819240423798?s=46>

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Pankratz, Jacob - GOV](#); [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Re: Review: WisDOT National Ave Interchange LoS
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 4:53:06 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Reviewed. Apologies for the delay.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Pankratz, Jacob - GOV <jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 10:51 AM
To: GOV DL Review <GOVDLReview@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Review: WisDOT National Ave Interchange LoS

Hi all – see below a draft letter of support for WisDOT’s application to the Reconnecting Communities and Neighborhoods (RCN) BIL/IRA grant [program](#) focused on an alternatives study for the National Avenue Interchange in Milwaukee, a version of which WisDOT submitted last grant round but was not selected for funding. The application has been updated to fit the restructured/combined NOFO from US DOT, and based on feedback from US DOT on their unsuccessful proposal last round. See the attachment for more info on the project, and below for the draft LoS for **review by EOD Thurs 9/7**. Thanks!

[Sept 2023_GTE LOS_RCN WisDOT Natl Ave Interchange](#)

All the Best,

Jacob Pankratz (*he/him/his*)
Senior Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: jacob.pankratz@wisconsin.gov









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: H4A
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 6:06:04 PM

https://x.com/mattsmith_news/status/1700246704149196918?s=46

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Blumenfeld, Kathy K - DOA](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
Cc: [Hammer, Paul - DOA](#); [Williams, Danielle E - DOA](#); [Warrick, Tatyana - DOA](#)
Subject: Re: Article in the Wall Street Journal
Date: Saturday, September 9, 2023 4:04:20 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Thank you!

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Blumenfeld, Kathy K - DOA <kathyk.blumenfeld@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:47:12 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Hammer, Paul - DOA <paul.hammer1@wisconsin.gov>; Williams, Danielle E - DOA <daniellee.williams@wisconsin.gov>; Warrick, Tatyana - DOA <tatyana.warrick@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Article in the Wall Street Journal

Additional background and talking points.

Thx!

Kathy

From: Rochelle.Klaskin <Rochelle.Klaskin@SWIB.STATE.WI.US>
Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2023 1:37:07 PM
To: Blumenfeld, Kathy K - DOA <kathyk.blumenfeld@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Denson, Edwin M - SWIB <Edwin.Denson@swib.state.wi.us>; Barb Nick <barbaraannenick@gmail.com>; Chandler, Sara X - SWIB <Sara.Chandler@swib.state.wi.us>
Subject: Article in the Wall Street Journal

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Kathy:

Edwin provided all the trustees the article this morning. We wanted to reach out to you in case the Governor needed any additional information. Attached is a fact sheet that we will be providing to employees on Monday that provides some additional context.

We also wanted to highlight some additional facts:

1. The article suggests that by simply investing in a passive portfolio, the WRS would be better off. On a quarterly basis, we review our performance against a 60/40 simple passive portfolio (illustration is below), and SWIB's asset allocation mix and active management have generated more than \$30 billion over the last 20 years compared to a passive portfolio.
2. Our compensation program is intended to be competitive with the industry so we can attract and retained skilled professionals. Our compensation program is intended to pay approximately median peer compensation in the aggregate (and the peer group for investment management includes similar public pension plans).
3. Our total cost is approximately 50 bps (this includes all operations in Madison and all outside managers, including top echelon private equity funds). Of that 50 bps, SWIB's internal costs for all staff, technology, and overhead constitutes approximately 11 bps.
4. Research shows that paying for talent matters. See this instructional investor article on benefits of competitive CIO compensation: <https://www.institutionalinvestor.com/article/2bstrn5r5qzj5ua9u0c8w/corner-office/high-cio-compensation-pays-off-at-public-pensions#:~:text=According%20to%20a%20recent%20research,paid%20in%20the%20bottom%20quartile.>
5. SWIB generates 84% of the revenue needed to keep the plan fully funded (compared to the national average of 64%) which keeps contribution amounts lower and stable. And finally, the WRS is a good value for taxpayers. State and local governments in Wisconsin spend 2.1% of their budgets on public pensions, the national average is 5.2%.

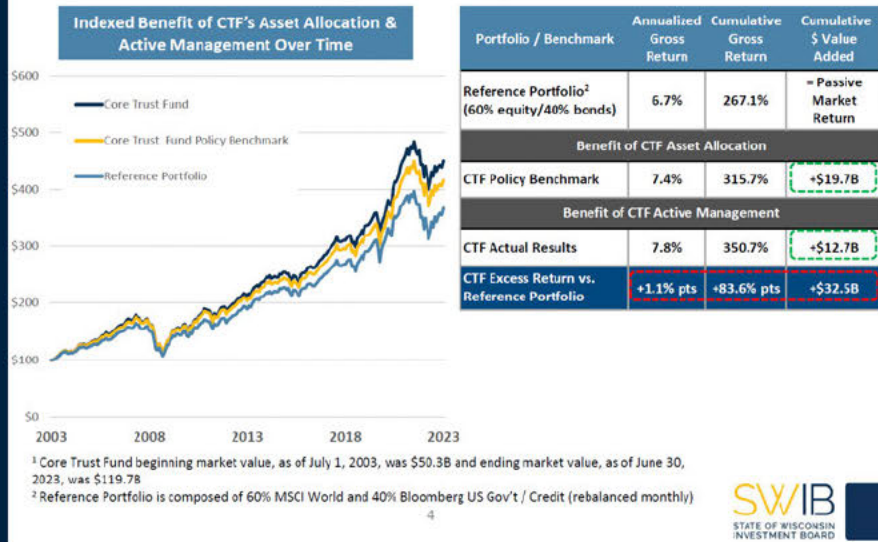
Happy to jump on a call this weekend or provide any other data or information you may need.

Thanks

Rochelle

CTF Performance vs. 60/40 Reference Portfolio

20-year cumulative return¹: July 1, 2003, to June 30, 2023



Rochelle Klaskin

Deputy Executive Director/Chief Administrative Officer
(she/her)



4703 Madison Yards Way, Suite 700, Madison, WI 53705
P.O. Box 7842, Madison WI 53707

rochelle.klaskin@swib.state.wi.us
www.swib.state.wi.us

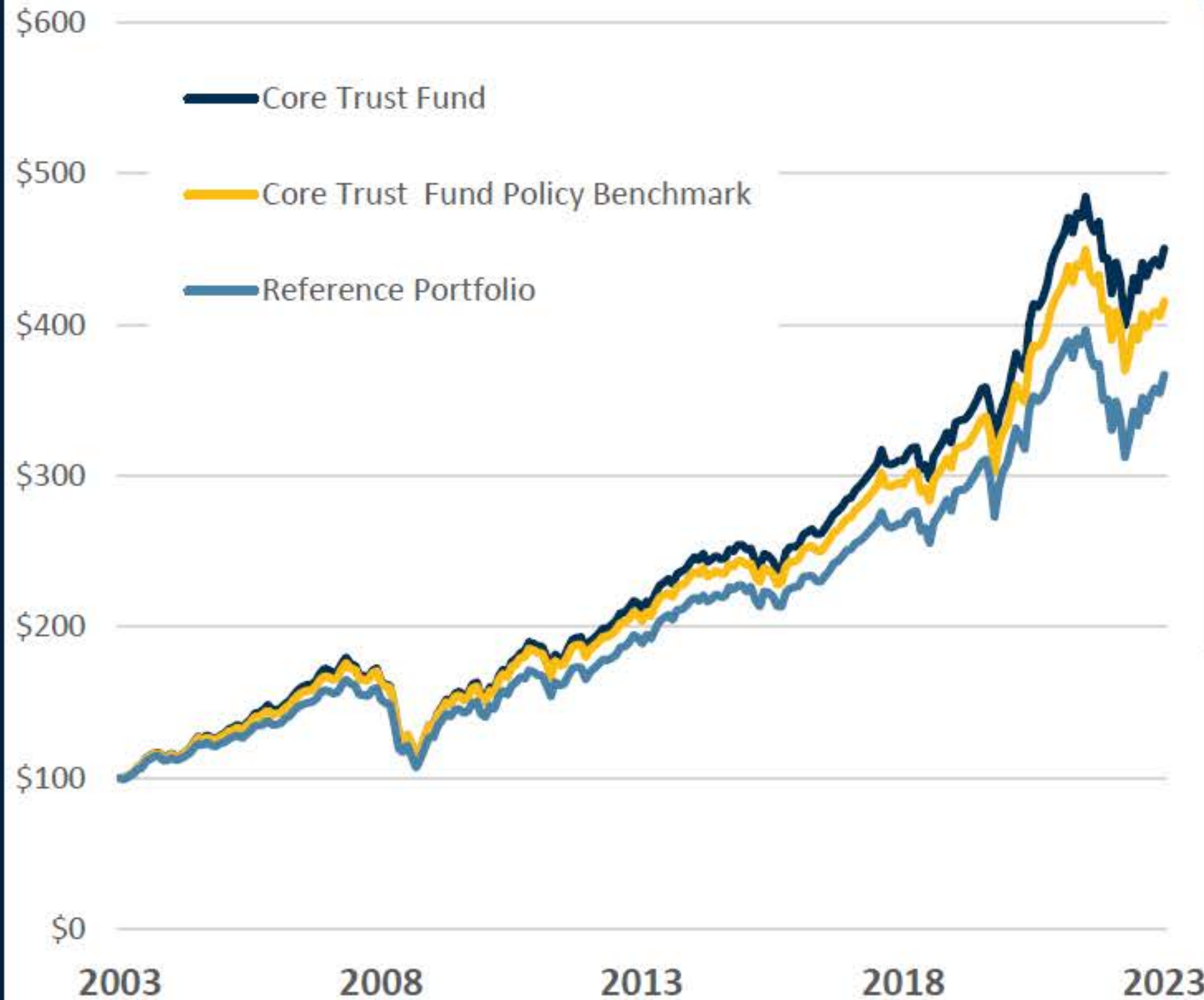
SWIB

STATE OF WISCONSIN
INVESTMENT BOARD

CTF Performance vs. 60/40 Reference Portfolio

20-year cumulative return¹: July 1, 2003, to June 30, 2023

Indexed Benefit of CTF's Asset Allocation & Active Management Over Time



Portfolio / Benchmark	Annualized Gross Return	Cumulative Gross Return	Cumulative \$ Value Added
Reference Portfolio ² (60% equity/40% bonds)	6.7%	267.1%	= Passive Market Return
Benefit of CTF Asset Allocation			
CTF Policy Benchmark	7.4%	315.7%	+\$19.7B
Benefit of CTF Active Management			
CTF Actual Results	7.8%	350.7%	+\$12.7B
CTF Excess Return vs. Reference Portfolio	+1.1% pts	+83.6% pts	+\$32.5B

¹ Core Trust Fund beginning market value, as of July 1, 2003, was \$50.3B and ending market value, as of June 30, 2023, was \$119.7B

² Reference Portfolio is composed of 60% MSCI World and 40% Bloomberg US Gov't / Credit (rebalanced monthly)

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: N4A
Date: Saturday, September 9, 2023 4:52:20 PM

Update: <https://x.com/edkrassen/status/1700603100627710389?s=46>

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2023 3:15:31 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: N4A

<https://apnews.com/article/albuquerque-guns-governor-concealed-carry-fc5b4b79bf411b8022c3ad58975724d7>

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4A
Date: Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:08:09 AM

[Here](#)

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Henney, Cara - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: ASAP REVIEW
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 1:58:17 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good here

From: Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 1:57:23 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP REVIEW

Put in Grammarly's edits, but good here

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 1:52 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: ASAP REVIEW

[@Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#) can you please have him review?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 at 1:49 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: ASAP REVIEW

 [Here](#)

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov



From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: ASAP REVIEW
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 2:19:20 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

Final call – anyone else?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 at 2:02 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: ASAP REVIEW

Good here

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 2:02 PM
To: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: ASAP REVIEW

Ty! Will give a beat for legal/others to weigh in and then will get this out ASAP when we have exact final details.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 at 2:01 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: ASAP REVIEW

He's good.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 8:51:31 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>; Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: ASAP REVIEW

[@Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#) can you please have him review?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 at 1:49 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: ASAP REVIEW

 [Here](#)

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov









From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: FYI?
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 3:18:48 PM

[Here](#)

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
Subject: FW: Day of service; state officials help deliver food in Kenosha on 9/11
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 3:56:46 PM

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Guerra Lapacek, Maria - DOR <maria.guerralapacek@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 at 3:55 PM
To: Mayers, Patricia A - DOR <PatriciaA.Mayers@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Blumenfeld, Kathy K - DOA <kathyk.blumenfeld@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Day of service; state officials help deliver food in Kenosha on 9/11

Fyi.

https://kenoshanews.com/news/day-of-service-state-officials-help-deliver-food-in-kenosha-on-9-11/article_ce1dab72-50ce-11ee-a5a3-17e738618a6a.html#tracking-source=home-top-story

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Wolf, Wenona - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW (ideally sooner than later plz tysm)
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 7:50:28 AM

Thanks, WW!! Bumping this for others to review ASAP this AM, please!!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Wolf, Wenona - GOV <wenona.wolf2@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 4:38 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: FOR REVIEW (ideally sooner than later plz tysm)

He's reviewed and is good!

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:53:02 AM
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FOR REVIEW (ideally sooner than later plz tysm)

[HERE](#). Note that this contains two document: 1. The letter and survey; and 2. The accompanying press release. Please review both concurrently.

Ideally, planning to send tomorrow, so if you can review at your earliest convenience, would be lovely.

WW, I already sent this to him directly for his review, but if you can please note for him ASAP when you see him in the AM since you'll be awake earlier than the rest of us (), I'd appreciate it!

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: Repro Freedom Alliance - State Success Doc
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 7:51:25 AM
Attachments: [Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)

No concerns with sharing what Mel provided below.

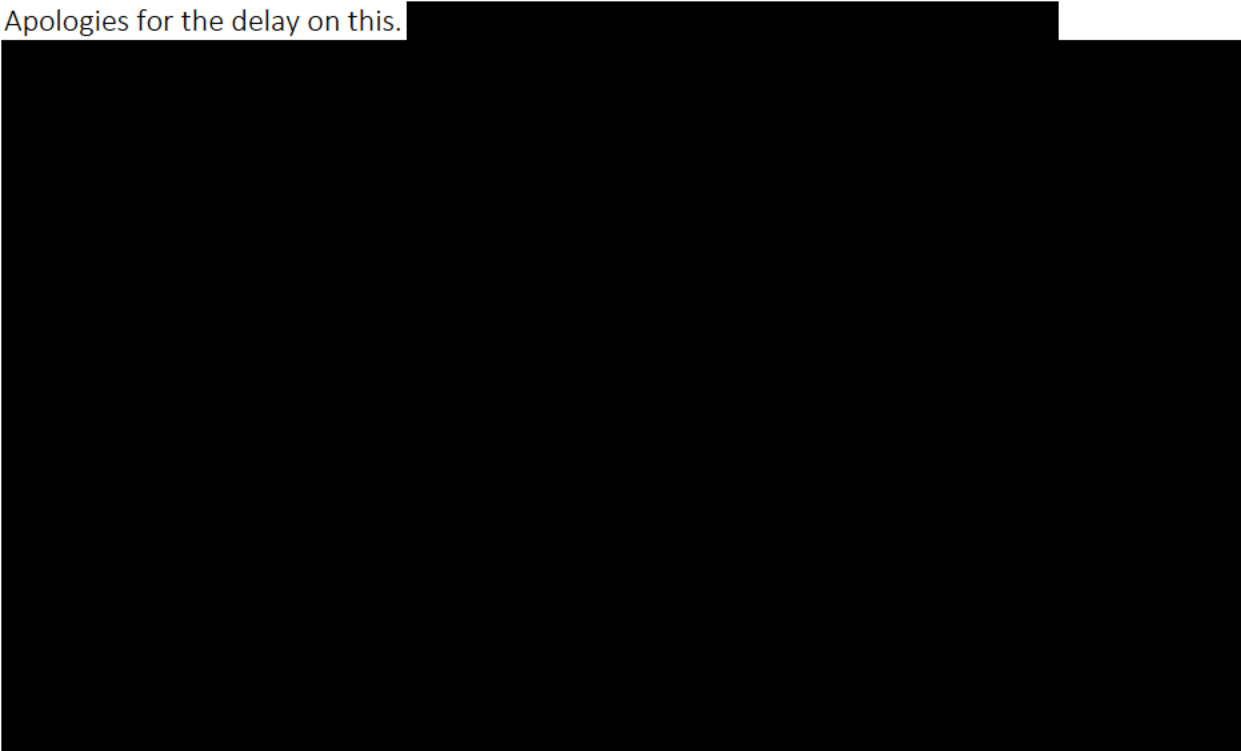
--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Monday, September 11, 2023 at 8:42 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Repro Freedom Alliance - State Success Doc

Hi Jenni,

Apologies for the delay on this. [REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

Thanks,
Mel

Mel Barnes

Chief Legal Counsel

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov



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From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 2:20 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Repro Freedom Alliance - State Success Doc

Bumping this question again so I can get back to the coalition

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 11:28:45 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Repro Freedom Alliance - State Success Doc

[REDACTED]

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 11:16 AM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Fw: Repro Freedom Alliance - State Success Doc

Checking in with you about your preference on handling this. I had not previously realized that this was an expectation and obviously the biggest thing here is the litigation that at the time of previous requests was still pending any decision at all so there wasn't a specific reportable outcome there at that point.

[REDACTED]

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov



From: Grace Carmichael <gcarmichael@rabengroup.com>
Sent: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:54 AM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Shanna Gong <sgong@rabengroup.com>
Subject: Repro Freedom Alliance - State Success Doc

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.

Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Jenni!

I hope you had a wonderful weekend. By way of introduction, my name is Grace Carmichael and I am new to the team over at The Raben Group for the Reproductive Freedom Alliance. Looking forward to working with you and getting to know you.

As you may recall, in preparation for our staff convening in July we had requested states share a short roundup of actions your state has taken to protect abortion access. These docs had prepared us to discuss opportunities to strengthen protections and confront threats during our convening. We hope to continue to discuss and explore ways that states have achieved success in this arena - and how we can potentially duplicate in other Alliance states.

I'm not sure that we've received Wisconsin's state success document yet (apologies if it got missed in the transition!). Might you be able to share your doc in the next week or so? If it's helpful, [this](#) is a list developed for California (though it doesn't include bills that are still working their way through the legislature and a few other updates).

Please let me know if you have any questions! Thanks so much for all of your work.

Grace

--

GRACE CARMICHAEL | SENIOR ASSOCIATE | THE RABEN GROUP

525 9TH STREET NW, 7TH FLOOR | WASHINGTON DC 20004

[202 466 8585](tel:2024668585) MAIN | [615 727 4016](tel:6157274016) MOBILE

GCARMICHAEL@RABENGROUP.COM | WWW.RABENGROUP.COM

PRONOUNS: SHE / HER / HERS













From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: Letter from Deputy Assistant Secretary Schott re: Input for Regional Comprehensive Centers
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:18:05 AM
Attachments: [RAC_Governor Input Letter_signed.pdf](#)

From: Honeysett, Adam <Adam.Honeysett@ed.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 4:22:23 PM
Subject: Letter from Deputy Assistant Secretary Schott re: Input for Regional Comprehensive Centers

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

September 11, 2023

Dear Governor:

In 2019, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) established Regional [Comprehensive Centers](#) to support priority education needs of States. [Comprehensive Centers](#) provide evidence-based training, professional development, and technical assistance to State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), regional educational agencies, and schools in the region where the Comprehensive Center is located, and work in coordination with other technical assistance providers funded by the Department, including the Institute of Education Sciences' Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs) and other centers across the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

With the five-year grant cycle for Comprehensive Centers drawing to a close, the Department is planning a 2024 competition for new Comprehensive Centers, and we want to ensure that this competition reflects the educational goals and needs of your State. As a first step in this process, the Secretary has established 10 Regional Advisory Committees (RACs), as authorized by section 206 of the Educational Technical Assistance Act, one for each region served by the RELs, to collect information on the educational needs of each region.

As a next step, and to inform the work of the RACs, we hope you can take a few moments to provide input regarding the educational needs of your State and ways in which the Department's technical assistance can be responsive. For example, you may identify challenges, such as persistent educator shortages, that require additional research and evidence-based practices to inform State policy and funding decisions. You may also have needs related to improving instruction, closing achievement gaps for specific student groups, and addressing student well-being.

Specifically, we would appreciate your input regarding:

- What are the highest priority needs in your State related to ensuring that all students

achieve academic excellence and have access to effective instruction?

- Which student groups demonstrate the greatest needs?
- What are the barriers to addressing these needs?
- What are the highest priority needs in your State related to eliminating the educator shortage and ensuring a high-quality, well-compensated, well-supported, and diverse educator workforce?
- What issues that are currently not top priorities might become more pressing in the coming years?
- How do you see a federal technical assistance provider (e.g., a Comprehensive Center or a REL) supporting your regional, State, or local efforts in addressing these priorities?

We invite you to submit a written response at

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/3fac766304ec43d1b0d825e959c69db7> by September 27, 2023. You may also request to speak with a representative from the RAC at the above link. Your voluntary response will assist each RAC in conducting its needs assessment and making recommendations to the Department about how Comprehensive Centers can most effectively address critical State needs over the next five years.

We appreciate your participation in this process to ensure the Department's provision of technical assistance to States is responsive to the work you do and the challenges you see. Please contact the Office of Program and Grantee Support Services team at OESE.RAC@ed.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,

Adam Schott
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Programs,
Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of
the Assistant Secretary of Elementary and Secondary Education



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

September 11, 2023

Dear Governor:

In 2019, the U.S. Department of Education (Department) established Regional [Comprehensive Centers](#) to support priority education needs of States. [Comprehensive Centers](#) provide evidence-based training, professional development, and technical assistance to State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), regional educational agencies, and schools in the region where the Comprehensive Center is located, and work in coordination with other technical assistance providers funded by the Department, including the Institute of Education Sciences' Regional Educational Laboratories (RELs) and other centers across the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

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Specifically, we would appreciate your input regarding:

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- Which student groups demonstrate the greatest needs?
- What are the barriers to addressing these needs?
- What are the highest priority needs in your State related to eliminating the educator shortage and ensuring a high-quality, well-compensated, well-supported, and diverse educator workforce?
- What issues that are currently not top priorities might become more pressing in the coming years?
- How do you see a federal technical assistance provider (e.g., a Comprehensive Center or a REL) supporting your regional, State, or local efforts in addressing these priorities?

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202
www.ed.gov

The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

We invite you to submit a written response at <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/3fac766304ec43d1b0d825e959c69db7> by September 27, 2023. You may also request to speak with a representative from the RAC at the above link. Your voluntary response will assist each RAC in conducting its needs assessment and making recommendations to the Department about how Comprehensive Centers can most effectively address critical State needs over the next five years.

We appreciate your participation in this process to ensure the Department's provision of technical assistance to States is responsive to the work you do and the challenges you see. Please contact the Office of Program and Grantee Support Services team at OESE.RAC@ed.gov with any questions.

Sincerely,



Adam Schott
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Programs,
Delegated the Authority to Perform the
Functions and Duties of the Assistant Secretary of
Elementary and Secondary Education

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4a
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:26:31 AM

[Here](#)

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Taylor, Jorna - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:58:32 AM

Penske can do mid morning on the 25th - let's get that on cal and we can confirm the rest of that day tonight

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 3:29:15 PM
To: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

Paul was going to go back to them at the end of last week and he has not provided me with any additional dates - I will ask again tomorrow

From: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 3:28:06 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

Any word on dates on your end, Maggie? We now have a request from the WI State Superintendents Fall Conference for 8:30a that morning in Madison that came in during the weekend.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:12 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

Ok, thx.

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:07:32 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

I can try – but we're under a year until the race so I know they're antsy to get it out. I will go back to Paul.

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 1:01 PM
To: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

21st is not ideal for many reasons. 25th is ok, I guess...are there no other dates thereafter available?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 at 11:08 AM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

I don't see an issue on my end with timing on the 21st in the morning, as long as we are back in the building by noon for State of Ed - they want us for the ceremony 12-1.

Otherwise the 25th is pretty wide open at this point.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:32 AM
To: Taylor, Jorna - GOV <jorna.taylor@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Milwaukee Mile Indy Announcement

We're getting close to announcing this thing! They would like to do a press conference at State Fair Park. They offered up September 21 (anytime – yes I know it's state of ed day so we could do the morning) and Roger Penske could be there. Or they offered September 25 and Roger Penske will not be there.

Thoughts and flags?

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: n4a
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:07:14 AM

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/12/robin-vos-pulls-back-janet-protasiewicz-impeachment-talk/70825605007/>

unreal

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4A
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:09:24 AM

https://x.com/mattsmith_news/status/1701594178000765094?s=46

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#)
Subject: FW: Trade mission info request from WisPolitics
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:11:38 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[03a. Company Brochure.pdf](#)

FYI

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: David Callender <david.callender@wedc.org>
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 10:05 AM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Henney, Cara - GOV <cara.henney1@wisconsin.gov>, Agni, Chet - GOV <chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Trade mission info request from WisPolitics

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Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hi All:

JR from WisPolitics had asked for a list of the trade mission participants, the cost, and whatever support the state is providing to help participants cover their costs.

Katy has provided that info below. Please let me know if this is OK to share with JR.

Thanks!

David Callender
Senior Director of Communications

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Email: david.callender@wedc.org

Phone: [REDACTED]

201 W. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53703



Websites: InWisconsin.com | wedc.org

Newsletters: InWisconsin.com/subscribe



From: Katy Sinnott <katy.sinnott@wedc.org>

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 9:34 AM

To: David Callender <david.callender@wedc.org>; Melissa Hughes <missy.hughes@wedc.org>;
Patrick Roetker <patrick.roetker@wedc.org>

Subject: RE: Trade mission info request from WisPolitics

Hi David,

Attached is the company brochure.

The cost to attend the trade mission is \$2,500 for one participant. Here is a link to the trade mission details. <https://wedc.org/blog/trade-venture-netherlands-belgium-2023/>

We typically subsidize the trade mission between 65% to 75%.

Thanks,

Katy Sinnott
Vice President – Global Trade & Investment

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Email: katy.sinnott@wedc.org

Phone: [REDACTED]

201 W. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53703



Websites: InWisconsin.com | wedc.org

Newsletters: InWisconsin.com/subscribe



From: David Callender <david.callender@wedc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:48 AM
To: Katy Sinnott <katy.sinnott@wedc.org>; Melissa Hughes <missy.hughes@wedc.org>; Patrick Roetker <patrick.roetker@wedc.org>
Subject: RE: Trade mission info request from WisPolitics

Will we be able to get this info today? Would like to get it over to GO and out the door if possible.

Thanks!

David Callender
Senior Director of Communications

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Email: david.callender@wedc.org

Phone: [REDACTED]

201 W. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53703



Websites: InWisconsin.com | wedc.org

Newsletters: InWisconsin.com/subscribe



From: Katy Sinnott <katy.sinnott@wedc.org>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 11:15 AM
To: David Callender <david.callender@wedc.org>; Melissa Hughes <missy.hughes@wedc.org>; Patrick Roetker <patrick.roetker@wedc.org>
Subject: Re: Trade mission info request from WisPolitics

Hi David,

I can answer all of your questions. I prefer that you let the comms team know before you send it out though.

Katy

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: David Callender <david.callender@wedc.org>

Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 6:13:27 PM

To: Melissa Hughes <missy.hughes@wedc.org>; Katy Sinnott <katy.sinnott@wedc.org>; Patrick Roetker <patrick.roetker@wedc.org>

Subject: Trade mission info request from WisPolitics

Hi All:

We have a request from JR Ross of WisPolitics for the following info:

- A list of who's on the trade mission
- The cost to participants
- Is there any state subsidy/assistance with the actual cost to WEDC vs the cost we're charging participants

On the first item,, can we just forward him the brochure with the profiles of who's going? Do we need to run this past GO?

Thanks.

David Callender
Senior Director of Communications

Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

Email: david.callender@wedc.org

Phone: [REDACTED]

201 W. Washington Avenue
Madison, WI 53703



Websites: InWisconsin.com | wedc.org

Newsletters: InWisconsin.com/subscribe

WISCONSIN
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT











WISCONSIN

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BeeBella
Oshkosh, Wisconsin, USA
beebella.buzz



Jonathan Adam Dudzinski
Co-Founder
jonathan.dudzinski@beebella.buzz
+1.920.312.1433



Lindsey Elizabeth Dudzinski
Vice President
Lindsey.Dudzinski@bucks.com
+1.920.659.2650

Bee Bella's story starts with three beekeepers on a mission to save the honeybee, a stand at the Oshkosh Farmers Market, and the insight that consumers want an ultra-premium lip balm with a positive impact on the world. Today the rapidly growing brand is carried by more than 4,000 retailers.

Corncob
Waukesha, Wisconsin, USA
corncobinc.com



Doug Ingchen Hwang
President
Doug@corncobinc.com
+1.414.828.1138

CORNCOB is on a mission to "Change Water, Change Lives." The company's high-velocity cross-flow (HVCF) membrane disc filtration innovation empowers a paradigm shift from the conventional, century-old wastewater treatment methodology using biological/chemical processes and has the ability to concentrate solids to a molecular degree in fluids with a self-cleaning, low-energy-consumption, modular automated system.

Croix Valley Foods
Hudson, Wisconsin, USA
CroixValleyFoods.com



Luonda Holter
Owner
luholter@croixvalleyfoods.com
+1.612.499.2302



Damon Michael Holter
Owner
damonholter@croixvalleyfoods.com
+1.612.756.4985

Croix Valley Foods manufactures and sells a line of all-natural, gluten-free barbecue sauces, marinades, dry rubs, and drink seasonings. All products are handcrafted in small batches to assure quality. Croix Valley products can be found in hardware and home improvement stores, meat markets, specialty food shops, and grocery stores across the globe.

Energy Tech Innovations
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA
energytechinnovationsllc.com



Bryan Rudolph Johnson
President
bjohnson@eti-renewables.com
+1.262.844/6401

Energy Tech Innovations (ETI) offers simpler, lower-cost water-based biogas upgrading systems that produce high-quality, renewable biomethane. ETI's patented systems are scalable from small to large and have flexible, modular configurations. Also, ETI's unique beneficial CO2 reuse process provides significant wastewater treatment operational savings and reduces CO2 emissions.

FloClaire
Madison, Wisconsin, USA
ultimatearganoil.com



Richard Tim Muma
Founder/CEO
richard.m@floclaire.com
+1.608.577.9387

At Floclaire Group, our mission is to empower individuals to embrace their natural beauty and enhance their confidence through innovative and high-quality hair and skin care products. We are dedicated to providing personalized customer service and building strong relationships with our global distributors, salon partners, and customers. With a commitment to continuous research and development, we strive to create products that address the unique needs of our diverse clientele. Our ultimate goal is to be a trusted and preferred choice in the beauty industry, delivering exceptional results and fostering self-expression and self-care. Unlike most brands, we do not use aggressive ingredients such as sulfates and parabens, and all our products are cruelty-free and salon-tested. We sell to professional distributors and salons that are looking for quality products that make hair healthy and vibrant while also providing a financial incentive.

Forward Health
Madison, Wisconsin, USA
forward.health



Michael Barbouche
Founder and CEO
michael.barbouche@forwardhealthgroup.com
+1.608.729.7512

Forward Health Group (FHG) is a health care and medical analytics company based in Madison, Wisconsin. Established in 2009, FHG works at the intersection of clinical, financial, and operational transactional data to measure and quantify outcomes, efficiency, and cost of care. The company's recent focus is on clinician burnout and practice efficiency.

Gentueri
Verona, Wisconsin, USA
Gentueri.com



Randy Nagy
CEO
rnagy@Gentueri.com
+1.608.949.8568

Gentueri develops, manufactures, and provides innovative, non-invasive sample collection devices that preserve samples at room temperature and can be integrated into automated laboratory processing. Our collection kits offer a simple protocol that collects a sample in one minute with artificial intelligence support to ensure proper collection and ensure that a quality sample is collected.

Huth Ben Pearson International
Hartford, Wisconsin, USA
huthbenders.com



Kenneth Murray
President
kmurray@huthbenders.com
+1.262.613.8810

Huth Ben Pearson International serves tube and pipe fabricators worldwide with high-quality, durable, and powerful fabricating equipment, tooling, and accessories.

PowerGistics
Columbus, Wisconsin, USA
powergistics.com



Crystal Lyn Morgan
Director of Sales and Marketing
crystal@powergistics.com
+1.608.957.4934

For more than 50 years, TTP (formerly Thermal Transfer Products) has designed and manufactured heat exchangers for the fluid power industry. TTP is a recognized industry leader, providing a complete portfolio of high-performing heat exchangers for oil cooling and compressor cooling.

Scrusher Shoe and Boot Brush
Coon Valley, Wisconsin, USA
scrusher.com



Robert J. Flottmeyer
CEO
bobf@scrusher.com
+1.608.792.6755



Nancy A. Flottmeyer
Treasurer
naflott@gmail.com
+1.608.780.8022

At Chaseburg Manufacturing, we manufacture the Scrusher originally patented shoe and boot brushes and sell them to everyone who wants to keep dirt outdoors, not on their floors. Unlike the mats and rugs sometimes used for this purpose, the Scrusher thoroughly cleans the bottom and sides of your footwear. You may have seen the concept on golf courses around the world; we apply that same long-lasting design to the household and industrial Scrushers. We've been making the Scrusher for over 30 years—made in Wisconsin the entire time.

State of Wisconsin



Governor Tony Evers

On Nov. 6, 2018, the people of Wisconsin elected Tony Evers (Ē-vers) the 46th governor of Wisconsin. Prior to his election, he served as the Wisconsin state superintendent of public instruction, winning statewide elections in 2009, 2013, and 2017. With over three decades of public education experience, Governor Evers has dedicated his life to fighting for Wisconsin's children and serving the people of Wisconsin.



First Lady Kathy Evers

First Lady Kathy Evers was born and raised in Plymouth, Wisconsin, and met her future husband, Governor Tony Evers, in kindergarten. They had their first date at the junior prom and have been married for more than 40 years. Kathy graduated from Plymouth High School and later received an associate degree from the University of Wisconsin-Fond du Lac. In a career spanning more than three decades, Kathy held information technology management positions with private companies and provided computer software training and hardware technical support in Wisconsin public school districts, technical colleges, and the private sector. Together with the governor, she has lived and worked in various communities throughout Wisconsin, including Tomah, Oakfield, Verona, Oshkosh, and Madison. She and the governor have three adult children, all public-school graduates, and nine grandchildren.



Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation

InWisconsin.com

Madison, Wisconsin, USA



Missy Hughes

Secretary and
Chief Executive Officer

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Katy Sinnott

Vice President
Global Trade & Investment

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Rome Rauter

Market Development Director
Global Trade & Investment

+1 608.210.6777

rome.rauter@wedc.org

The Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) leads economic development efforts for the state by advancing and maximizing opportunities in Wisconsin for businesses, communities and people to thrive in a globally competitive environment. Working with more than 600 regional and local partners, WEDC develops and delivers solutions representative of a highly responsive and coordinated economic development network. Visit www.wedc.org or follow WEDC on Twitter [@WEDCNews](https://twitter.com/WEDCNews) to learn more.

For more information, visit:
InWisconsin.com



GOVERNOR'S TRADE MISSION:

NETHERLANDS & BELGIUM

SEPTEMBER 9-16, 2023

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4A
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:36:20 PM

<https://x.com/senatordevin/status/1701649384788660544?s=46>

—
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Gov. Tony Evers

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors or brevity.

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: N4a - veto override Thursday
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:38:48 PM

<https://x.com/jrrosswrites/status/1701650377299443981?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: Four Wisconsin Counties Designated as Primary Natural Disaster Areas
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:46:39 PM
Attachments: [8910560_1 GOV Final SEC FT w Enclosure WI signed 2023-09-12.pdf](#)
[farmersgov-disaster-assistance-brochure-07-21-2022.pdf](#)

From: De La Garza, Ruby - OPPE, TX <ruby.delagarza@usda.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:53:53 AM
To: Campbell, Derek - GOV <derek.campbell@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Soto, Rudy - RD, ID <Rudy.Soto@usda.gov>
Subject: Four Wisconsin Counties Designated as Primary Natural Disaster Areas

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Governor Evers,

Attached is a letter from Secretary Vilsack designating four Wisconsin counties as primary natural disaster areas due to drought. Additionally attached as you may find helpful is the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Disaster Assistance at a Glance brochure.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Regards,
Ruby

Ruby S. De La Garza (She/Her/Hers)

USDA Liaison
Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs
(Detail)
United States Department of Agriculture
Email: Ruby.DeLaGarza@usda.gov



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Office of the Secretary
Washington, DC 20250

September 12, 2023

THE HONORABLE TONY EVERS
Governor
State of Wisconsin
115 East State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53707

Dear Governor Evers:

In accordance with 7 CFR 759.5(a), I am designating four Wisconsin counties as primary natural disaster areas due to a recent drought.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (see <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>), these counties suffered from a drought intensity value during the growing season of 1) D2 Drought-Severe for 8 or more consecutive weeks or 2) D3 Drought-Extreme or D4 Drought-Exceptional.

In accordance with section 321(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, additional areas of your state and an adjacent state are named as contiguous disaster counties. Enclosed you will find documentation that provides a detailed list of all primary and contiguous counties impacted by this disaster.

Other counties in Wisconsin may have already been designated as natural disaster counties if they had previously met the requirements found under 7 CFR 759.5(a) for the current crop year.

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency loans assistance, provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Tom J. Vilsack", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Secretary

Enclosure

DISASTER DESIGNATION AREAS FOR WISCONSIN AND A CONTIGUOUS STATE

Primary Counties

Wisconsin	(4)		
Iron	Langlade	Lincoln	Oneida

Contiguous Counties:

Wisconsin	(9)		
Ashland	Menominee	Shawano	
Forest	Oconto	Taylor	
Marathon	Price	Vilas	

Contiguous County in an Adjacent State:

Michigan	(1)
Gogebic	

USDA Disaster Assistance Programs At a Glance

Disaster Programs	Agency	Blizzard	Fire	Hurricane/ Typhoon	Excessive Moisture/ Flood	Excessive Winds/ Tornado	Drought	Hail	Volcanic Eruption/ Emissions	Freeze	Earthquake
Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) - provides financial assistance to producers of non-insurable crops to protect against natural disasters that result in lower yields or crop losses, or prevents crop planting.	FSA	✱ ⁸	✱ ⁸	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tree Assistance Program (TAP) - provides financial cost-share assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to re-plant or, where applicable, rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes, and vines lost by natural disasters. A qualifying mortality loss in excess of 15 percent (in excess of normal mortality) must be sustained to trigger assistance.	FSA	✱ ⁸	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

⁸ Yes, only as a related condition to an eligible disaster

Other natural disasters that may apply to some of these programs (not all perils are eligible loss conditions for all programs) include:

- Explosion;
- High water;
- Landslide;
- Mudslide;
- Severe snowstorm;
- Storm, including ice storms;
- Tidal wave;
- Wind-driven water;
- Insect infestation;
- Plant disease;
- Lightning; and
- Other natural phenomena.

Some man-made conditions qualify for disaster assistance, as follows:

Disaster Programs	Agency	Pesticide Contamination	Nuclear Radiation/ Fallout	Toxic Substances Other Than Pesticides	Chemical Residue Other Than Pesticides
Dairy Indemnity Payment Program (DIPP) - provides compensation to dairy producers when a public regulatory agency directs them to remove their raw milk from the commercial market because it has been contaminated by pesticides, nuclear radiation or fallout, or toxic substances and chemical residues other than pesticides.	FSA	✓	✓	✓	✓

FSA = Farm Service Agency | NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service | RMA = Risk Management Agency



More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply.

For more information about USDA disaster programs, visit farmers.gov/recover or contact your local USDA Service Center.

To find your local USDA Service Center, visit farmers.gov/service-locator.

To locate an approved insurance provider, visit the Agent Locator on rma.usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

July 2022

Program Aid 2266

USDA Disaster Assistance Programs at a Glance



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

DISASTER ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION

FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA) | NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) | RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY (RMA)



DISASTER ASSISTANCE

USDA Disaster Assistance Programs At a Glance

Icon Key = Yes = No = Yes or No, with caveats (see footnote)

Disaster Programs	Agency	Blizzard	Fire	Hurricane/Typhoon	Excessive Moisture/Flood	Excessive Winds/Tornado	Drought	Hail	Volcanic Eruption/Emissions	Freeze	Earth-quake
Crop Insurance – provides indemnity payments to growers who purchased crop insurance for production and quality losses related to drought and other weather hazards, including losses from an inability to plant caused by an insured cause of loss.	RMA										
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Haying and Grazing – provides for emergency haying and grazing on certain CRP practices in a county designated as D2 or higher on the U.S. Drought Monitor, or in a county where there is at least a 40 percent loss in forage production.	FSA	¹	¹	¹	¹	¹		¹	¹	¹	¹
Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program (ELAP) – provides assistance to eligible owners of livestock, and producers of honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease (including cattle tick fever), adverse weather, or other conditions not covered by LFP and LIP.	FSA		²				³	⁴		¹	
Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) – provides funding and technical assistance for farmers and ranchers to restore farmland damaged by natural disasters and for emergency water conservation measures in severe droughts.	FSA										
Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) – provides funding to restore privately owned forests damaged by natural disasters. Assistance helps landowners carry out emergency measures to restore forest health on land damaged by floods, hurricanes or other natural disasters.	FSA										
Farm Loans – provides Emergency and Operating loans to help producers recover from production and physical losses due to natural disasters or livestock quarantine and can pay for farm operating and family living expenses.	FSA										

¹ Yes, but only if determined eligible by FSA.
² Yes, except on federally managed land
³ No, except for water and feed transportation
⁴ Yes, but only for grazing losses

FSA = Farm Service Agency
 NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service
 RMA = Risk Management Agency

Disaster Programs	Agency	Blizzard	Fire	Hurricane/Typhoon	Excessive Moisture/Flood	Excessive Winds/Tornado	Drought	Hail	Volcanic Eruption/Emissions	Freeze	Earth-quake
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) – provides agricultural producers with financial resources and one-on-one help to plan and implement improvements on the land including financial assistance to repair and prevent the excessive soil erosion caused or impacted by natural disasters. These practices include activities like stream bank restoration, grassed waterways and buffers. NRCS-funded conservation practices protect your land from erosion, support disaster recovery and repair and can help mitigate loss from future natural disasters. Assistance may also be available for emergency animal mortality disposal from natural disasters and other causes.	NRCS										
Emergency Watershed Program (EWP-Recovery) – offers vital recovery options for local communities to help people reduce hazards to life and property caused by floodwaters, droughts, wildfires, earthquakes, windstorms, and other natural disasters. Project funds address erosion related watershed impairments by supporting activities such as removing debris from stream channels, road culverts, and bridges; reshaping and protecting eroded banks; correcting damaged drainage facilities; repairing levees and structures; and reseeding damaged areas. EWP Floodplain Easements – provide an alternative to Recovery efforts described above. NRCS has the authority to purchase floodplain easements (FPE) as an alternative measure to traditional Recovery where sites meet EWP-FPE eligibility criteria and it is determined that acquiring an easement in lieu of Recovery is the more economical and prudent approach to reducing the threat to life or property.	NRCS										
Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) – provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on land that is native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover or that is planted specifically for grazing.	FSA		⁵								
Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) – provides benefits to livestock owners and some contract growers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality that are the direct result of an eligible adverse weather event. In addition, LIP covers attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the Federal Government or protected by Federal Law. Also, LIP provides assistance to livestock owners that must sell livestock at a reduced price because of an injury from an eligible loss condition.	FSA						⁶			⁷	

⁵ Yes, but only on federally managed lands impacted by the fire for which the producer is prohibited from grazing the normally permitted livestock by the Federal agency
⁶ No, except when associated with anthrax
⁷ Yes, but only if deaths result from freeze incidental to a winter storm or extreme cold as determined by FSA.

FSA = Farm Service Agency
 NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service
 RMA = Risk Management Agency

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#)
Subject: Fwd: State-Fed Affairs Reps Meeting Today, 1:30 p.m. EDT
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:48:05 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[NGA Workforce Strategic Planning Collaborative.pptx](#)

From: Scarbin, Courtney <CScarbin@NGA.ORG>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:49:45 AM
To: Scarbin, Courtney <CScarbin@NGA.ORG>
Cc: Carlton, Timothy <TCarlton@nga.org>; Porter, Jack <Jporter@nga.org>
Subject: RE: State-Fed Affairs Reps Meeting Today, 1:30 p.m. EDT

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
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Good morning,

Attached is the slide deck and below is some additional information regarding yesterday's presentation on the Workforce Strategic Planning Collaborative (WSPC).

- **About WSPC:** WSPC is joint effort between the NGA Center and the U.S. Department of Labor to provide technical support to Governors as they develop their strategic vision to maximize the impact of new federal investments for their state's workforce (i.e. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, CHIPS and Science Act, and Inflation Reduction Act).
- **Engaging with WSPC:** If your office would like to provide input on project deliverables and activities, please don't hesitate to reach out [Tim Carlton](#) and [Jack Porter](#). You can also [sign up for updates here](#).
- **Upcoming Event:** NGA is hosting a virtual event on Wednesday, September 27th at 4 p.m. ET to offer updates and opportunities for engagement with the WSPC. The event will also feature remarks from leadership at the U.S. Department of Labor as well as state best practices. [Register here](#).

Best,
Courtney




Courtney Scarbin
Legislative Associate
444 North Capitol St NW, Ste 267
Washington, D.C. 20001
o: 202.719.2874 | m: 304.280.4157

cscarbin@nga.org



From: Scarbin, Courtney
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 11:41 AM
To: Scarbin, Courtney <CScarbin@NGA.ORG>
Subject: State-Fed Affairs Reps Meeting Today, 1:30 p.m. EDT

Good morning,

NGA is hosting its weekly State-Fed Affairs Reps meeting **today at 1:30 p.m. EDT** in NGA's Capitol View Room (Hall of the States, Suite 267). Linked are today's  [agenda](#), an  [update FY 2024 appropriations](#), and information regarding the  [Workforce Strategic Planning Collaborative](#).

You can also join virtually by dialing (888) 475-4499 or (877) 853-5257 and meeting ID: 2027192874# or joining via Zoom: <https://nga-org.zoom.us/j/2027192874>.

You can press *6 to unmute yourself and *9 to raise your hand during the call. Please keep your line muted when not speaking to avoid creating an echo.

Best,
Courtney

Courtney Scarbin
Legislative Associate
444 North Capitol St NW, Ste 267
Washington, D.C. 20001
o: 202.719.2874 | m: 304.280.4157
cscarbin@nga.org







Workforce Strategic Planning Collaborative



NATIONAL
GOVERNORS
ASSOCIATION

Workforce Development Toolkit for IIJA, CHIPS, and IRA

- Highlights key policy changes and new programs related to workforce development
- Outlines proactive measures Governors can take on IIJA/CHIPS/IRA implementation as it relates to workforce development
- Links to existing resources from the Administration and other NGA Center programs

WIOA Policy Levers Brief

1. Set, communicate, and execute the state's **vision** and priorities for workforce development
2. Direct resources toward those priorities by building **partnerships** and aligning funding, such as leveraging authority over funding formulas and Governor's Reserve funds
3. Ensure quality service delivery to employers and jobseekers by overseeing system performance and **accountability**



[*How Governors Can Execute Their Vision for Workforce Development \(NGA, 2023\)*](#)

*The **upcoming WIOA four-year strategic planning process** offers an opportunity to collaborate across business leaders, agencies and community stakeholders to **develop an aligned workforce strategy** that incorporates best/emerging practices and federal programs.*

Workforce Strategic Planning Collaborative

Objectives

- Provide NGA members with planning tools and accompanying technical assistance to assist in the development of comprehensive four-year strategic plans
- Provide NGA members the opportunity to inform federal processes, such as development of the indicators USDOL uses to review and approve state plans
- Showcase best practices from state planning processes and provide a platform for peer-to-peer learning

Workforce Strategic Planning Collaborative

3 Key Project Phases:

- **Phase I:** State Planning Tool Development, Q3-Q4 of 2023
- **Phase II:** Tool Deployment and Application, Q1-Q3 of 2024
- **Phase III:** Continued Action and Convening, Q3-Q4 of 2024

Workforce Strategic Planning Collaborative



Sign up for project updates at nga.org/WSPC

Workforce Strategic Planning Collaborative

Immediate and Short-Term Opportunities for Engagement

- Attend the virtual Launch Event on **09/27 at 4:00 Eastern Time**
- Reach out to provide input on the project and planning tools at jporter@nga.org
- Sign up for project updates at nga.org/wspc

Workforce Strategic Planning Collaborative



Sign up for project updates at nga.org/WSPC

From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: RE: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:05:19 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Good

From: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:00 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday

Fine here

--

Katie Domina
Policy Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov



From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:51 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday

Good here.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:49 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday

Any concerns with below copy? ASAP:

Wisconsin Republicans want to take historic K-12 education funding increases away from our kids and our schools.

Pass it on.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 12:38 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: N4a - veto override Thursday

<https://x.com/jgrosswrites/status/1701650377299443981?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov













From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [GOV DL Review](#); [Campbell, Derek - GOV](#)
Subject: FW: Work Authorization Tools
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:09:00 PM
Attachments: [ImmigrationCourt_Flyer.pdf](#)

FYI

From: Cancela, Yvanna D. EOP/WHO <Yvanna.D.Cancela@who.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:07 PM
To: Cancela, Yvanna D. EOP/WHO <Yvanna.D.Cancela@who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: Work Authorization Tools

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Hope your week is off to a solid start.

Following up on my last message, attached is a new flyer from the Department of Justice to help individuals navigate immigration court proceedings. This can and should be shared with individuals and legal service providers as a new tool to help folks understand how immigration courts work.

Thanks very much,
Yvanna

From: Cancela, Yvanna D. EOP/WHO
Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 7:38 PM
To: Cancela, Yvanna D. EOP/WHO <Yvanna.D.Cancela@who.eop.gov>
Subject: Work Authorization Tools

Good evening,

Over the coming days and weeks, I'll use this thread to keep you and your teams updated on actions the Administration is taking to close the gap between non-citizens who are eligible for work authorization and those who have applied. While the data isn't perfect, it tells us there are large populations of work authorization eligible individuals across the country.

As of today, USCIS has sent out over 200,000 emails and more than 500,000 texts in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole to individuals who fall into this category. You can read more about the ongoing efforts [here](#).

In addition, USCIS has created the attached flyer to help people quickly access information on work authorization based on their entry pathway. These are meant to be used as a key tool to simplify the

application process. They could, for example, be used by legal service providers to streamline their work in immigrant communities. Please share with the appropriate leaders in your state.

Looking forward to talking with you all about this.

Thanks for all you do,
Yvanna



Executive Office for Immigration Review

Read This Important Notice from the Immigration Court



Use a smartphone's camera to scan the code on this page to read the notice online.

Usa la cámara de un teléfono inteligente para escanear el código de esta página y leer el aviso en línea.

Use a câmara do smartphone para digitalizar o código nesta página e ler o manual de instruções online.

使用智能手机摄像头扫描本页面的代码，即可在线阅读该通知。

অনলাইনে নোটিশ পড়ার জন্য এই পেজের কোডটি স্ক্যান করতে স্মার্টফোনের ক্যামেরা ব্যবহার করুন

ਨੋਟਿਸ ਨੂੰ ਔਨਲਾਈਨ ਪੜ੍ਹਨ ਲਈ ਇਸ ਪੰਨੇ 'ਤੇ ਕੋਡ ਨੂੰ ਸਕੈਨ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਮਾਰਟਫੋਨ ਦੇ ਕੈਮਰੇ ਦੀ ਵਰਤੋਂ ਕਰੋ।

Sèvi ak kamera yon telefòn entèlijan pou eskane kòd ki nan paj sa a pou li avi a sou entènèt.

استخدم كاميرا الهاتف الذكي لمسح الرمز الموجود في هذه الصفحة لقراءة الإشعار على الإنترنت.

Чтобы прочитать уведомление онлайн, отсканируйте код на этой странице с помощью камеры вашего смартфона.

“Access EOIR” is an ongoing effort by the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) to make immigration court easier to navigate. As part of Action Month, EOIR announced today its latest update to the Access EOIR effort.

Many individuals who come before the immigration court do not have an attorney or legal representation, and some can find it daunting to file an application or document with the court. To make court filings easier for the unrepresented, EOIR will now upload their paper applications and documents into the agency’s electronic case management system (ECAS). As an additional courtesy to the unrepresented, EOIR will also provide a copy of the filed application or document to the Department of Homeland Security.

Providing this assistance to persons without an attorney or legal representation will promote both fairness in proceedings and efficiency for the court.

PAO.EOIR@usdoj.gov

@DOJ_EOIR

www.justice.gov/eoir

icor.eoir.justice.gov

respondentaccess.eoir.justice.gov

acis.eoir.justice.gov

September 2023
Access EOIR

Accessibility Report

Filename: Action Month Flyer_English.pdf

Report created by: Dmitriy Zavyalov, Program Analyst

Organization: EOIR

[Personal and organization information from the Preferences > Identity dialog.]

Summary

The checker found no problems in this document.

- Needs manual check: 0
- Passed manually: 2
- Failed manually: 0
- Skipped: 0
- Passed: 30
- Failed: 0

Detailed Report

Document

Rule Name	Status	Description
Accessibility permission flag	Passed	Accessibility permission flag must be set
Image-only PDF	Passed	Document is not image-only PDF
Tagged PDF	Passed	Document is tagged PDF
Logical Reading Order	Passed manually	Document structure provides a logical reading order
Primary language	Passed	Text language is specified
Title	Passed	Document title is showing in title bar
Bookmarks	Passed	Bookmarks are present in large documents
Color contrast	Passed manually	Document has appropriate color contrast

Page Content

Rule Name	Status	Description
Tagged content	Passed	All page content is tagged
Tagged annotations	Passed	All annotations are tagged
Tab order	Passed	Tab order is consistent with structure order
Character encoding	Passed	Reliable character encoding is provided
Tagged multimedia	Passed	All multimedia objects are tagged
Screen flicker	Passed	Page will not cause screen flicker
Scripts	Passed	No inaccessible scripts
Timed responses	Passed	Page does not require timed responses
Navigation links	Passed	Navigation links are not repetitive

Forms

Rule Name	Status	Description
Tagged form fields	Passed	All form fields are tagged
Field descriptions	Passed	All form fields have description

Alternate Text

Rule Name	Status	Description
Figures alternate text	Passed	Figures require alternate text
Nested alternate text	Passed	Alternate text that will never be read
Associated with content	Passed	Alternate text must be associated with some content
Hides annotation	Passed	Alternate text should not hide annotation
Other elements alternate text	Passed	Other elements that require alternate text

Tables

Rule Name	Status	Description
Rows	Passed	TR must be a child of Table, THead, TBody, or TFoot

TH and TD	Passed	TH and TD must be children of TR
Headers	Passed	Tables should have headers
Regularity	Passed	Tables must contain the same number of columns in each row and rows in each column
Summary	Passed	Tables must have a summary

Lists

Rule Name	Status	Description
List items	Passed	LI must be a child of L
Lbl and LBody	Passed	Lbl and LBody must be children of LI

Headings

Rule Name	Status	Description
Appropriate nesting	Passed	Appropriate nesting

[Back to Top](#)

From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:40:50 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Sorry – already out.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 1:40 PM
To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday

Would strike the word funding if you haven't gone yet.

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:05:16 PM
To: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday

Good

From: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:00 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday

Fine here

--

Katie Domina

Policy Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]
e: katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov



From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:51 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday

Good here.

Kelly Becker *(she/her)*

Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Governor Tony Evers
e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:49 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: ASAP REVIEW: N4a - veto override Thursday

Any concerns with below copy? ASAP:

Wisconsin Republicans want to take historic K-12 education funding increases away from our kids and our schools.

Pass it on.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 12:38 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: N4a - veto override Thursday

<https://x.com/jrrosswrites/status/1701650377299443981?s=20>

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov













From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Thelke, Emma - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Subject: Re: SS workforce letters
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:05:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)

Just so I'm tracking – who is the signee? Policy advisors?

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 2:56 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: SS workforce letters

Hi all,

Just wanted to bump this again for review.

Thank you!

Emma Thelke (*she/her*)
Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 2:13 PM
To: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>; [GOV DL Huddle](#) <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: SS workforce letters

Just for visibility for others, WW, MW & policy talked about these and intent is for staff to send to stakeholders for engagement.

From: Thelke, Emma - GOV <emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 1:46:37 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: SS workforce letters

Hi all,

Here are the stakeholder outreach letters I drafted regarding the healthcare and education workforce issues being addressed during the special session. Please review.

 [Edu workforce SS.docx](#)  [Healthcare workforce SS.docx](#)

Thank you,
Emma

Emma Thelke (*she/her*)
Policy Advisor
Office of Governor Tony Evers
P. 
e. emma.thelke@wisconsin.gov











From: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
To: [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [GOV DL COMMS](#)
Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:14:18 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Reviewed

From: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:08 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

Reviewed

--

Katie Domina

Policy Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov



From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:01 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

Good.

Kelly Becker *(she/her)*

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e. kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:56 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

Generally good here, happy to look again when you're finished if needed

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:47:23 PM
To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

I am understandably still working on this, but we will need immediate review and sign off, including legal.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 3:41 PM
To: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: ASAP

DO NOT MAKE EDITS BUT PLEASE START REVIEWING

[RedX PR](#)

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov













From: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#); [Agni, Chet - GOV](#); [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#); [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#); [Domina, Katherine - GOV](#); [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#); [GOV DL Huddle](#)
Cc: [GOV DL COMMS](#)
Subject: Re: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:51:06 PM
Attachments: [image007.png](#)
[image008.png](#)
[image009.png](#)
[image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)
[image012.png](#)
[image013.png](#)
[image014.png](#)
[image015.png](#)
[image016.png](#)
[image017.png](#)
[image018.png](#)
[image019.png](#)
[image020.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Outlook-This is an.png](#)
[Leg-Approved, Leg-Picked Map Drawer TPs 9.12.23.pdf](#)

TPs attached – good to share with stakeholders, leg, etc.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 4:44 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Agni, Chet - GOV <chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

good here too

Jenni Dye (*she/hers*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov




From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:38 PM
To: Agni, Chet - GOV <chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov>; Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

Good here.

--
Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Agni, Chet - GOV <chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 4:36 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>, Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

TPs for folks review. Nearly verbatim from PR and statement:  [Leg-Approved, Leg-Picked Map Drawer TPs_9.12.23.docx](#)

Chet Agni (*he/him*)

Research and Press Specialist
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p. [REDACTED]

e. chet.agni1@wisconsin.gov



From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:17 PM

To: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>; Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

TM is loading – we will be sending imminently once we have gov signoff.

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 4:14 PM

To: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>, Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>, Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>, Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>, GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

good here

Mel Barnes

Chief Legal Counsel

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov



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From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:14 PM
To: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>; Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

Reviewed

From: Domina, Katherine - GOV <katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:08 PM
To: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>; Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

Reviewed

--

Katie Domina
Policy Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p. [REDACTED]
e. katherine.domina1@wisconsin.gov



From: Becker, Kelly - GOV <kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:01 PM
To: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>; Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: RE: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

Good.

Kelly Becker (*she/her*)

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of Governor Tony Evers

e: kelly.becker1@wisconsin.gov



From: Dye, Jenni N - GOV <jenni.dye@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:56 PM

To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: Re: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

Generally good here, happy to look again when you're finished if needed

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:47:23 PM

To: GOV DL Huddle <GOVDLHuddle@wisconsin.gov>

Cc: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: IMMEDIATE REVIEW - PLEASE PRIORITIZE

I am understandably still working on this, but we will need immediate review and sign off, including legal.

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 3:41 PM

To: GOV DL COMMS <GOVDLCOMMS@wisconsin.gov>

Subject: ASAP

DO NOT MAKE EDITS BUT PLEASE START REVIEWING

[RedX PR](#)

--

Britt Cudaback

Communications Director

Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov





• The magnetic field B is directed out of the page. The magnetic force F on the wire is directed to the right.

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DEMOCRATS BLAST LATEST GOP EFFORT TO DEMAND LEGISLATURE-PICKED AND LEGISLATURE-APPROVED MAP DRAWERS FOR LEGISLATIVE MAPS

- Wisconsin Democrats support fair maps, and we agree with the 63 percent of Wisconsinites who support maps being drawn by a nonpartisan commission rather than the Legislature.
- That's why Democrats have been fighting for fair maps and a nonpartisan redistricting process in this state for much of the past decade.
- Not only have Republicans repeatedly rejected those efforts with little debate or discussion, they have spent years and millions in taxpayer dollars working to overturn and undermine our elections, fueling baseless conspiracy theories, funding Gableman's sham 'investigation,' and passing even more gerrymandered maps than the ones we had before.
- Republicans have also spent the last several weeks threatening to impeach a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice and pushing radical plans to throw Wisconsin's Elections Commission into chaos by attempting to illegally fire the elections administrator they approved with unanimous, bipartisan support just a few years ago.
- **Now, with the possibility that fair maps and nonpartisan redistricting may be coming to Wisconsin whether they like it or not, Republicans are making a last-ditch effort to retain legislative control by having someone Legislature-picked and Legislature-approved draw Wisconsin's maps.**
- A Legislature that has now repeatedly demonstrated in recent years that they will not uphold basic tenets of our democracy—and will bully, threaten, or fire on a whim anyone who happens to disagree with them—cannot be trusted to appoint or oversee someone charged with drawing fair maps.
- **Wisconsin Democrats believe the people should be able to choose their elected officials, not the other way around, and we will not participate in enabling Republicans in the Legislature to keep trying to use and abuse their power to control the outcome of our elections.**
- Wisconsinites deserve a redistricting process that is free of partisanship and interference from politicians, and it's never been clearer that today's Republican-controlled Legislature cannot be trusted with that important responsibility.

REPUBLICANS' LONG HISTORY OF ATTACKS ON OUR DEMOCRACY

- Republicans' announcement today is just the latest in several years' worth of efforts by Republicans to interfere in Wisconsin's elections.
- In recent weeks, Wisconsin Republicans have been threatening to overturn an election by impeaching a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice and are poised to attempt to illegally fire the state's elections administrator as early as tomorrow.
- The New York Times [called](#) Republicans' efforts in Wisconsin in the wake of the 2020 election "an all-out assault on the state's election system," that is "broader and more forceful than that in any other state."
- Just this summer, top legislative Republicans attended the Republican Party of Wisconsin state convention where attendees [were set to take up resolutions](#) regarding

topics such as abolishing the Wisconsin Elections Commission, putting the Legislature in charge of certifying electors, preventing college students from voting on campus, and severely restricting early voting.

- Republicans' new effort today to ensure Legislature-picked and Legislature-approved map drawers is just the latest of years' worth of efforts by Republicans to interfere with and control the outcome of Wisconsin's elections, which include but are not limited to:
 - Advancing [legislation](#) and [litigation](#) to make it harder for eligible Wisconsin voters to cast their ballots;
 - Enabling dangerous rhetoric towards Wisconsin elections officials, which has contributed to an environment in which [local clerks and election officials have faced a rise in threats of violence](#);
 - Delaying the [confirmation of numerous gubernatorial appointments](#) of experienced, qualified Wisconsinites;
 - Conspiring with political appointees to [remain in their positions past the expiration of their terms](#);
 - Charging taxpayers [more than \\$2.5 million](#) for a sham investigation of the November 2020 election after numerous reviews confirmed there was no significant wrongdoing or fraud;
 - Threatening to launch impeachment proceedings against a Wisconsin Supreme Court candidate [before their election had even occurred](#);
 - Pledging to [dismantle the Republican-created bipartisan commission](#) that oversees the state's elections; and
 - Attempting to [fire the head of the Wisconsin Elections Commission](#) despite bipartisan support from clerks and elected officials across the state, including sitting Republican lawmakers.



Maggie >

Thu, Aug 31 at 11:06 AM

Are you hopping on records



Maggie >

Mon, Sep 18 at 10:35 AM

Have a quick q if you can pop by
when you have a chance

Ok



13 People >

Wed, Aug 9 at 11:00 PM

Maggie Gau

MG

Good work everyone!



13 People >



Yes let's do conference room please so we can meet there and I'm not trying to find you in a random place



13 People >

Does someone want to relay to the woman announcing

Or I can



13 People >

But she's telling people he's here
and getting them excited

So I don't want to yank him while
she's still announcing him



13 People >

Thx

You just see photog, right?

I didn't see anyone with



13 People >

Lol very interested in broil of eating.....

Brutal.



13 People >



Ok doing it at the end



13 People >

Do we have any idea how many are left?

I heard him say grand champ but



13 People >





13 People >

Maggie Gau

MG

They should hopefully start picking up the pace now

....right



Maggie >



'Top Chef' judges had good things to say about Madison, ate well

madison.com



Maggie >

Wed, Sep 6 at 5:08 PM

Please hop on the 5:00 - thank you!



Maggie >



Tue, Sep 12 at 6:05 PM

If you haven't left yet can you go make sure the bags of cookies are sealed

I don't want them drying out over night

Oh shit

I'm already gone

I'll see if AT is there?

Or Steven?

But p sure Taylor was in there and I'm sure she did

iMessage

Thu, Aug 31 at 11:06 AM

Are you hopping on records

Mon, Sep 18 at 10:35 AM

Have a quick q if you can pop by
when you have a chance

Ok

Delivered

10:43



13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work

Does someone want to relay to the woman announcing

B

Or I can

10:43



13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work

B But she's telling people he's here and getting them excited



13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work

B

So I don't want to yank him while she's still announcing him



13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work

Thx

I didn't see anyone with

B

You just see photog, right?



13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work

Lol very interested in broll of eating.....

B

Brutal.



13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work



Ok doing it at the end



13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work

Do we have any idea how many are left?

B

I heard him say grand champ but



13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work

B

....right



13 People >

And a steer walks out...





13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work



Lol



13 People >

Britt Cudaback - Work

B

Same lol

From: [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)
To: [Henney, Cara - GOV](#)
Subject: On Wisconsin Politics: Biden's Milwaukee visit touts "Bidenomics" as 2024 cycle heats up
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 7:02:05 AM

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milwaukee journal sentinel

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On Wisconsin Politics

Wed Aug 23 2023

Biden's Milwaukee visit touts 'Bidenomics' as 2024 cycle heats up



Biden highlighted the Inflation Reduction Act and CHIPS and Science Act in a Milwaukee appearance setting the stage for the 2024 election.

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Put Baking Soda in the Toilet, Here's Why

Life Hack: "Here's what happens when you put baking soda in the toilet."

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Ousted courts director files complaints against 4 liberal justices

Randy Koschnick lodged his complaints against Justices Ann Walsh Bradley, Rebecca Dallet, Jill Karofsky and Janet Protasiewicz.

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Elections commissioners plan to discuss Senate hearing on Wolfe's future

Republicans who control the Senate have indicated they want to oust election leader



Meagan Wolfe, but commissioners have shielded her from a vote.

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Wisconsin GOP chairman referenced in Georgia indictment of Trump

A Georgia grand jury indicted 2024 presidential candidate Donald Trump and several allies.

[**READ MORE**](#)



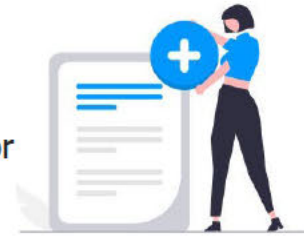
Bice: Dozens reverse Justice Rebecca Bradley's edits to her Wikipedia page

For months, Bradley has been quietly editing the details of her personal Wikipedia page to remove information critical of her and her rulings.

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From: WisPolitics.com
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Subject: THU News Summary: Candidates tackle Trump, Ukraine and abortion in first GOP presidential debate
Date: Thursday, August 24, 2023 11:16:45 AM

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THU News Summary -- 24 Aug. 2023

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

Access the mobile version of the News Summary:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/thu-news-summary-candidates-tackle-trump-ukraine-and-abortion-in-first-gop-presidential-debate/>

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TOP STORIES

Takeaways from RNC debate: Candidates tangle on Trump, Ukraine and abortion

* Donald Trump was the subject that couldn't be avoided ... Someone has got to stop normalizing this conduct," Christie said, drawing boos from the audience. "Whether or not you believe the criminal charges are right or wrong, the conduct is beneath the office of President of the United States." Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie of running a campaign of being based on "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Mike Pence, Tim Scott favor 15-week federal abortion ban, while Nikki Haley wants consensus in Congress ... DeSantis talked up a six-week bill he signed in Florida, didn't commit to a federal measure but said, "I'm going to stand on the side of life."

* Funding for Ukraine takes center stage ... DeSantis called on Europe "to pull its weight" ... Ramaswamy [alone] declared he would not support any more funding to Ukraine. Christie: "This is the Vladimir Putin who Donald Trump called brilliant and a genius. If we don't stand up to this kind of autocratic killing in the world, we will be

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next." DeSantis said he'd send troops, sending Special forces over the border to stop Mexican cartels.

* Taking whacks at Joe Biden: DeSantis: "We need to send Joe Biden back to his basement and reverse American decline ... We must reverse Bidenomics." candidates were asked if they would support a mental acuity test for presidents over 70. ... Pence said the country shouldn't have a president who is too old or too young, while Ramaswamy said it was time for a generational change.

* Vivek Ramaswamy came out hot, and the others noticed it ... tried to claim the mantle of outsider ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What's he doing in the middle of a debate stage?" called climate change agenda "a hoax" and claiming "more people are dying of bad climate change policies than they are of actual climate."

... attacked the other candidates on stage as being "bought and paid for." Christie: "I have had enough already tonight of a guy who sounds like ChatGPT," noted "skinny guy with a funny last name" sounded like Obama, "I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of (person)."

By Glauber and Andrea, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/23/five-key-takeaways-from-the-republican-presidential-debate-in-milwaukee/70620272007/>

WI GOP ask newly elected liberal justice to not hear redistricting case

... during her campaign for the seat earlier this year she called the Republican-drawn maps "unfair" and "rigged" and said there needs to be "a fresh look at the gerrymandering question." ... [Protasiewicz] never committed to recusing herself from hearing the case. ... did promise to recuse herself from any case brought by [DPW] because it donated nearly \$10M to her campaign. There are two pending redistricting lawsuits, neither of which was brought by [DPW]. Reviews suits, plaintiffs, attorneys.

* legislative GOP motion to Supreme Court argued DPW will benefit from new maps, hence, she must recuse or violate their due process right, "Justice Protasiewicz's campaign statements reveal that her thumb is very much on the scale in this case." Speaker Vos has hinted at pursuing impeachment if she does not recuse.

* asked for comment, Protasiewicz emailed, "I appreciate your interest in the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I do not wish to comment, but thank you very much for reaching out to me."

* Plaintiff attorneys declined comment. By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/2a528003e32c3f51f9ef036f6d13f52e>

WEC Admin. Wolfe won't attend Senate reappointment hearing

... after [AG] Kaul [who is representing Wolfe in the matter] said the GOP-controlled Senate has no authority to vote on Wolfe's appointment. ... In a letter [Legis Council dir.] Sappenfield ... "This is not a close question under state law," Kaul said. "The plain language

of the pertinent statute requires that an administrator be appointed 'by a majority of the members of the commission.'" ... Senate Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections and Consumer Protection plans to meet Tuesday ... "As the state's chief election official, engaging with lawmakers is a critical part of my role, and I look forward to discussing the good work of the Commission with them in the future," Wolfe said. Review. Chair Knodl did not respond.

By Schmidt, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

<https://madison.com/d34aa40e-4202-11ee-98c5-63f79a71f598.html>

#####

STORY TOPICS

#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- In competing events, Trump and his 8 challengers offer split-screen view of GOP's future ... Trump, in a 45-minute interview with [ex-FNS host] Carlson released five minutes before the first GOP presidential debate began airing ... forcefully defended his actions leading up to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol ... again falsely claimed he won Wisconsin's presidential election and alleged all absentee voting was rigged again argued the 2020 election should have been overturned. ... [all but DeSantis among debate] opponents ... agreed [then-VP] Pence was right in refusing Trump's request to overturn the results ... "Anytime you have mail-in ballots, you're going to have massive cheating in your elections," Trump said, a claim that is not supported by evidence. ... Ramaswamy took most of the fire as his opponents viewed him as most likely to get a bump in polling following the debate.

* Ramaswamy said Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie campaign of being "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Christie: "You make me laugh, because you sit here talking about how you want to stand up for the rule of law and law and order. ... I am not going to bow to anyone, when we have a president of the United States who disrespects the Constitution."

... candidates overall were divided over ... six-week federal abortion ban ... DeSantis said he would "support the cause of life" as president, but did not stake a clear position [on federalizing the] state law he signed in Florida in April. Burgum, holding a pocket-sized Constitution, said that while he is pro-life, he believes a federal abortion ban would violate the 10th Amendment ... biggest clash on abortion came between Pence and Haley. [Haley called for "consensus" on a federal law. Pence: "Consensus is the opposite of leadership. It's not a states-only issue, it's a moral issue."] ...

* Haley blamed \$2.2T COVID stimulus bill for extant economic woes, "Donald Trump added \$8 trillion to our debt and our kids are never going to forgive us for this."

* Ramaswamy agreed with others on education, promoting choice, adding, "Education starts with the family, and the nuclear family is the greatest form of governance known to mankind."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-trump-interview-put-republican-split-screen-in-full-view/70620223007/>

- Milwaukee became a microcosm of nation's political divisions during GOP presidential debate ... candidates threw barbs and skirmished ... audience cheered

and jeered, at times forcing the candidates to wait to speak. ... But ... in the city in the hours and days leading up to the debate ... people from across the political spectrum made their voices heard but seemed to avoid clashes. ... Nationally known members of both parties were spotted in Milwaukee [including Trump Jr., DNC Chair Harrison.] Trump surrogate [US Rep.] Taylor Greene [pressed to renew Trump] with local host Sherwin Hughes on 101.7 The Truth, the news-talk radio station focusing on Milwaukee's Black community. ... anti-Biden bus made its way through downtown [reading "Why you shouldn't vote for him if you're Black."] ... [DPW] launched a "Cheddar Storm" fundraising drive featuring ... [Mayor Johnson, Exec. Crowley] welcoming next year's Republican National Convention to the city. ... site of a pre-event party for [Walker's] Young America's Foundation ... Overhead flew an airplane with a banner that read, "GOP 2024: A race for the extreme MAGA base." ... Outside of media tapings for conservative shows and a few food vendors, the crowd was spread thin. ... some young people in the crowd, most visitors were older. ... Walker and [U.S. Sen.] Johnson ... thought Trump should have visited Wisconsin despite his decision to pass on the debate. ... At the nearby No Studios in the Brewery District, more than 100 people packed together before the debate to listen to union and progressive leaders [including Harrison, U.S. Rep. Moore] offer a rebuttal. ... At the second protest, which started at Red Arrow Park [250+ attended, led by Voces' Neumann-Ortiz], speakers made it clear they would not support any candidate from the GOP. ... Speakers accused the Republican Party of being racist, sexist, transphobic and anti-worker. ... chanted, "Milwaukee is a union town" and, "Say it loud, say it clear, Republicans aren't welcome here." ... protesters had disbanded for the night shortly after 9 p.m. ... By 10:30 p.m. the Deer District was calm as debate attendees slowly filed out for the evening.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/milwaukee-became-microcosm-of-political-divisions-for-gop-debate/70605731007/>

- Did Vivek Ramaswamy plagiarize Barack Obama during the Republican presidential primary debate? Chris Christie thought so. ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What the heck is he doing in the middle of this debate stage?" Ramaswamy said early in the debate. ... "The last person who stood up here saying, 'What's a skinny guy with an odd last name doing up here?' was Barack Obama and I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of amateur standing on the stage tonight," Christie said.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-vivek-ramaswamy-plagiarize-barack-obama-republican-debate-chris-christie-chatgpt/70666955007/>

- Trump Jr. suggests dad will skip next one, too ... "Would you name a single political consultant who is not an imbecile who would say, 'You know what? You have a 60-point lead. Why don't you give someone who has got 1%, less than 1%, give him two hours, three hours, whatever it may be, unfettered access to try to land a strike? That doesn't make sense. ... Ron DeSantis has his opportunity tonight and totally missed it. Totally missed it. ... Vivek destroyed him."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/at-gop-debate-donald-trump-jr-suggests-donald-trump-will-skip-next-one-too/70666062007/>

- Mayor Rhodes-Conway outside RNC debate venue invites skeptics to Madison to dispute the idea of a 'nation in decline' ... [in Dem presser denounced "MAGA extremism."] ... "I'm sure that they're going to talk about freedom on the debate stage tonight. But what about the freedom to make my own health care decision? I guess that their version of freedom doesn't include women," she said. ... "I would invite anybody who thinks we are a nation in decline to come to cities, to come to places like Madison, Wisconsin where we have the lowest unemployment rate or damn near close to it in the country. Where our population growth and our economic growth is driving the state of Wisconsin. Where we have a thriving university despite the refusal of Republicans at the state level to invest in it," she said. ... drew a sharp reaction from critics on social media who called her, and Madison, out of touch. ... the summary was, "Come visit cities run by Democrats." DPW chair Wikler touted statewide winning streak, including Justice Protasiewicz.

<https://madison.com/0a5075e6-421c-11ee-a58a-9ffd199f97d2.html>

- National issues were front and center at first GOP presidential debate in Milwaukee, Outside Fiserv Forum, Trump supporters and protesters braved 100-degree heat to speak out ... "I'm not terribly shocked by the lack of Wisconsin content," [MU prof.] Azari [emailed]. "We're not an early or influential primary state, and the discussion is national." ... "Wisconsin is the heart of the Midwest, and if we lose the heart, we can't function and expect to win the presidency," [SEIU's] Lee said. "Wisconsin is key and important. It is a purple state that we have been able to win since 2016, but it is vital and key to the path to the White House." Pro-Trumpers, protesters comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-debate-milwaukee-rnc-fox-news-national-issues-wisconsin>

- Here's what Republican voters at Milwaukee debate gatherings had to say about the candidates: interviews at AFP, other watch parties.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/voters-react-to-what-they-saw-at-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620324007/>

- GOP presidential hopefuls take aim at Bidenomics, each other: pre-debate and debate excerpts. RNC-DNC chairs, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, DPW chair Wikler, RPW chair Schimming comment.

<https://captimes.com/da988408-6742-5544-9cea-a0d0e8e0d621.html>

- In GOP debate spin room, candidates, surrogates discuss winning Wisconsin, Milwaukee Bucks ... [Haley campaign's Dawson] notes strong Wisconsin fundraising ... [O'Malley for Pence] says food and drink is the key ... Trump advisor [Miller] compares Ron De Santis to ... Scott Walker ... Burgum talks visit with Milwaukee Bucks surgeon [for blown Achilles], 2021 playoffs

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/in-gop-debate-spin-room-candidates-surrogates-talk-wisconsin-bucks/70666076007/>

- Donald who? Fox barely mentions Trump in first half of debate until 10-minute indictment discussion

<https://apnews.com/8049cd2370d887946c8064ebdbd84c05>

- Takeaways from the first Republican presidential primary debate ... Candidates go after Ramaswamy ... DeSantis doesn't stand out ... Christie doesn't have a breakout moment ... Candidates draw distinctions on abortion ... DeSantis tries, but fails, to duck January 6 question after being pressed by Pence ... Haley leans towards the general election ... Scott sticks to Mr. Nice Guy routine. Videos include viewing party in IA.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/08/23/politics/takeaways-republican-debate/index.html>

- Bice: Winners and losers from the Republican presidential debate in Milwaukee ... GOP field is being left in the dust by former President Donald Trump, who didn't even show up for the debate. ... Winner: Vivek Ramaswamy ... Loser: Ron DeSantis ... Winner: Mike Pence ... Loser: Chris Christie ... Winner: Milwaukee ... Loser: Tim Scott ... Winner: Oliver Anthony ... Loser: Doug Burgum ... Winner: Joe Biden ... Loser: Asa Hutchinson

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/the-winners-and-losers-from-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620165007/>

- Winners and losers from the first Republican debate ... Winners: Donald Trump ... risk for Trump in not showing up was that he wouldn't be able to defend himself. He didn't have to. ...Vivek Ramaswamy ... [unfunding Ukraine war] was about the only moment that the audience wasn't on Ramaswamy's side. ... Pence's Jan. 6 decision ... Losers: Ron DeSantis ... GOP's political pride ... Mike Pence and Tim Scott ... Fox News

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/23/who-won-republican-debate/>

- Ramaswamy Seizes Spotlight as DeSantis Hangs Back: 7 Debate Takeaways ... It was the Ramaswamy show. ... DeSantis avoided attacks -- and ended up on the periphery. ... Policy clashes [Ukraine, climate, abortion] showed G.O.P. divides. ... Pence came out punching. ... Haley positioned herself as the pragmatist. ... Boos underscored Christie's challenge. ... Trump avoided the debate, and meaningful attacks. Some video clips.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/24/us/politics/republican-debate-takeaways.html>

- Who won, who lost and who fizzled in the first Republican debate, DeSantis was a non-factor as Republicans piled on Ramaswamy, instead.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/08/24/republican-debate-who-won-takeaways-00112691>

- Debate does little to dissuade voters from Trump at one Republican watch party: At the Red Mouse Bar and Grill in Cross Plains ... "I might be wrong, I've been wrong before," Bernier told the Wisconsin Examiner. "I think most people, a lot of Republican voters, very devoted Republican voters, are kind of sick of it." ... "They can begin to focus Republican primary voters on issues for the first time in eight years really," Ribble told the Examiner days before the debate. "If they focus on issues, what are we going to do about the national debt, Social Security and Medicare, immigration reform? If they relegate Trump to irrelevance at the debate, I think it can be positive to Republican primary voters." Some of the 15 attendees comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/24/debate-does-little-to-dissuade-voters>

- Tim Scott, Chris Christie, Vivek Ramaswamy: Wisconsin voters debate who won first debate ... correspondent Shaquille Brewster watched the first GOP debate with conservative Trump voters in suburban Waukesha, Wisconsin and explored how voters viewed the candidates, the war in Ukraine, who would be an ideal vice presidential candidate. 6:46 video

<https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/video/tim-19147987721>

- Inside RNC's Milwaukee vendor fair showing off local businesses ... "This is what it's all about," RNC Milwaukee Host Committee chairman Reince Priebus said during a brief press appearance at the event. ... [RNC Chair] McDaniel said the vendors at Baird Center included 48 that were minority-owned and 45 that were women-owned. ... "We're looking forward to all businesses in Milwaukee being able to cash in and be a part of the excitement here in Milwaukee next year," [Mayor] Johnson said. ... drew 1K+ people in its first two hours

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/go-inside-rncs-milwaukee-expo-showing-off-local-b.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Dems would punish sham lawsuits as GOP senator continues fighting local news site: Sen. Tomczyk sued Wausau Pilot & Review for defamation over reporting the new site stands by, backed by 3 witnesses. Judge tossed his suit saying he failed to prove defamation, but Tomczyk is appealing. Site founder/editor Siewert has about \$200K in legal bills so far, "He knows we don't have deep pockets and that continuing to fight this lawsuit is very damaging to us financially and could shut us down." Dem bill would allow judge to dismiss such suits and order plaintiff to pay defendant's legal fees. Story's publicity and GoFundMe page have raised about \$100K for defense. Tomczyk's office declined comment, atty. Fernholz did not respond.

<https://apnews.com/1bf0e032d446cc9a5bc9e99c1ac2cd54>

- Democrats propose anti-SLAPP legislation as Republican senator's lawsuit against Wausau publication continues

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/democrats-propose-anti-slapp-legislation>

- SOS Godlewski on lawsuit: I don't have any records

<https://captimes.com/news/99949e6e-abaa-525d-ae9e-7cee13d62c6e.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Second Aug Prep school could open at former Cardinal Stritch campus in 2025

<https://biztimes.com/second-aug-prep-school-could-open-at-former-cardinal>

- Notre Dame School of Milwaukee expands campus with third building, Will serve boys in grades 5-8, help grow enrollment

<https://biztimes.com/notre-dame-school-of-milwaukee-expands-campus-with>

- 12K+ Wisconsinites to see student loan forgiveness under changes to income-based repayment plans: Harvard prof. Dynarski, UW prof. Hillman comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/more-12-000-wisconsinites-see-student-loan-forgiveness-under->

[changes-income-based-repayment-plans](#)

ELECTIONS [^top^](#)

- Moms for Liberty is growing in Wisconsin as critics call them extremists, The parental rights organization has built membership from groups that formed during the pandemic and is looking to shape policy and elections ... co-founder Tiffany Justice defended an Indiana chapter ... "One of our moms in a newsletter quotes Hitler. I stand with that mom," she said to applause. "If [@Moms4Liberty](#) is a 'hate group,' add me to the list," GOP presidential candidate and former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley tweeted a few days later. ... One of the Kenosha members, State Rep. Amanda Nedweski, R-Pleasant Prairie, went on to run for county board and state Assembly. ... Book removals in the works ... Liberal groups, including Stop Moms for Liberty, Defense of Democracy and Red Wine & Blue, have formed to counter Moms for Liberty, mobilizing suburban, Democratic voters at the school board level and starting campaigns related to racial equity and stopping book bans. Wood County Moms for Liberty chair Schueller, Ozaukee Co. Moms for Liberty's Johnson and Schroeder, members Tremelling and Scheuer, PFLAG's Johnson, advocate Norcross, WELPH's Lambert comment.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/moms-for-liberty-wisconsin-critics-call>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Legislators press DNR policy board appointees on wolves, pollution, sandhill crane hunt ... sporting heritage committee didn't get a lot of hard answers from Sharon Adams, Dylan Jennings or Paul Buhr during a 90-minute hearing ... precursor to a committee vote on whether to recommend Senate confirmation. ... trio revealed little about their personal stances, keeping their answers vague. ... don't need confirmation to serve ... But a Senate vote to reject them would result in them losing their jobs. All 7 Boarders are Evers appointees, but only Smith [2019] and West [2020] have been confirmed; Buhr is a re-appointment. Naas and VandenBrook were invited but Naas had a teaching commitment and VandenBrook was out of the country.

* Chair Stafsholt asked each appointee if ... DNR's wolf management plan should set a hard population limit and whether they believe people should hunt wolves. DNR draft plan recommends population management ranges between 350 and 1,200. Stafsholt bill mandates firm population limit. Stafsholt noted 40 years of wolf study should yield firm population answer, questioned Jennings on wolf-tribe spirituality.

* Sen. Felzkowski asked each about hunting sandhill cranes to stop crop poaching and who should pay for PFAS clean-up.

... Paraphrased answers. Reviews PFAS cities and suits.

<https://apnews.com/679946d73de54265ac9e84f1c35c87e3>

- Evers appointees to NR Board questioned on wolf hunting by Senate committee

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/evers-appointees-to-natural-resources>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- HHS' Westergaard renews vaccine call with COVID-19 uptick, looming flu season

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/health-department-renews-vaccine-call>

- Abortion-ban states pour millions into pregnancy centers with little medical care ...

Legislators in states with some of the strictest abortion bans are pouring millions into pregnancy resource centers, painting them as solutions to poor birth outcomes and the lack of access to adequate prenatal and postpartum care. ... In 2017, MO became the first state to issue tax credits for donations to pregnancy resource centers and it recently removed its limit on how many tax credits the state can issue. [MS, LA have laws]. ... centers can't be associated with abortion providers or refer clients for abortions. ... AL, KS, NE considered their own tax credits in this year's legislative sessions. ... The Southeast is home to about 900 pregnancy resource centers, more than a third of the national total,

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/24/abortion-ban-states-pour-millions-into-pregnancy-centers-with-little-medical-care/>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- WI housing market: Some regions see inventory increase, prices moderate: in WRA data

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/2023/08/24/wisconsin-home-sales-drop-in-july-while-economist-sees-positive-signs/70611350007/>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Rockwell Automation building hydroponic farm at Milwaukee HQ ... partnering with Green Bay-based Fork Farms ... an agriculture technology startup ... More than 70 Fork Farms "Flex Acres" will be installed ... Each Flex Acre is capable of producing over 100 pounds of leafy greens and other vegetables every month. ... green roof is also home to more than a dozen varieties of native perennials and in 2022, a small colony of honeybees was introduced. ... "Clock Tower Farms will engage employees and the community while serving as a showcase for manufacturers spanning diverse industries who want to see sustainable solutions in action," said CEO Moret

<https://biztimes.com/rockwell-automation-building-hydroponic-farm-at-milwaukee-hq/>

- AI, genetic testing: what washed up at Epic's global conference

<https://captimes.com/4cc21fb9-79f6-533a-b4f7-300fddcce032.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee streetcar to remain free to ride, could expand weekend service ... currently funded by a combination of state and federal transit grants, revenue from selling advertising on the system and, if needed, money from the city Transportation Fund. ... Atlanta's streetcar system, for example, implemented fares in 2016. ... \$1-per-ride fare accounted for 6.2% of its 2022 operating revenue. The system collected \$65.9 million in fares in 2022, down from \$133 million pre-pandemic in 2019.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/milwaukee-streetcar>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT [^top^](#)

- GOP lawmakers propose eliminating work permits for Wisconsin's 14- and 15-year-olds, Labor groups say [Tomczyk-Moses-Binsfeld bill] rolls back protections for minors in the workplace: sponsors, AFL-CIO's Bloomingdale, WDC's Flores comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/gop-lawmakers-propose-eliminating-work-permits-wisconsins-14-and-15-year-olds>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- CT Editorial: Trump's refusal to debate is an insult to Wisconsin voters

<https://captimes.com/b83bf4aa-3dc2-5336-8185-b10902639b24.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dan O'Donnell: What the real winner of the first debate can teach every single candidate (including Trump) ... The biggest winner of the first Republican presidential debate wasn't on the stage. He wasn't in Milwaukee and no, he wasn't on Twitter talking with Elon Musk. He was somewhere south of Richmond continuing to take the world by storm. Oliver Anthony, an unassuming singer-songwriter from Virginia, has the number one song in America--a monumental achievement for an unsigned artist made even more impressive by the fact that his "Rich Men North of Richmond" features no production whatsoever.

<https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2023/08/what-the-real-winner-of-the-first-debate-can-teach-every-single-candidate-including-trump/>

- David Blaska: About last night: Misconstruing the first Republican presidential debate

<https://davidblaska.com/2023/08/24/about-last-night-3/>

- Owen Robinson: Quick thoughts on the first GOP debate ... It was good to see an actual debate that displayed the rich spectrum of opinions in the Republican Party on important issues.

<https://www.bootsandsabers.com/2023/08/24/quick-thoughts-on-the-first-gop-debate/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Ramaswamy won ... He didn't win with me, understand. ... But I think he won with Republican voters.

<https://yellowstripsdeadarmadillos.org/2023/08/23/ramaswamy-won/>

- Van Mobley: Trumpkins cry "Vive la Vivek!": The best part of Wednesday night was Trump's interview with Tucker Carlson. Trump was on his game and laid out the policy issues at the core of his campaign.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/van-mobley-trumpkins-cry-vive-la-vivek/>

- Dave Zweifel: Consumer protection efforts save consumers billions, so the GOP wants to end them

<https://captimes.com/18e116d3-4687-5b32-8b49-57b6448dd40a.html>

- Spencer Black: Cheater Vos doubles down on gerrymandering

<https://captimes.com/e18e4782-4cd1-53b1-b24a-f7280faae212.html>

- Ruth Conniff: Wisconsin's Trump enablers are still undermining democracy

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/22/wisconsins-trump-enablers-are-still>

- Retired farmer Jim Goodman: What's missing from discussion of the Farm Bill

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/whats-missing-from-discussion>

- Bruce Murphy: How David Crowley led on sales tax: The inside story of how the county exec and mayor helped pass state legislation to save Milwaukee.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/23/murphys-law-how-david-crowley-led-on-sales-tax/>

- Sen. Brad Pfaff: Building healthy, resilient soil

<https://lacrossetribune.com/3591365a-402d-11ee-9d83-3b348700f96d.html>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Courting disaster, The Wisconsin Supreme Court has virtually no credibility ... as an impartial, thoughtful, nonpartisan and fair body. To apply school yard logic, it's true that the conservatives and the Republicans started it. But the Democrats and the liberals have only accelerated the race toward oblivion.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/courting-disaster/>

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STORY TOPICS

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TOP STORIES

Takeaways from RNC debate: Candidates tangle on Trump, Ukraine and abortion

* Donald Trump was the subject that couldn't be avoided ... Someone has got to stop normalizing this conduct," Christie said, drawing boos from the audience. "Whether or not you believe the criminal charges are right or wrong, the conduct is beneath the office of President of the United States." Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie of running a campaign of being based on "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Mike Pence, Tim Scott favor 15-week federal abortion ban, while Nikki Haley wants consensus in Congress ... DeSantis talked up a six-week bill he signed in Florida, didn't commit to a federal measure but said, "I'm going to stand on the side of life."

* Funding for Ukraine takes center stage ... DeSantis called on Europe "to pull its weight" ... Ramaswamy [alone] declared he would not support any more funding to Ukraine. Christie: "This is the Vladimir Putin who Donald Trump called brilliant and a genius. If we don't stand up to this kind of autocratic killing in the world, we will be

- [Workforce development](#)

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next." DeSantis said he'd send troops, sending Special forces over the border to stop Mexican cartels.

* Taking whacks at Joe Biden: DeSantis: "We need to send Joe Biden back to his basement and reverse American decline ... We must reverse Bidenomics." candidates were asked if they would support a mental acuity test for presidents over 70. ... Pence said the country shouldn't have a president who is too old or too young, while Ramaswamy said it was time for a generational change.

* Vivek Ramaswamy came out hot, and the others noticed it ... tried to claim the mantle of outsider ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What's he doing in the middle of a debate stage?" called climate change agenda "a hoax" and claiming "more people are dying of bad climate change policies than they are of actual climate."

... attacked the other candidates on stage as being "bought and paid for." Christie: "I have had enough already tonight of a guy who sounds like ChatGPT," noted "skinny guy with a funny last name" sounded like Obama, "I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of (person)."

By Glauber and Andrea, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/23/five-key-takeaways-from-the-republican-presidential-debate-in-milwaukee/70620272007/>

WI GOP ask newly elected liberal justice to not hear redistricting case

... during her campaign for the seat earlier this year she called the Republican-drawn maps "unfair" and "rigged" and said there needs to be "a fresh look at the gerrymandering question." ... [Protasiewicz] never committed to recusing herself from hearing the case. ... did promise to recuse herself from any case brought by [DPW] because it donated nearly \$10M to her campaign. There are two pending redistricting lawsuits, neither of which was brought by [DPW]. Reviews suits, plaintiffs, attorneys.

* legislative GOP motion to Supreme Court argued DPW will benefit from new maps, hence, she must recuse or violate their due process right, "Justice Protasiewicz's campaign statements reveal that her thumb is very much on the scale in this case." Speaker Vos has hinted at pursuing impeachment if she does not recuse.

* asked for comment, Protasiewicz emailed, "I appreciate your interest in the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I do not wish to comment, but thank you very much for reaching out to me."

* Plaintiff attorneys declined comment. By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/2a528003e32c3f51f9ef036f6d13f52e>

WEC Admin. Wolfe won't attend Senate reappointment hearing

... after [AG] Kaul [who is representing Wolfe in the matter] said the GOP-controlled Senate has no authority to vote on Wolfe's appointment. ... In a letter [Legis Council dir.] Sappenfield ... "This is not a close question under state law," Kaul said. "The plain language

of the pertinent statute requires that an administrator be appointed 'by a majority of the members of the commission.'" ... Senate Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections and Consumer Protection plans to meet Tuesday ... "As the state's chief election official, engaging with lawmakers is a critical part of my role, and I look forward to discussing the good work of the Commission with them in the future," Wolfe said. Review. Chair Knodl did not respond.

By Schmidt, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

<https://madison.com/d34aa40e-4202-11ee-98c5-63f79a71f598.html>

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STORY TOPICS

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WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- In competing events, Trump and his 8 challengers offer split-screen view of GOP's future ... Trump, in a 45-minute interview with [ex-FNS host] Carlson released five minutes before the first GOP presidential debate began airing ... forcefully defended his actions leading up to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol ... again falsely claimed he won Wisconsin's presidential election and alleged all absentee voting was rigged again argued the 2020 election should have been overturned. ... [all but DeSantis among debate] opponents ... agreed [then-VP] Pence was right in refusing Trump's request to overturn the results ... "Anytime you have mail-in ballots, you're going to have massive cheating in your elections," Trump said, a claim that is not supported by evidence. ... Ramaswamy took most of the fire as his opponents viewed him as most likely to get a bump in polling following the debate.

* Ramaswamy said Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie campaign of being "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Christie: "You make me laugh, because you sit here talking about how you want to stand up for the rule of law and law and order. ... I am not going to bow to anyone, when we have a president of the United States who disrespects the Constitution."

... candidates overall were divided over ... six-week federal abortion ban ... DeSantis said he would "support the cause of life" as president, but did not stake a clear position [on federalizing the] state law he signed in Florida in April. Burgum, holding a pocket-sized Constitution, said that while he is pro-life, he believes a federal abortion ban would violate the 10th Amendment ... biggest clash on abortion came between Pence and Haley. [Haley called for "consensus" on a federal law. Pence: "Consensus is the opposite of leadership. It's not a states-only issue, it's a moral issue."] ...

* Haley blamed \$2.2T COVID stimulus bill for extant economic woes, "Donald Trump added \$8 trillion to our debt and our kids are never going to forgive us for this."

* Ramaswamy agreed with others on education, promoting choice, adding, "Education starts with the family, and the nuclear family is the greatest form of governance known to mankind."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-trump-interview-put-republican-split-screen-in-full-view/70620223007/>

- Milwaukee became a microcosm of nation's political divisions during GOP presidential debate ... candidates threw barbs and skirmished ... audience cheered

and jeered, at times forcing the candidates to wait to speak. ... But ... in the city in the hours and days leading up to the debate ... people from across the political spectrum made their voices heard but seemed to avoid clashes. ... Nationally known members of both parties were spotted in Milwaukee [including Trump Jr., DNC Chair Harrison.] Trump surrogate [US Rep.] Taylor Greene [pressed to renew Trump] with local host Sherwin Hughes on 101.7 The Truth, the news-talk radio station focusing on Milwaukee's Black community. ... anti-Biden bus made its way through downtown [reading "Why you shouldn't vote for him if you're Black."] ... [DPW] launched a "Cheddar Storm" fundraising drive featuring ... [Mayor Johnson, Exec. Crowley] welcoming next year's Republican National Convention to the city. ... site of a pre-event party for [Walker's] Young America's Foundation ... Overhead flew an airplane with a banner that read, "GOP 2024: A race for the extreme MAGA base." ... Outside of media tapings for conservative shows and a few food vendors, the crowd was spread thin. ... some young people in the crowd, most visitors were older. ... Walker and [U.S. Sen.] Johnson ... thought Trump should have visited Wisconsin despite his decision to pass on the debate. ... At the nearby No Studios in the Brewery District, more than 100 people packed together before the debate to listen to union and progressive leaders [including Harrison, U.S. Rep. Moore] offer a rebuttal. ... At the second protest, which started at Red Arrow Park [250+ attended, led by Voces' Neumann-Ortiz], speakers made it clear they would not support any candidate from the GOP. ... Speakers accused the Republican Party of being racist, sexist, transphobic and anti-worker. ... chanted, "Milwaukee is a union town" and, "Say it loud, say it clear, Republicans aren't welcome here." ... protesters had disbanded for the night shortly after 9 p.m. ... By 10:30 p.m. the Deer District was calm as debate attendees slowly filed out for the evening.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/milwaukee-became-microcosm-of-political-divisions-for-gop-debate/70605731007/>

- Did Vivek Ramaswamy plagiarize Barack Obama during the Republican presidential primary debate? Chris Christie thought so. ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What the heck is he doing in the middle of this debate stage?" Ramaswamy said early in the debate. ... "The last person who stood up here saying, 'What's a skinny guy with an odd last name doing up here?' was Barack Obama and I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of amateur standing on the stage tonight," Christie said.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-vivek-ramaswamy-plagiarize-barack-obama-republican-debate-chris-christie-chatgpt/70666955007/>

- Trump Jr. suggests dad will skip next one, too ... "Would you name a single political consultant who is not an imbecile who would say, 'You know what? You have a 60-point lead. Why don't you give someone who has got 1%, less than 1%, give him two hours, three hours, whatever it may be, unfettered access to try to land a strike? That doesn't make sense. ... Ron DeSantis has his opportunity tonight and totally missed it. Totally missed it. ... Vivek destroyed him."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/at-gop-debate-donald-trump-jr-suggests-donald-trump-will-skip-next-one-too/70666062007/>

- Mayor Rhodes-Conway outside RNC debate venue invites skeptics to Madison to dispute the idea of a 'nation in decline' ... [in Dem presser denounced "MAGA extremism."] ... "I'm sure that they're going to talk about freedom on the debate stage tonight. But what about the freedom to make my own health care decision? I guess that their version of freedom doesn't include women," she said. ... "I would invite anybody who thinks we are a nation in decline to come to cities, to come to places like Madison, Wisconsin where we have the lowest unemployment rate or damn near close to it in the country. Where our population growth and our economic growth is driving the state of Wisconsin. Where we have a thriving university despite the refusal of Republicans at the state level to invest in it," she said. ... drew a sharp reaction from critics on social media who called her, and Madison, out of touch. ... the summary was, "Come visit cities run by Democrats." DPW chair Wikler touted statewide winning streak, including Justice Protasiewicz.

<https://madison.com/0a5075e6-421c-11ee-a58a-9ffd199f97d2.html>

- National issues were front and center at first GOP presidential debate in Milwaukee, Outside Fiserv Forum, Trump supporters and protesters braved 100-degree heat to speak out ... "I'm not terribly shocked by the lack of Wisconsin content," [MU prof.] Azari [emailed]. "We're not an early or influential primary state, and the discussion is national." ... "Wisconsin is the heart of the Midwest, and if we lose the heart, we can't function and expect to win the presidency," [SEIU's] Lee said. "Wisconsin is key and important. It is a purple state that we have been able to win since 2016, but it is vital and key to the path to the White House." Pro-Trumpers, protesters comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-debate-milwaukee-rnc-fox-news-national-issues-wisconsin>

- Here's what Republican voters at Milwaukee debate gatherings had to say about the candidates: interviews at AFP, other watch parties.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/voters-react-to-what-they-saw-at-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620324007/>

- GOP presidential hopefuls take aim at Bidenomics, each other: pre-debate and debate excerpts. RNC-DNC chairs, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, DPW chair Wikler, RPW chair Schimming comment.

<https://captimes.com/da988408-6742-5544-9cea-a0d0e8e0d621.html>

- In GOP debate spin room, candidates, surrogates discuss winning Wisconsin, Milwaukee Bucks ... [Haley campaign's Dawson] notes strong Wisconsin fundraising ... [O'Malley for Pence] says food and drink is the key ... Trump advisor [Miller] compares Ron De Santis to ... Scott Walker ... Burgum talks visit with Milwaukee Bucks surgeon [for blown Achilles], 2021 playoffs

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/in-gop-debate-spin-room-candidates-surrogates-talk-wisconsin-bucks/70666076007/>

- Donald who? Fox barely mentions Trump in first half of debate until 10-minute indictment discussion

<https://apnews.com/8049cd2370d887946c8064ebdbd84c05>

- Takeaways from the first Republican presidential primary debate ... Candidates go after Ramaswamy ... DeSantis doesn't stand out ... Christie doesn't have a breakout moment ... Candidates draw distinctions on abortion ... DeSantis tries, but fails, to duck January 6 question after being pressed by Pence ... Haley leans towards the general election ... Scott sticks to Mr. Nice Guy routine. Videos include viewing party in IA.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/08/23/politics/takeaways-republican-debate/index.html>

- Bice: Winners and losers from the Republican presidential debate in Milwaukee ... GOP field is being left in the dust by former President Donald Trump, who didn't even show up for the debate. ... Winner: Vivek Ramaswamy ... Loser: Ron DeSantis ... Winner: Mike Pence ... Loser: Chris Christie ... Winner: Milwaukee ... Loser: Tim Scott ... Winner: Oliver Anthony ... Loser: Doug Burgum ... Winner: Joe Biden ... Loser: Asa Hutchinson

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/the-winners-and-losers-from-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620165007/>

- Winners and losers from the first Republican debate ... Winners: Donald Trump ... risk for Trump in not showing up was that he wouldn't be able to defend himself. He didn't have to. ... Vivek Ramaswamy ... [unfunding Ukraine war] was about the only moment that the audience wasn't on Ramaswamy's side. ... Pence's Jan. 6 decision ... Losers: Ron DeSantis ... GOP's political pride ... Mike Pence and Tim Scott ... Fox News

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/23/who-won-republican-debate/>

- Ramaswamy Seizes Spotlight as DeSantis Hangs Back: 7 Debate Takeaways ... It was the Ramaswamy show. ... DeSantis avoided attacks -- and ended up on the periphery. ... Policy clashes [Ukraine, climate, abortion] showed G.O.P. divides. ... Pence came out punching. ... Haley positioned herself as the pragmatist. ... Boos underscored Christie's challenge. ... Trump avoided the debate, and meaningful attacks. Some video clips.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/24/us/politics/republican-debate-takeaways.html>

- Who won, who lost and who fizzled in the first Republican debate, DeSantis was a non-factor as Republicans piled on Ramaswamy, instead.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/08/24/republican-debate-who-won-takeaways-00112691>

- Debate does little to dissuade voters from Trump at one Republican watch party: At the Red Mouse Bar and Grill in Cross Plains ... "I might be wrong, I've been wrong before," Bernier told the Wisconsin Examiner. "I think most people, a lot of Republican voters, very devoted Republican voters, are kind of sick of it." ... "They can begin to focus Republican primary voters on issues for the first time in eight years really," Ribble told the Examiner days before the debate. "If they focus on issues, what are we going to do about the national debt, Social Security and Medicare, immigration reform? If they relegate Trump to irrelevance at the debate, I think it can be positive to Republican primary voters." Some of the 15 attendees comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/24/debate-does-little-to-dissuade-voters>

- Tim Scott, Chris Christie, Vivek Ramaswamy: Wisconsin voters debate who won first debate ... correspondent Shaquille Brewster watched the first GOP debate with conservative Trump voters in suburban Waukesha, Wisconsin and explored how voters viewed the candidates, the war in Ukraine, who would be an ideal vice presidential candidate. 6:46 video

<https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/video/tim-19147987721>

- Inside RNC's Milwaukee vendor fair showing off local businesses ... "This is what it's all about," RNC Milwaukee Host Committee chairman Reince Priebus said during a brief press appearance at the event. ... [RNC Chair] McDaniel said the vendors at Baird Center included 48 that were minority-owned and 45 that were women-owned. ... "We're looking forward to all businesses in Milwaukee being able to cash in and be a part of the excitement here in Milwaukee next year," [Mayor] Johnson said. ... drew 1K+ people in its first two hours

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/go-inside-rncs-milwaukee-expo-showing-off-local-b.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Dems would punish sham lawsuits as GOP senator continues fighting local news site: Sen. Tomczyk sued Wausau Pilot & Review for defamation over reporting the new site stands by, backed by 3 witnesses. Judge tossed his suit saying he failed to prove defamation, but Tomczyk is appealing. Site founder/editor Siewert has about \$200K in legal bills so far, "He knows we don't have deep pockets and that continuing to fight this lawsuit is very damaging to us financially and could shut us down." Dem bill would allow judge to dismiss such suits and order plaintiff to pay defendant's legal fees. Story's publicity and GoFundMe page have raised about \$100K for defense. Tomczyk's office declined comment, atty. Fernholz did not respond.

<https://apnews.com/1bf0e032d446cc9a5bc9e99c1ac2cd54>

- Democrats propose anti-SLAPP legislation as Republican senator's lawsuit against Wausau publication continues

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/democrats-propose-anti-slapp-legislation>

- SOS Godlewski on lawsuit: I don't have any records

<https://captimes.com/news/99949e6e-abaa-525d-ae9e-7cee13d62c6e.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Second Aug Prep school could open at former Cardinal Stritch campus in 2025

<https://biztimes.com/second-aug-prep-school-could-open-at-former-cardinal>

- Notre Dame School of Milwaukee expands campus with third building, Will serve boys in grades 5-8, help grow enrollment

<https://biztimes.com/notre-dame-school-of-milwaukee-expands-campus-with>

- 12K+ Wisconsinites to see student loan forgiveness under changes to income-based repayment plans: Harvard prof. Dynarski, UW prof. Hillman comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/more-12-000-wisconsinites-see-student-loan-forgiveness-under->

[changes-income-based-repayment-plans](#)

ELECTIONS [^top^](#)

- Moms for Liberty is growing in Wisconsin as critics call them extremists, The parental rights organization has built membership from groups that formed during the pandemic and is looking to shape policy and elections ... co-founder Tiffany Justice defended an Indiana chapter ... "One of our moms in a newsletter quotes Hitler. I stand with that mom," she said to applause. "If [@Moms4Liberty](#) is a 'hate group,' add me to the list," GOP presidential candidate and former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley tweeted a few days later. ... One of the Kenosha members, State Rep. Amanda Nedweski, R-Pleasant Prairie, went on to run for county board and state Assembly. ... Book removals in the works ... Liberal groups, including Stop Moms for Liberty, Defense of Democracy and Red Wine & Blue, have formed to counter Moms for Liberty, mobilizing suburban, Democratic voters at the school board level and starting campaigns related to racial equity and stopping book bans. Wood County Moms for Liberty chair Schueller, Ozaukee Co. Moms for Liberty's Johnson and Schroeder, members Tremelling and Scheuer, PFLAG's Johnson, advocate Norcross, WELPH's Lambert comment.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/moms-for-liberty-wisconsin-critics-call>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Legislators press DNR policy board appointees on wolves, pollution, sandhill crane hunt ... sporting heritage committee didn't get a lot of hard answers from Sharon Adams, Dylan Jennings or Paul Buhr during a 90-minute hearing ... precursor to a committee vote on whether to recommend Senate confirmation. ... trio revealed little about their personal stances, keeping their answers vague. ... don't need confirmation to serve ... But a Senate vote to reject them would result in them losing their jobs. All 7 Boarders are Evers appointees, but only Smith [2019] and West [2020] have been confirmed; Buhr is a re-appointment. Naas and VandenBrook were invited but Naas had a teaching commitment and VandenBrook was out of the country.

* Chair Stafsholt asked each appointee if ... DNR's wolf management plan should set a hard population limit and whether they believe people should hunt wolves. DNR draft plan recommends population management ranges between 350 and 1,200. Stafsholt bill mandates firm population limit. Stafsholt noted 40 years of wolf study should yield firm population answer, questioned Jennings on wolf-tribe spirituality.

* Sen. Felzkowski asked each about hunting sandhill cranes to stop crop poaching and who should pay for PFAS clean-up.

... Paraphrased answers. Reviews PFAS cities and suits.

<https://apnews.com/679946d73de54265ac9e84f1c35c87e3>

- Evers appointees to NR Board questioned on wolf hunting by Senate committee

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/evers-appointees-to-natural-resources>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- HHS' Westergaard renews vaccine call with COVID-19 uptick, looming flu season

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/health-department-renews-vaccine-call>

- Abortion-ban states pour millions into pregnancy centers with little medical care ...

Legislators in states with some of the strictest abortion bans are pouring millions into pregnancy resource centers, painting them as solutions to poor birth outcomes and the lack of access to adequate prenatal and postpartum care. ... In 2017, MO became the first state to issue tax credits for donations to pregnancy resource centers and it recently removed its limit on how many tax credits the state can issue. [MS, LA have laws]. ... centers can't be associated with abortion providers or refer clients for abortions. ... AL, KS, NE considered their own tax credits in this year's legislative sessions. ... The Southeast is home to about 900 pregnancy resource centers, more than a third of the national total,

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/24/abortion-ban-states-pour-millions-into-pregnancy-centers-with-little-medical-care/>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- WI housing market: Some regions see inventory increase, prices moderate: in WRA data

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/2023/08/24/wisconsin-home-sales-drop-in-july-while-economist-sees-positive-signs/70611350007/>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Rockwell Automation building hydroponic farm at Milwaukee HQ ... partnering with Green Bay-based Fork Farms ... an agriculture technology startup ... More than 70 Fork Farms "Flex Acres" will be installed ... Each Flex Acre is capable of producing over 100 pounds of leafy greens and other vegetables every month. ... green roof is also home to more than a dozen varieties of native perennials and in 2022, a small colony of honeybees was introduced. ... "Clock Tower Farms will engage employees and the community while serving as a showcase for manufacturers spanning diverse industries who want to see sustainable solutions in action," said CEO Moret

<https://biztimes.com/rockwell-automation-building-hydroponic-farm-at-milwaukee-hq/>

- AI, genetic testing: what washed up at Epic's global conference

<https://captimes.com/4cc21fb9-79f6-533a-b4f7-300fddcce032.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee streetcar to remain free to ride, could expand weekend service ... currently funded by a combination of state and federal transit grants, revenue from selling advertising on the system and, if needed, money from the city Transportation Fund. ... Atlanta's streetcar system, for example, implemented fares in 2016. ... \$1-per-ride fare accounted for 6.2% of its 2022 operating revenue. The system collected \$65.9 million in fares in 2022, down from \$133 million pre-pandemic in 2019.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/milwaukee-streetcar>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT [^top^](#)

- GOP lawmakers propose eliminating work permits for Wisconsin's 14- and 15-year-olds, Labor groups say [Tomczyk-Moses-Binsfeld bill] rolls back protections for minors in the workplace: sponsors, AFL-CIO's Bloomingdale, WDC's Flores comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/gop-lawmakers-propose-eliminating-work-permits-wisconsins-14-and-15-year-olds>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- CT Editorial: Trump's refusal to debate is an insult to Wisconsin voters

<https://captimes.com/b83bf4aa-3dc2-5336-8185-b10902639b24.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dan O'Donnell: What the real winner of the first debate can teach every single candidate (including Trump) ... The biggest winner of the first Republican presidential debate wasn't on the stage. He wasn't in Milwaukee and no, he wasn't on Twitter talking with Elon Musk. He was somewhere south of Richmond continuing to take the world by storm. Oliver Anthony, an unassuming singer-songwriter from Virginia, has the number one song in America--a monumental achievement for an unsigned artist made even more impressive by the fact that his "Rich Men North of Richmond" features no production whatsoever.

<https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2023/08/what-the-real-winner-of-the-first-debate-can-teach-every-single-candidate-including-trump/>

- David Blaska: About last night: Misconstruing the first Republican presidential debate

<https://davidblaska.com/2023/08/24/about-last-night-3/>

- Owen Robinson: Quick thoughts on the first GOP debate ... It was good to see an actual debate that displayed the rich spectrum of opinions in the Republican Party on important issues.

<https://www.bootsandsabers.com/2023/08/24/quick-thoughts-on-the-first-gop-debate/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Ramaswamy won ... He didn't win with me, understand. ... But I think he won with Republican voters.

<https://yellowstripsdeadarmadillos.org/2023/08/23/ramaswamy-won/>

- Van Mobley: Trumpkins cry "Vive la Vivek!": The best part of Wednesday night was Trump's interview with Tucker Carlson. Trump was on his game and laid out the policy issues at the core of his campaign.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/van-mobley-trumpkins-cry-vive-la-vivek/>

- Dave Zweifel: Consumer protection efforts save consumers billions, so the GOP wants to end them

<https://captimes.com/18e116d3-4687-5b32-8b49-57b6448dd40a.html>

- Spencer Black: Cheater Vos doubles down on gerrymandering

<https://captimes.com/e18e4782-4cd1-53b1-b24a-f7280faae212.html>

- Ruth Conniff: Wisconsin's Trump enablers are still undermining democracy

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/22/wisconsins-trump-enablers-are-still>

- Retired farmer Jim Goodman: What's missing from discussion of the Farm Bill

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/whats-missing-from-discussion>

- Bruce Murphy: How David Crowley led on sales tax: The inside story of how the county exec and mayor helped pass state legislation to save Milwaukee.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/23/murphys-law-how-david-crowley-led-on-sales-tax/>

- Sen. Brad Pfaff: Building healthy, resilient soil

<https://lacrossetribune.com/3591365a-402d-11ee-9d83-3b348700f96d.html>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Courting disaster, The Wisconsin Supreme Court has virtually no credibility ... as an impartial, thoughtful, nonpartisan and fair body. To apply school yard logic, it's true that the conservatives and the Republicans started it. But the Democrats and the liberals have only accelerated the race toward oblivion.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/courting-disaster/>

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TOP STORIES

Takeaways from RNC debate: Candidates tangle on Trump, Ukraine and abortion

* Donald Trump was the subject that couldn't be avoided ... Someone has got to stop normalizing this conduct," Christie said, drawing boos from the audience. "Whether or not you believe the criminal charges are right or wrong, the conduct is beneath the office of President of the United States." Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie of running a campaign of being based on "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Mike Pence, Tim Scott favor 15-week federal abortion ban, while Nikki Haley wants consensus in Congress ... DeSantis talked up a six-week bill he signed in Florida, didn't commit to a federal measure but said, "I'm going to stand on the side of life."

* Funding for Ukraine takes center stage ... DeSantis called on Europe "to pull its weight" ... Ramaswamy [alone] declared he would not support any more funding to Ukraine. Christie: "This is the Vladimir Putin who Donald Trump called brilliant and a genius. If we don't stand up to this kind of autocratic killing in the world, we will be

- [Workforce development](#)

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next." DeSantis said he'd send troops, sending Special forces over the border to stop Mexican cartels.

* Taking whacks at Joe Biden: DeSantis: "We need to send Joe Biden back to his basement and reverse American decline ... We must reverse Bidenomics." candidates were asked if they would support a mental acuity test for presidents over 70. ... Pence said the country shouldn't have a president who is too old or too young, while Ramaswamy said it was time for a generational change.

* Vivek Ramaswamy came out hot, and the others noticed it ... tried to claim the mantle of outsider ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What's he doing in the middle of a debate stage?" called climate change agenda "a hoax" and claiming "more people are dying of bad climate change policies than they are of actual climate."

... attacked the other candidates on stage as being "bought and paid for." Christie: "I have had enough already tonight of a guy who sounds like ChatGPT," noted "skinny guy with a funny last name" sounded like Obama, "I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of (person)."

By Glauber and Andrea, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/23/five-key-takeaways-from-the-republican-presidential-debate-in-milwaukee/70620272007/>

WI GOP ask newly elected liberal justice to not hear redistricting case

... during her campaign for the seat earlier this year she called the Republican-drawn maps "unfair" and "rigged" and said there needs to be "a fresh look at the gerrymandering question." ... [Protasiewicz] never committed to recusing herself from hearing the case. ... did promise to recuse herself from any case brought by [DPW] because it donated nearly \$10M to her campaign. There are two pending redistricting lawsuits, neither of which was brought by [DPW]. Reviews suits, plaintiffs, attorneys.

* legislative GOP motion to Supreme Court argued DPW will benefit from new maps, hence, she must recuse or violate their due process right, "Justice Protasiewicz's campaign statements reveal that her thumb is very much on the scale in this case." Speaker Vos has hinted at pursuing impeachment if she does not recuse.

* asked for comment, Protasiewicz emailed, "I appreciate your interest in the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I do not wish to comment, but thank you very much for reaching out to me."

* Plaintiff attorneys declined comment. By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/2a528003e32c3f51f9ef036f6d13f52e>

WEC Admin. Wolfe won't attend Senate reappointment hearing

... after [AG] Kaul [who is representing Wolfe in the matter] said the GOP-controlled Senate has no authority to vote on Wolfe's appointment. ... In a letter [Legis Council dir.] Sappenfield ... "This is not a close question under state law," Kaul said. "The plain language

of the pertinent statute requires that an administrator be appointed 'by a majority of the members of the commission.'" ... Senate Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections and Consumer Protection plans to meet Tuesday ... "As the state's chief election official, engaging with lawmakers is a critical part of my role, and I look forward to discussing the good work of the Commission with them in the future," Wolfe said. Review. Chair Knodl did not respond.

By Schmidt, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

<https://madison.com/d34aa40e-4202-11ee-98c5-63f79a71f598.html>

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STORY TOPICS

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WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- In competing events, Trump and his 8 challengers offer split-screen view of GOP's future ... Trump, in a 45-minute interview with [ex-FNS host] Carlson released five minutes before the first GOP presidential debate began airing ... forcefully defended his actions leading up to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol ... again falsely claimed he won Wisconsin's presidential election and alleged all absentee voting was rigged again argued the 2020 election should have been overturned. ... [all but DeSantis among debate] opponents ... agreed [then-VP] Pence was right in refusing Trump's request to overturn the results ... "Anytime you have mail-in ballots, you're going to have massive cheating in your elections," Trump said, a claim that is not supported by evidence. ... Ramaswamy took most of the fire as his opponents viewed him as most likely to get a bump in polling following the debate.

* Ramaswamy said Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie campaign of being "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Christie: "You make me laugh, because you sit here talking about how you want to stand up for the rule of law and law and order. ... I am not going to bow to anyone, when we have a president of the United States who disrespects the Constitution."

... candidates overall were divided over ... six-week federal abortion ban ... DeSantis said he would "support the cause of life" as president, but did not stake a clear position [on federalizing the] state law he signed in Florida in April. Burgum, holding a pocket-sized Constitution, said that while he is pro-life, he believes a federal abortion ban would violate the 10th Amendment ... biggest clash on abortion came between Pence and Haley. [Haley called for "consensus" on a federal law. Pence: "Consensus is the opposite of leadership. It's not a states-only issue, it's a moral issue."] ...

* Haley blamed \$2.2T COVID stimulus bill for extant economic woes, "Donald Trump added \$8 trillion to our debt and our kids are never going to forgive us for this."

* Ramaswamy agreed with others on education, promoting choice, adding, "Education starts with the family, and the nuclear family is the greatest form of governance known to mankind."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-trump-interview-put-republican-split-screen-in-full-view/70620223007/>

- Milwaukee became a microcosm of nation's political divisions during GOP presidential debate ... candidates threw barbs and skirmished ... audience cheered

and jeered, at times forcing the candidates to wait to speak. ... But ... in the city in the hours and days leading up to the debate ... people from across the political spectrum made their voices heard but seemed to avoid clashes. ... Nationally known members of both parties were spotted in Milwaukee [including Trump Jr., DNC Chair Harrison.] Trump surrogate [US Rep.] Taylor Greene [pressed to renew Trump] with local host Sherwin Hughes on 101.7 The Truth, the news-talk radio station focusing on Milwaukee's Black community. ... anti-Biden bus made its way through downtown [reading "Why you shouldn't vote for him if you're Black."] ... [DPW] launched a "Cheddar Storm" fundraising drive featuring ... [Mayor Johnson, Exec. Crowley] welcoming next year's Republican National Convention to the city. ... site of a pre-event party for [Walker's] Young America's Foundation ... Overhead flew an airplane with a banner that read, "GOP 2024: A race for the extreme MAGA base." ... Outside of media tapings for conservative shows and a few food vendors, the crowd was spread thin. ... some young people in the crowd, most visitors were older. ... Walker and [U.S. Sen.] Johnson ... thought Trump should have visited Wisconsin despite his decision to pass on the debate. ... At the nearby No Studios in the Brewery District, more than 100 people packed together before the debate to listen to union and progressive leaders [including Harrison, U.S. Rep. Moore] offer a rebuttal. ... At the second protest, which started at Red Arrow Park [250+ attended, led by Voces' Neumann-Ortiz], speakers made it clear they would not support any candidate from the GOP. ... Speakers accused the Republican Party of being racist, sexist, transphobic and anti-worker. ... chanted, "Milwaukee is a union town" and, "Say it loud, say it clear, Republicans aren't welcome here." ... protesters had disbanded for the night shortly after 9 p.m. ... By 10:30 p.m. the Deer District was calm as debate attendees slowly filed out for the evening.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/milwaukee-became-microcosm-of-political-divisions-for-gop-debate/70605731007/>

- Did Vivek Ramaswamy plagiarize Barack Obama during the Republican presidential primary debate? Chris Christie thought so. ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What the heck is he doing in the middle of this debate stage?" Ramaswamy said early in the debate. ... "The last person who stood up here saying, 'What's a skinny guy with an odd last name doing up here?' was Barack Obama and I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of amateur standing on the stage tonight," Christie said.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-vivek-ramaswamy-plagiarize-barack-obama-republican-debate-chris-christie-chatgpt/70666955007/>

- Trump Jr. suggests dad will skip next one, too ... "Would you name a single political consultant who is not an imbecile who would say, 'You know what? You have a 60-point lead. Why don't you give someone who has got 1%, less than 1%, give him two hours, three hours, whatever it may be, unfettered access to try to land a strike? That doesn't make sense. ... Ron DeSantis has his opportunity tonight and totally missed it. Totally missed it. ... Vivek destroyed him."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/at-gop-debate-donald-trump-jr-suggests-donald-trump-will-skip-next-one-too/70666062007/>

- Mayor Rhodes-Conway outside RNC debate venue invites skeptics to Madison to dispute the idea of a 'nation in decline' ... [in Dem presser denounced "MAGA extremism."] ... "I'm sure that they're going to talk about freedom on the debate stage tonight. But what about the freedom to make my own health care decision? I guess that their version of freedom doesn't include women," she said. ... "I would invite anybody who thinks we are a nation in decline to come to cities, to come to places like Madison, Wisconsin where we have the lowest unemployment rate or damn near close to it in the country. Where our population growth and our economic growth is driving the state of Wisconsin. Where we have a thriving university despite the refusal of Republicans at the state level to invest in it," she said. ... drew a sharp reaction from critics on social media who called her, and Madison, out of touch. ... the summary was, "Come visit cities run by Democrats." DPW chair Wikler touted statewide winning streak, including Justice Protasiewicz.

<https://madison.com/0a5075e6-421c-11ee-a58a-9ffd199f97d2.html>

- National issues were front and center at first GOP presidential debate in Milwaukee, Outside Fiserv Forum, Trump supporters and protesters braved 100-degree heat to speak out ... "I'm not terribly shocked by the lack of Wisconsin content," [MU prof.] Azari [emailed]. "We're not an early or influential primary state, and the discussion is national." ... "Wisconsin is the heart of the Midwest, and if we lose the heart, we can't function and expect to win the presidency," [SEIU's] Lee said. "Wisconsin is key and important. It is a purple state that we have been able to win since 2016, but it is vital and key to the path to the White House." Pro-Trumpers, protesters comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-debate-milwaukee-rnc-fox-news-national-issues-wisconsin>

- Here's what Republican voters at Milwaukee debate gatherings had to say about the candidates: interviews at AFP, other watch parties.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/voters-react-to-what-they-saw-at-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620324007/>

- GOP presidential hopefuls take aim at Bidenomics, each other: pre-debate and debate excerpts. RNC-DNC chairs, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, DPW chair Wikler, RPW chair Schimming comment.

<https://captimes.com/da988408-6742-5544-9cea-a0d0e8e0d621.html>

- In GOP debate spin room, candidates, surrogates discuss winning Wisconsin, Milwaukee Bucks ... [Haley campaign's Dawson] notes strong Wisconsin fundraising ... [O'Malley for Pence] says food and drink is the key ... Trump advisor [Miller] compares Ron De Santis to ... Scott Walker ... Burgum talks visit with Milwaukee Bucks surgeon [for blown Achilles], 2021 playoffs

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/in-gop-debate-spin-room-candidates-surrogates-talk-wisconsin-bucks/70666076007/>

- Donald who? Fox barely mentions Trump in first half of debate until 10-minute indictment discussion

<https://apnews.com/8049cd2370d887946c8064ebdbd84c05>

- Takeaways from the first Republican presidential primary debate ... Candidates go after Ramaswamy ... DeSantis doesn't stand out ... Christie doesn't have a breakout moment ... Candidates draw distinctions on abortion ... DeSantis tries, but fails, to duck January 6 question after being pressed by Pence ... Haley leans towards the general election ... Scott sticks to Mr. Nice Guy routine. Videos include viewing party in IA.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/08/23/politics/takeaways-republican-debate/index.html>

- Bice: Winners and losers from the Republican presidential debate in Milwaukee ... GOP field is being left in the dust by former President Donald Trump, who didn't even show up for the debate. ... Winner: Vivek Ramaswamy ... Loser: Ron DeSantis ... Winner: Mike Pence ... Loser: Chris Christie ... Winner: Milwaukee ... Loser: Tim Scott ... Winner: Oliver Anthony ... Loser: Doug Burgum ... Winner: Joe Biden ... Loser: Asa Hutchinson

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/the-winners-and-losers-from-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620165007/>

- Winners and losers from the first Republican debate ... Winners: Donald Trump ... risk for Trump in not showing up was that he wouldn't be able to defend himself. He didn't have to. ...Vivek Ramaswamy ... [unfunding Ukraine war] was about the only moment that the audience wasn't on Ramaswamy's side. ... Pence's Jan. 6 decision ... Losers: Ron DeSantis ... GOP's political pride ... Mike Pence and Tim Scott ... Fox News

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/23/who-won-republican-debate/>

- Ramaswamy Seizes Spotlight as DeSantis Hangs Back: 7 Debate Takeaways ... It was the Ramaswamy show. ... DeSantis avoided attacks -- and ended up on the periphery. ... Policy clashes [Ukraine, climate, abortion] showed G.O.P. divides. ... Pence came out punching. ... Haley positioned herself as the pragmatist. ... Boos underscored Christie's challenge. ... Trump avoided the debate, and meaningful attacks. Some video clips.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/24/us/politics/republican-debate-takeaways.html>

- Who won, who lost and who fizzled in the first Republican debate, DeSantis was a non-factor as Republicans piled on Ramaswamy, instead.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/08/24/republican-debate-who-won-takeaways-00112691>

- Debate does little to dissuade voters from Trump at one Republican watch party: At the Red Mouse Bar and Grill in Cross Plains ... "I might be wrong, I've been wrong before," Bernier told the Wisconsin Examiner. "I think most people, a lot of Republican voters, very devoted Republican voters, are kind of sick of it." ... "They can begin to focus Republican primary voters on issues for the first time in eight years really," Ribble told the Examiner days before the debate. "If they focus on issues, what are we going to do about the national debt, Social Security and Medicare, immigration reform? If they relegate Trump to irrelevance at the debate, I think it can be positive to Republican primary voters." Some of the 15 attendees comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/24/debate-does-little-to-dissuade-voters>

- Tim Scott, Chris Christie, Vivek Ramaswamy: Wisconsin voters debate who won first debate ... correspondent Shaquille Brewster watched the first GOP debate with conservative Trump voters in suburban Waukesha, Wisconsin and explored how voters viewed the candidates, the war in Ukraine, who would be an ideal vice presidential candidate. 6:46 video

<https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/video/tim-19147987721>

- Inside RNC's Milwaukee vendor fair showing off local businesses ... "This is what it's all about," RNC Milwaukee Host Committee chairman Reince Priebus said during a brief press appearance at the event. ... [RNC Chair] McDaniel said the vendors at Baird Center included 48 that were minority-owned and 45 that were women-owned. ... "We're looking forward to all businesses in Milwaukee being able to cash in and be a part of the excitement here in Milwaukee next year," [Mayor] Johnson said. ... drew 1K+ people in its first two hours

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/go-inside-rncs-milwaukee-expo-showing-off-local-b.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Dems would punish sham lawsuits as GOP senator continues fighting local news site: Sen. Tomczyk sued Wausau Pilot & Review for defamation over reporting the new site stands by, backed by 3 witnesses. Judge tossed his suit saying he failed to prove defamation, but Tomczyk is appealing. Site founder/editor Siewert has about \$200K in legal bills so far, "He knows we don't have deep pockets and that continuing to fight this lawsuit is very damaging to us financially and could shut us down." Dem bill would allow judge to dismiss such suits and order plaintiff to pay defendant's legal fees. Story's publicity and GoFundMe page have raised about \$100K for defense. Tomczyk's office declined comment, atty. Fernholz did not respond.

<https://apnews.com/1bf0e032d446cc9a5bc9e99c1ac2cd54>

- Democrats propose anti-SLAPP legislation as Republican senator's lawsuit against Wausau publication continues

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/democrats-propose-anti-slapp-legislation>

- SOS Godlewski on lawsuit: I don't have any records

<https://captimes.com/news/99949e6e-abaa-525d-ae9e-7cee13d62c6e.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Second Aug Prep school could open at former Cardinal Stritch campus in 2025

<https://biztimes.com/second-aug-prep-school-could-open-at-former-cardinal>

- Notre Dame School of Milwaukee expands campus with third building, Will serve boys in grades 5-8, help grow enrollment

<https://biztimes.com/notre-dame-school-of-milwaukee-expands-campus-with>

- 12K+ Wisconsinites to see student loan forgiveness under changes to income-based repayment plans: Harvard prof. Dynarski, UW prof. Hillman comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/more-12-000-wisconsinites-see-student-loan-forgiveness-under->

[changes-income-based-repayment-plans](#)

ELECTIONS [^top^](#)

- Moms for Liberty is growing in Wisconsin as critics call them extremists, The parental rights organization has built membership from groups that formed during the pandemic and is looking to shape policy and elections ... co-founder Tiffany Justice defended an Indiana chapter ... "One of our moms in a newsletter quotes Hitler. I stand with that mom," she said to applause. "If [@Moms4Liberty](#) is a 'hate group,' add me to the list," GOP presidential candidate and former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley tweeted a few days later. ... One of the Kenosha members, State Rep. Amanda Nedweski, R-Pleasant Prairie, went on to run for county board and state Assembly. ... Book removals in the works ... Liberal groups, including Stop Moms for Liberty, Defense of Democracy and Red Wine & Blue, have formed to counter Moms for Liberty, mobilizing suburban, Democratic voters at the school board level and starting campaigns related to racial equity and stopping book bans. Wood County Moms for Liberty chair Schueller, Ozaukee Co. Moms for Liberty's Johnson and Schroeder, members Tremelling and Scheuer, PFLAG's Johnson, advocate Norcross, WELPH's Lambert comment.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/moms-for-liberty-wisconsin-critics-call>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Legislators press DNR policy board appointees on wolves, pollution, sandhill crane hunt ... sporting heritage committee didn't get a lot of hard answers from Sharon Adams, Dylan Jennings or Paul Buhr during a 90-minute hearing ... precursor to a committee vote on whether to recommend Senate confirmation. ... trio revealed little about their personal stances, keeping their answers vague. ... don't need confirmation to serve ... But a Senate vote to reject them would result in them losing their jobs. All 7 Boarders are Evers appointees, but only Smith [2019] and West [2020] have been confirmed; Buhr is a re-appointment. Naas and VandenBrook were invited but Naas had a teaching commitment and VandenBrook was out of the country.

* Chair Stafsholt asked each appointee if ... DNR's wolf management plan should set a hard population limit and whether they believe people should hunt wolves. DNR draft plan recommends population management ranges between 350 and 1,200. Stafsholt bill mandates firm population limit. Stafsholt noted 40 years of wolf study should yield firm population answer, questioned Jennings on wolf-tribe spirituality.

* Sen. Felzkowski asked each about hunting sandhill cranes to stop crop poaching and who should pay for PFAS clean-up.

... Paraphrased answers. Reviews PFAS cities and suits.

<https://apnews.com/679946d73de54265ac9e84f1c35c87e3>

- Evers appointees to NR Board questioned on wolf hunting by Senate committee

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/evers-appointees-to-natural-resources>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- HHS' Westergaard renews vaccine call with COVID-19 uptick, looming flu season

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/health-department-renews-vaccine-call>

- Abortion-ban states pour millions into pregnancy centers with little medical care ...

Legislators in states with some of the strictest abortion bans are pouring millions into pregnancy resource centers, painting them as solutions to poor birth outcomes and the lack of access to adequate prenatal and postpartum care. ... In 2017, MO became the first state to issue tax credits for donations to pregnancy resource centers and it recently removed its limit on how many tax credits the state can issue. [MS, LA have laws]. ... centers can't be associated with abortion providers or refer clients for abortions. ... AL, KS, NE considered their own tax credits in this year's legislative sessions. ... The Southeast is home to about 900 pregnancy resource centers, more than a third of the national total,

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/24/abortion-ban-states-pour-millions-into-pregnancy-centers-with-little-medical-care/>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- WI housing market: Some regions see inventory increase, prices moderate: in WRA data

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/2023/08/24/wisconsin-home-sales-drop-in-july-while-economist-sees-positive-signs/70611350007/>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Rockwell Automation building hydroponic farm at Milwaukee HQ ... partnering with Green Bay-based Fork Farms ... an agriculture technology startup ... More than 70 Fork Farms "Flex Acres" will be installed ... Each Flex Acre is capable of producing over 100 pounds of leafy greens and other vegetables every month. ... green roof is also home to more than a dozen varieties of native perennials and in 2022, a small colony of honeybees was introduced. ... "Clock Tower Farms will engage employees and the community while serving as a showcase for manufacturers spanning diverse industries who want to see sustainable solutions in action," said CEO Moret

<https://biztimes.com/rockwell-automation-building-hydroponic-farm-at-milwaukee-hq/>

- AI, genetic testing: what washed up at Epic's global conference

<https://captimes.com/4cc21fb9-79f6-533a-b4f7-300fddcce032.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee streetcar to remain free to ride, could expand weekend service ... currently funded by a combination of state and federal transit grants, revenue from selling advertising on the system and, if needed, money from the city Transportation Fund. ... Atlanta's streetcar system, for example, implemented fares in 2016. ... \$1-per-ride fare accounted for 6.2% of its 2022 operating revenue. The system collected \$65.9 million in fares in 2022, down from \$133 million pre-pandemic in 2019.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/milwaukee-streetcar>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT [^top^](#)

- GOP lawmakers propose eliminating work permits for Wisconsin's 14- and 15-year-olds, Labor groups say [Tomczyk-Moses-Binsfeld bill] rolls back protections for minors in the workplace: sponsors, AFL-CIO's Bloomingdale, WDC's Flores comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/gop-lawmakers-propose-eliminating-work-permits-wisconsins-14-and-15-year-olds>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- CT Editorial: Trump's refusal to debate is an insult to Wisconsin voters

<https://captimes.com/b83bf4aa-3dc2-5336-8185-b10902639b24.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dan O'Donnell: What the real winner of the first debate can teach every single candidate (including Trump) ... The biggest winner of the first Republican presidential debate wasn't on the stage. He wasn't in Milwaukee and no, he wasn't on Twitter talking with Elon Musk. He was somewhere south of Richmond continuing to take the world by storm. Oliver Anthony, an unassuming singer-songwriter from Virginia, has the number one song in America--a monumental achievement for an unsigned artist made even more impressive by the fact that his "Rich Men North of Richmond" features no production whatsoever.

<https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2023/08/what-the-real-winner-of-the-first-debate-can-teach-every-single-candidate-including-trump/>

- David Blaska: About last night: Misconstruing the first Republican presidential debate

<https://davidblaska.com/2023/08/24/about-last-night-3/>

- Owen Robinson: Quick thoughts on the first GOP debate ... It was good to see an actual debate that displayed the rich spectrum of opinions in the Republican Party on important issues.

<https://www.bootsandsabers.com/2023/08/24/quick-thoughts-on-the-first-gop-debate/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Ramaswamy won ... He didn't win with me, understand. ... But I think he won with Republican voters.

<https://yellowstripsdeadarmadillos.org/2023/08/23/ramaswamy-won/>

- Van Mobley: Trumpkins cry "Vive la Vivek!": The best part of Wednesday night was Trump's interview with Tucker Carlson. Trump was on his game and laid out the policy issues at the core of his campaign.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/van-mobley-trumpkins-cry-vive-la-vivek/>

- Dave Zweifel: Consumer protection efforts save consumers billions, so the GOP wants to end them

<https://captimes.com/18e116d3-4687-5b32-8b49-57b6448dd40a.html>

- Spencer Black: Cheater Vos doubles down on gerrymandering

<https://captimes.com/e18e4782-4cd1-53b1-b24a-f7280faae212.html>

- Ruth Conniff: Wisconsin's Trump enablers are still undermining democracy

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/22/wisconsins-trump-enablers-are-still>

- Retired farmer Jim Goodman: What's missing from discussion of the Farm Bill

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/whats-missing-from-discussion>

- Bruce Murphy: How David Crowley led on sales tax: The inside story of how the county exec and mayor helped pass state legislation to save Milwaukee.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/23/murphys-law-how-david-crowley-led-on-sales-tax/>

- Sen. Brad Pfaff: Building healthy, resilient soil

<https://lacrossetribune.com/3591365a-402d-11ee-9d83-3b348700f96d.html>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Courting disaster, The Wisconsin Supreme Court has virtually no credibility ... as an impartial, thoughtful, nonpartisan and fair body. To apply school yard logic, it's true that the conservatives and the Republicans started it. But the Democrats and the liberals have only accelerated the race toward oblivion.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/courting-disaster/>

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TOP STORIES

Takeaways from RNC debate: Candidates tangle on Trump, Ukraine and abortion

* Donald Trump was the subject that couldn't be avoided ... Someone has got to stop normalizing this conduct," Christie said, drawing boos from the audience. "Whether or not you believe the criminal charges are right or wrong, the conduct is beneath the office of President of the United States." Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie of running a campaign of being based on "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Mike Pence, Tim Scott favor 15-week federal abortion ban, while Nikki Haley wants consensus in Congress ... DeSantis talked up a six-week bill he signed in Florida, didn't commit to a federal measure but said, "I'm going to stand on the side of life."

* Funding for Ukraine takes center stage ... DeSantis called on Europe "to pull its weight" ... Ramaswamy [alone] declared he would not support any more funding to Ukraine. Christie: "This is the Vladimir Putin who Donald Trump called brilliant and a genius. If we don't stand up to this kind of autocratic killing in the world, we will be

- [Workforce development](#)

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next." DeSantis said he'd send troops, sending Special forces over the border to stop Mexican cartels.

* Taking whacks at Joe Biden: DeSantis: "We need to send Joe Biden back to his basement and reverse American decline ... We must reverse Bidenomics." candidates were asked if they would support a mental acuity test for presidents over 70. ... Pence said the country shouldn't have a president who is too old or too young, while Ramaswamy said it was time for a generational change.

* Vivek Ramaswamy came out hot, and the others noticed it ... tried to claim the mantle of outsider ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What's he doing in the middle of a debate stage?" called climate change agenda "a hoax" and claiming "more people are dying of bad climate change policies than they are of actual climate."

... attacked the other candidates on stage as being "bought and paid for." Christie: "I have had enough already tonight of a guy who sounds like ChatGPT," noted "skinny guy with a funny last name" sounded like Obama, "I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of (person)."

By Glauber and Andrea, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/23/five-key-takeaways-from-the-republican-presidential-debate-in-milwaukee/70620272007/>

WI GOP ask newly elected liberal justice to not hear redistricting case

... during her campaign for the seat earlier this year she called the Republican-drawn maps "unfair" and "rigged" and said there needs to be "a fresh look at the gerrymandering question." ... [Protasiewicz] never committed to recusing herself from hearing the case. ... did promise to recuse herself from any case brought by [DPW] because it donated nearly \$10M to her campaign. There are two pending redistricting lawsuits, neither of which was brought by [DPW]. Reviews suits, plaintiffs, attorneys.

* legislative GOP motion to Supreme Court argued DPW will benefit from new maps, hence, she must recuse or violate their due process right, "Justice Protasiewicz's campaign statements reveal that her thumb is very much on the scale in this case." Speaker Vos has hinted at pursuing impeachment if she does not recuse.

* asked for comment, Protasiewicz emailed, "I appreciate your interest in the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I do not wish to comment, but thank you very much for reaching out to me."

* Plaintiff attorneys declined comment. By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/2a528003e32c3f51f9ef036f6d13f52e>

WEC Admin. Wolfe won't attend Senate reappointment hearing

... after [AG] Kaul [who is representing Wolfe in the matter] said the GOP-controlled Senate has no authority to vote on Wolfe's appointment. ... In a letter [Legis Council dir.] Sappenfield ... "This is not a close question under state law," Kaul said. "The plain language

of the pertinent statute requires that an administrator be appointed 'by a majority of the members of the commission.'" ... Senate Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections and Consumer Protection plans to meet Tuesday ... "As the state's chief election official, engaging with lawmakers is a critical part of my role, and I look forward to discussing the good work of the Commission with them in the future," Wolfe said. Review. Chair Knodl did not respond.

By Schmidt, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

<https://madison.com/d34aa40e-4202-11ee-98c5-63f79a71f598.html>

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STORY TOPICS

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WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- In competing events, Trump and his 8 challengers offer split-screen view of GOP's future ... Trump, in a 45-minute interview with [ex-FNS host] Carlson released five minutes before the first GOP presidential debate began airing ... forcefully defended his actions leading up to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol ... again falsely claimed he won Wisconsin's presidential election and alleged all absentee voting was rigged again argued the 2020 election should have been overturned. ... [all but DeSantis among debate] opponents ... agreed [then-VP] Pence was right in refusing Trump's request to overturn the results ... "Anytime you have mail-in ballots, you're going to have massive cheating in your elections," Trump said, a claim that is not supported by evidence. ... Ramaswamy took most of the fire as his opponents viewed him as most likely to get a bump in polling following the debate.

* Ramaswamy said Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie campaign of being "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Christie: "You make me laugh, because you sit here talking about how you want to stand up for the rule of law and law and order. ... I am not going to bow to anyone, when we have a president of the United States who disrespects the Constitution."

... candidates overall were divided over ... six-week federal abortion ban ... DeSantis said he would "support the cause of life" as president, but did not stake a clear position [on federalizing the] state law he signed in Florida in April. Burgum, holding a pocket-sized Constitution, said that while he is pro-life, he believes a federal abortion ban would violate the 10th Amendment ... biggest clash on abortion came between Pence and Haley. [Haley called for "consensus" on a federal law. Pence: "Consensus is the opposite of leadership. It's not a states-only issue, it's a moral issue."] ...

* Haley blamed \$2.2T COVID stimulus bill for extant economic woes, "Donald Trump added \$8 trillion to our debt and our kids are never going to forgive us for this."

* Ramaswamy agreed with others on education, promoting choice, adding, "Education starts with the family, and the nuclear family is the greatest form of governance known to mankind."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-trump-interview-put-republican-split-screen-in-full-view/70620223007/>

- Milwaukee became a microcosm of nation's political divisions during GOP presidential debate ... candidates threw barbs and skirmished ... audience cheered

and jeered, at times forcing the candidates to wait to speak. ... But ... in the city in the hours and days leading up to the debate ... people from across the political spectrum made their voices heard but seemed to avoid clashes. ... Nationally known members of both parties were spotted in Milwaukee [including Trump Jr., DNC Chair Harrison.] Trump surrogate [US Rep.] Taylor Greene [pressed to renew Trump] with local host Sherwin Hughes on 101.7 The Truth, the news-talk radio station focusing on Milwaukee's Black community. ... anti-Biden bus made its way through downtown [reading "Why you shouldn't vote for him if you're Black."] ... [DPW] launched a "Cheddar Storm" fundraising drive featuring ... [Mayor Johnson, Exec. Crowley] welcoming next year's Republican National Convention to the city. ... site of a pre-event party for [Walker's] Young America's Foundation ... Overhead flew an airplane with a banner that read, "GOP 2024: A race for the extreme MAGA base." ... Outside of media tapings for conservative shows and a few food vendors, the crowd was spread thin. ... some young people in the crowd, most visitors were older. ... Walker and [U.S. Sen.] Johnson ... thought Trump should have visited Wisconsin despite his decision to pass on the debate. ... At the nearby No Studios in the Brewery District, more than 100 people packed together before the debate to listen to union and progressive leaders [including Harrison, U.S. Rep. Moore] offer a rebuttal. ... At the second protest, which started at Red Arrow Park [250+ attended, led by Voces' Neumann-Ortiz], speakers made it clear they would not support any candidate from the GOP. ... Speakers accused the Republican Party of being racist, sexist, transphobic and anti-worker. ... chanted, "Milwaukee is a union town" and, "Say it loud, say it clear, Republicans aren't welcome here." ... protesters had disbanded for the night shortly after 9 p.m. ... By 10:30 p.m. the Deer District was calm as debate attendees slowly filed out for the evening.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/milwaukee-became-microcosm-of-political-divisions-for-gop-debate/70605731007/>

- Did Vivek Ramaswamy plagiarize Barack Obama during the Republican presidential primary debate? Chris Christie thought so. ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What the heck is he doing in the middle of this debate stage?" Ramaswamy said early in the debate. ... "The last person who stood up here saying, 'What's a skinny guy with an odd last name doing up here?' was Barack Obama and I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of amateur standing on the stage tonight," Christie said.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-vivek-ramaswamy-plagiarize-barack-obama-republican-debate-chris-christie-chatgpt/70666955007/>

- Trump Jr. suggests dad will skip next one, too ... "Would you name a single political consultant who is not an imbecile who would say, 'You know what? You have a 60-point lead. Why don't you give someone who has got 1%, less than 1%, give him two hours, three hours, whatever it may be, unfettered access to try to land a strike? That doesn't make sense. ... Ron DeSantis has his opportunity tonight and totally missed it. Totally missed it. ... Vivek destroyed him."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/at-gop-debate-donald-trump-jr-suggests-donald-trump-will-skip-next-one-too/70666062007/>

- Mayor Rhodes-Conway outside RNC debate venue invites skeptics to Madison to dispute the idea of a 'nation in decline' ... [in Dem presser denounced "MAGA extremism."] ... "I'm sure that they're going to talk about freedom on the debate stage tonight. But what about the freedom to make my own health care decision? I guess that their version of freedom doesn't include women," she said. ... "I would invite anybody who thinks we are a nation in decline to come to cities, to come to places like Madison, Wisconsin where we have the lowest unemployment rate or damn near close to it in the country. Where our population growth and our economic growth is driving the state of Wisconsin. Where we have a thriving university despite the refusal of Republicans at the state level to invest in it," she said. ... drew a sharp reaction from critics on social media who called her, and Madison, out of touch. ... the summary was, "Come visit cities run by Democrats." DPW chair Wikler touted statewide winning streak, including Justice Protasiewicz.

<https://madison.com/0a5075e6-421c-11ee-a58a-9ffd199f97d2.html>

- National issues were front and center at first GOP presidential debate in Milwaukee, Outside Fiserv Forum, Trump supporters and protesters braved 100-degree heat to speak out ... "I'm not terribly shocked by the lack of Wisconsin content," [MU prof.] Azari [emailed]. "We're not an early or influential primary state, and the discussion is national." ... "Wisconsin is the heart of the Midwest, and if we lose the heart, we can't function and expect to win the presidency," [SEIU's] Lee said. "Wisconsin is key and important. It is a purple state that we have been able to win since 2016, but it is vital and key to the path to the White House." Pro-Trumpers, protesters comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-debate-milwaukee-rnc-fox-news-national-issues-wisconsin>

- Here's what Republican voters at Milwaukee debate gatherings had to say about the candidates: interviews at AFP, other watch parties.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/voters-react-to-what-they-saw-at-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620324007/>

- GOP presidential hopefuls take aim at Bidenomics, each other: pre-debate and debate excerpts. RNC-DNC chairs, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, DPW chair Wikler, RPW chair Schimming comment.

<https://captimes.com/da988408-6742-5544-9cea-a0d0e8e0d621.html>

- In GOP debate spin room, candidates, surrogates discuss winning Wisconsin, Milwaukee Bucks ... [Haley campaign's Dawson] notes strong Wisconsin fundraising ... [O'Malley for Pence] says food and drink is the key ... Trump advisor [Miller] compares Ron De Santis to ... Scott Walker ... Burgum talks visit with Milwaukee Bucks surgeon [for blown Achilles], 2021 playoffs

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/in-gop-debate-spin-room-candidates-surrogates-talk-wisconsin-bucks/70666076007/>

- Donald who? Fox barely mentions Trump in first half of debate until 10-minute indictment discussion

<https://apnews.com/8049cd2370d887946c8064ebdbd84c05>

- Takeaways from the first Republican presidential primary debate ... Candidates go after Ramaswamy ... DeSantis doesn't stand out ... Christie doesn't have a breakout moment ... Candidates draw distinctions on abortion ... DeSantis tries, but fails, to duck January 6 question after being pressed by Pence ... Haley leans towards the general election ... Scott sticks to Mr. Nice Guy routine. Videos include viewing party in IA.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/08/23/politics/takeaways-republican-debate/index.html>

- Bice: Winners and losers from the Republican presidential debate in Milwaukee ... GOP field is being left in the dust by former President Donald Trump, who didn't even show up for the debate. ... Winner: Vivek Ramaswamy ... Loser: Ron DeSantis ... Winner: Mike Pence ... Loser: Chris Christie ... Winner: Milwaukee ... Loser: Tim Scott ... Winner: Oliver Anthony ... Loser: Doug Burgum ... Winner: Joe Biden ... Loser: Asa Hutchinson

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/the-winners-and-losers-from-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620165007/>

- Winners and losers from the first Republican debate ... Winners: Donald Trump ... risk for Trump in not showing up was that he wouldn't be able to defend himself. He didn't have to. ...Vivek Ramaswamy ... [unfunding Ukraine war] was about the only moment that the audience wasn't on Ramaswamy's side. ... Pence's Jan. 6 decision ... Losers: Ron DeSantis ... GOP's political pride ... Mike Pence and Tim Scott ... Fox News

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/23/who-won-republican-debate/>

- Ramaswamy Seizes Spotlight as DeSantis Hangs Back: 7 Debate Takeaways ... It was the Ramaswamy show. ... DeSantis avoided attacks -- and ended up on the periphery. ... Policy clashes [Ukraine, climate, abortion] showed G.O.P. divides. ... Pence came out punching. ... Haley positioned herself as the pragmatist. ... Boos underscored Christie's challenge. ... Trump avoided the debate, and meaningful attacks. Some video clips.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/24/us/politics/republican-debate-takeaways.html>

- Who won, who lost and who fizzled in the first Republican debate, DeSantis was a non-factor as Republicans piled on Ramaswamy, instead.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/08/24/republican-debate-who-won-takeaways-00112691>

- Debate does little to dissuade voters from Trump at one Republican watch party: At the Red Mouse Bar and Grill in Cross Plains ... "I might be wrong, I've been wrong before," Bernier told the Wisconsin Examiner. "I think most people, a lot of Republican voters, very devoted Republican voters, are kind of sick of it." ... "They can begin to focus Republican primary voters on issues for the first time in eight years really," Ribble told the Examiner days before the debate. "If they focus on issues, what are we going to do about the national debt, Social Security and Medicare, immigration reform? If they relegate Trump to irrelevance at the debate, I think it can be positive to Republican primary voters." Some of the 15 attendees comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/24/debate-does-little-to-dissuade-voters>

- Tim Scott, Chris Christie, Vivek Ramaswamy: Wisconsin voters debate who won first debate ... correspondent Shaquille Brewster watched the first GOP debate with conservative Trump voters in suburban Waukesha, Wisconsin and explored how voters viewed the candidates, the war in Ukraine, who would be an ideal vice presidential candidate. 6:46 video

<https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/video/tim-19147987721>

- Inside RNC's Milwaukee vendor fair showing off local businesses ... "This is what it's all about," RNC Milwaukee Host Committee chairman Reince Priebus said during a brief press appearance at the event. ... [RNC Chair] McDaniel said the vendors at Baird Center included 48 that were minority-owned and 45 that were women-owned. ... "We're looking forward to all businesses in Milwaukee being able to cash in and be a part of the excitement here in Milwaukee next year," [Mayor] Johnson said. ... drew 1K+ people in its first two hours

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/go-inside-rncs-milwaukee-expo-showing-off-local-b.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Dems would punish sham lawsuits as GOP senator continues fighting local news site: Sen. Tomczyk sued Wausau Pilot & Review for defamation over reporting the new site stands by, backed by 3 witnesses. Judge tossed his suit saying he failed to prove defamation, but Tomczyk is appealing. Site founder/editor Siewert has about \$200K in legal bills so far, "He knows we don't have deep pockets and that continuing to fight this lawsuit is very damaging to us financially and could shut us down." Dem bill would allow judge to dismiss such suits and order plaintiff to pay defendant's legal fees. Story's publicity and GoFundMe page have raised about \$100K for defense. Tomczyk's office declined comment, atty. Fernholz did not respond.

<https://apnews.com/1bf0e032d446cc9a5bc9e99c1ac2cd54>

- Democrats propose anti-SLAPP legislation as Republican senator's lawsuit against Wausau publication continues

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/democrats-propose-anti-slapp-legislation>

- SOS Godlewski on lawsuit: I don't have any records

<https://captimes.com/news/99949e6e-abaa-525d-ae9e-7cee13d62c6e.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Second Aug Prep school could open at former Cardinal Stritch campus in 2025

<https://biztimes.com/second-aug-prep-school-could-open-at-former-cardinal>

- Notre Dame School of Milwaukee expands campus with third building, Will serve boys in grades 5-8, help grow enrollment

<https://biztimes.com/notre-dame-school-of-milwaukee-expands-campus-with>

- 12K+ Wisconsinites to see student loan forgiveness under changes to income-based repayment plans: Harvard prof. Dynarski, UW prof. Hillman comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/more-12-000-wisconsinites-see-student-loan-forgiveness-under->

[changes-income-based-repayment-plans](#)

ELECTIONS [^top^](#)

- Moms for Liberty is growing in Wisconsin as critics call them extremists, The parental rights organization has built membership from groups that formed during the pandemic and is looking to shape policy and elections ... co-founder Tiffany Justice defended an Indiana chapter ... "One of our moms in a newsletter quotes Hitler. I stand with that mom," she said to applause. "If [@Moms4Liberty](#) is a 'hate group,' add me to the list," GOP presidential candidate and former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley tweeted a few days later. ... One of the Kenosha members, State Rep. Amanda Nedweski, R-Pleasant Prairie, went on to run for county board and state Assembly. ... Book removals in the works ... Liberal groups, including Stop Moms for Liberty, Defense of Democracy and Red Wine & Blue, have formed to counter Moms for Liberty, mobilizing suburban, Democratic voters at the school board level and starting campaigns related to racial equity and stopping book bans. Wood County Moms for Liberty chair Schueller, Ozaukee Co. Moms for Liberty's Johnson and Schroeder, members Tremelling and Scheuer, PFLAG's Johnson, advocate Norcross, WELPH's Lambert comment.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/moms-for-liberty-wisconsin-critics-call>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Legislators press DNR policy board appointees on wolves, pollution, sandhill crane hunt ... sporting heritage committee didn't get a lot of hard answers from Sharon Adams, Dylan Jennings or Paul Buhr during a 90-minute hearing ... precursor to a committee vote on whether to recommend Senate confirmation. ... trio revealed little about their personal stances, keeping their answers vague. ... don't need confirmation to serve ... But a Senate vote to reject them would result in them losing their jobs. All 7 Boarders are Evers appointees, but only Smith [2019] and West [2020] have been confirmed; Buhr is a re-appointment. Naas and VandenBrook were invited but Naas had a teaching commitment and VandenBrook was out of the country.

* Chair Stafsholt asked each appointee if ... DNR's wolf management plan should set a hard population limit and whether they believe people should hunt wolves. DNR draft plan recommends population management ranges between 350 and 1,200. Stafsholt bill mandates firm population limit. Stafsholt noted 40 years of wolf study should yield firm population answer, questioned Jennings on wolf-tribe spirituality.

* Sen. Felzkowski asked each about hunting sandhill cranes to stop crop poaching and who should pay for PFAS clean-up.

... Paraphrased answers. Reviews PFAS cities and suits.

<https://apnews.com/679946d73de54265ac9e84f1c35c87e3>

- Evers appointees to NR Board questioned on wolf hunting by Senate committee

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/evers-appointees-to-natural-resources>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- HHS' Westergaard renews vaccine call with COVID-19 uptick, looming flu season

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/health-department-renews-vaccine-call>

- Abortion-ban states pour millions into pregnancy centers with little medical care ...

Legislators in states with some of the strictest abortion bans are pouring millions into pregnancy resource centers, painting them as solutions to poor birth outcomes and the lack of access to adequate prenatal and postpartum care. ... In 2017, MO became the first state to issue tax credits for donations to pregnancy resource centers and it recently removed its limit on how many tax credits the state can issue. [MS, LA have laws]. ... centers can't be associated with abortion providers or refer clients for abortions. ... AL, KS, NE considered their own tax credits in this year's legislative sessions. ... The Southeast is home to about 900 pregnancy resource centers, more than a third of the national total,

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/24/abortion-ban-states-pour-millions-into-pregnancy-centers-with-little-medical-care/>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- WI housing market: Some regions see inventory increase, prices moderate: in WRA data

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/2023/08/24/wisconsin-home-sales-drop-in-july-while-economist-sees-positive-signs/70611350007/>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Rockwell Automation building hydroponic farm at Milwaukee HQ ... partnering with Green Bay-based Fork Farms ... an agriculture technology startup ... More than 70 Fork Farms "Flex Acres" will be installed ... Each Flex Acre is capable of producing over 100 pounds of leafy greens and other vegetables every month. ... green roof is also home to more than a dozen varieties of native perennials and in 2022, a small colony of honeybees was introduced. ... "Clock Tower Farms will engage employees and the community while serving as a showcase for manufacturers spanning diverse industries who want to see sustainable solutions in action," said CEO Moret

<https://biztimes.com/rockwell-automation-building-hydroponic-farm-at-milwaukee-hq/>

- AI, genetic testing: what washed up at Epic's global conference

<https://captimes.com/4cc21fb9-79f6-533a-b4f7-300fddcce032.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee streetcar to remain free to ride, could expand weekend service ... currently funded by a combination of state and federal transit grants, revenue from selling advertising on the system and, if needed, money from the city Transportation Fund. ... Atlanta's streetcar system, for example, implemented fares in 2016. ... \$1-per-ride fare accounted for 6.2% of its 2022 operating revenue. The system collected \$65.9 million in fares in 2022, down from \$133 million pre-pandemic in 2019.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/milwaukee-streetcar>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT [^top^](#)

- GOP lawmakers propose eliminating work permits for Wisconsin's 14- and 15-year-olds, Labor groups say [Tomczyk-Moses-Binsfeld bill] rolls back protections for minors in the workplace: sponsors, AFL-CIO's Bloomingdale, WDC's Flores comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/gop-lawmakers-propose-eliminating-work-permits-wisconsins-14-and-15-year-olds>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- CT Editorial: Trump's refusal to debate is an insult to Wisconsin voters

<https://captimes.com/b83bf4aa-3dc2-5336-8185-b10902639b24.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dan O'Donnell: What the real winner of the first debate can teach every single candidate (including Trump) ... The biggest winner of the first Republican presidential debate wasn't on the stage. He wasn't in Milwaukee and no, he wasn't on Twitter talking with Elon Musk. He was somewhere south of Richmond continuing to take the world by storm. Oliver Anthony, an unassuming singer-songwriter from Virginia, has the number one song in America--a monumental achievement for an unsigned artist made even more impressive by the fact that his "Rich Men North of Richmond" features no production whatsoever.

<https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2023/08/what-the-real-winner-of-the-first-debate-can-teach-every-single-candidate-including-trump/>

- David Blaska: About last night: Misconstruing the first Republican presidential debate

<https://davidblaska.com/2023/08/24/about-last-night-3/>

- Owen Robinson: Quick thoughts on the first GOP debate ... It was good to see an actual debate that displayed the rich spectrum of opinions in the Republican Party on important issues.

<https://www.bootsandsabers.com/2023/08/24/quick-thoughts-on-the-first-gop-debate/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Ramaswamy won ... He didn't win with me, understand. ... But I think he won with Republican voters.

<https://yellowstripsdeadarmadillos.org/2023/08/23/ramaswamy-won/>

- Van Mobley: Trumpkins cry "Vive la Vivek!": The best part of Wednesday night was Trump's interview with Tucker Carlson. Trump was on his game and laid out the policy issues at the core of his campaign.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/van-mobley-trumpkins-cry-vive-la-vivek/>

- Dave Zweifel: Consumer protection efforts save consumers billions, so the GOP wants to end them

<https://captimes.com/18e116d3-4687-5b32-8b49-57b6448dd40a.html>

- Spencer Black: Cheater Vos doubles down on gerrymandering

<https://captimes.com/e18e4782-4cd1-53b1-b24a-f7280faae212.html>

- Ruth Conniff: Wisconsin's Trump enablers are still undermining democracy

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/22/wisconsins-trump-enablers-are-still>

- Retired farmer Jim Goodman: What's missing from discussion of the Farm Bill

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/whats-missing-from-discussion>

- Bruce Murphy: How David Crowley led on sales tax: The inside story of how the county exec and mayor helped pass state legislation to save Milwaukee.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/23/murphys-law-how-david-crowley-led-on-sales-tax/>

- Sen. Brad Pfaff: Building healthy, resilient soil

<https://lacrossetribune.com/3591365a-402d-11ee-9d83-3b348700f96d.html>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Courting disaster, The Wisconsin Supreme Court has virtually no credibility ... as an impartial, thoughtful, nonpartisan and fair body. To apply school yard logic, it's true that the conservatives and the Republicans started it. But the Democrats and the liberals have only accelerated the race toward oblivion.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/courting-disaster/>

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TOP STORIES

Takeaways from RNC debate: Candidates tangle on Trump, Ukraine and abortion

* Donald Trump was the subject that couldn't be avoided ... Someone has got to stop normalizing this conduct," Christie said, drawing boos from the audience. "Whether or not you believe the criminal charges are right or wrong, the conduct is beneath the office of President of the United States." Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie of running a campaign of being based on "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Mike Pence, Tim Scott favor 15-week federal abortion ban, while Nikki Haley wants consensus in Congress ... DeSantis talked up a six-week bill he signed in Florida, didn't commit to a federal measure but said, "I'm going to stand on the side of life."

* Funding for Ukraine takes center stage ... DeSantis called on Europe "to pull its weight" ... Ramaswamy [alone] declared he would not support any more funding to Ukraine. Christie: "This is the Vladimir Putin who Donald Trump called brilliant and a genius. If we don't stand up to this kind of autocratic killing in the world, we will be

- [Workforce development](#)

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next." DeSantis said he'd send troops, sending Special forces over the border to stop Mexican cartels.

* Taking whacks at Joe Biden: DeSantis: "We need to send Joe Biden back to his basement and reverse American decline ... We must reverse Bidenomics." candidates were asked if they would support a mental acuity test for presidents over 70. ... Pence said the country shouldn't have a president who is too old or too young, while Ramaswamy said it was time for a generational change.

* Vivek Ramaswamy came out hot, and the others noticed it ... tried to claim the mantle of outsider ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What's he doing in the middle of a debate stage?" called climate change agenda "a hoax" and claiming "more people are dying of bad climate change policies than they are of actual climate."

... attacked the other candidates on stage as being "bought and paid for." Christie: "I have had enough already tonight of a guy who sounds like ChatGPT," noted "skinny guy with a funny last name" sounded like Obama, "I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of (person)." By Glauber and Andrea, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/23/five-key-takeaways-from-the-republican-presidential-debate-in-milwaukee/70620272007/>

WI GOP ask newly elected liberal justice to not hear redistricting case

... during her campaign for the seat earlier this year she called the Republican-drawn maps "unfair" and "rigged" and said there needs to be "a fresh look at the gerrymandering question." ... [Protasiewicz] never committed to recusing herself from hearing the case. ... did promise to recuse herself from any case brought by [DPW] because it donated nearly \$10M to her campaign. There are two pending redistricting lawsuits, neither of which was brought by [DPW]. Reviews suits, plaintiffs, attorneys.

* legislative GOP motion to Supreme Court argued DPW will benefit from new maps, hence, she must recuse or violate their due process right, "Justice Protasiewicz's campaign statements reveal that her thumb is very much on the scale in this case." Speaker Vos has hinted at pursuing impeachment if she does not recuse.

* asked for comment, Protasiewicz emailed, "I appreciate your interest in the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I do not wish to comment, but thank you very much for reaching out to me."

* Plaintiff attorneys declined comment. By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/2a528003e32c3f51f9ef036f6d13f52e>

WEC Admin. Wolfe won't attend Senate reappointment hearing

... after [AG] Kaul [who is representing Wolfe in the matter] said the GOP-controlled Senate has no authority to vote on Wolfe's appointment. ... In a letter [Legis Council dir.] Sappenfield ... "This is not a close question under state law," Kaul said. "The plain language

of the pertinent statute requires that an administrator be appointed 'by a majority of the members of the commission.'" ... Senate Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections and Consumer Protection plans to meet Tuesday ... "As the state's chief election official, engaging with lawmakers is a critical part of my role, and I look forward to discussing the good work of the Commission with them in the future," Wolfe said. Review. Chair Knodl did not respond.

By Schmidt, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

<https://madison.com/d34aa40e-4202-11ee-98c5-63f79a71f598.html>

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STORY TOPICS

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WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- In competing events, Trump and his 8 challengers offer split-screen view of GOP's future ... Trump, in a 45-minute interview with [ex-FNS host] Carlson released five minutes before the first GOP presidential debate began airing ... forcefully defended his actions leading up to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol ... again falsely claimed he won Wisconsin's presidential election and alleged all absentee voting was rigged again argued the 2020 election should have been overturned. ... [all but DeSantis among debate] opponents ... agreed [then-VP] Pence was right in refusing Trump's request to overturn the results ... "Anytime you have mail-in ballots, you're going to have massive cheating in your elections," Trump said, a claim that is not supported by evidence. ... Ramaswamy took most of the fire as his opponents viewed him as most likely to get a bump in polling following the debate.

* Ramaswamy said Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie campaign of being "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Christie: "You make me laugh, because you sit here talking about how you want to stand up for the rule of law and law and order. ... I am not going to bow to anyone, when we have a president of the United States who disrespects the Constitution."

... candidates overall were divided over ... six-week federal abortion ban ... DeSantis said he would "support the cause of life" as president, but did not stake a clear position [on federalizing the] state law he signed in Florida in April. Burgum, holding a pocket-sized Constitution, said that while he is pro-life, he believes a federal abortion ban would violate the 10th Amendment ... biggest clash on abortion came between Pence and Haley. [Haley called for "consensus" on a federal law. Pence: "Consensus is the opposite of leadership. It's not a states-only issue, it's a moral issue."] ...

* Haley blamed \$2.2T COVID stimulus bill for extant economic woes, "Donald Trump added \$8 trillion to our debt and our kids are never going to forgive us for this."

* Ramaswamy agreed with others on education, promoting choice, adding, "Education starts with the family, and the nuclear family is the greatest form of governance known to mankind."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-trump-interview-put-republican-split-screen-in-full-view/70620223007/>

- Milwaukee became a microcosm of nation's political divisions during GOP presidential debate ... candidates threw barbs and skirmished ... audience cheered

and jeered, at times forcing the candidates to wait to speak. ... But ... in the city in the hours and days leading up to the debate ... people from across the political spectrum made their voices heard but seemed to avoid clashes. ... Nationally known members of both parties were spotted in Milwaukee [including Trump Jr., DNC Chair Harrison.] Trump surrogate [US Rep.] Taylor Greene [pressed to renew Trump] with local host Sherwin Hughes on 101.7 The Truth, the news-talk radio station focusing on Milwaukee's Black community. ... anti-Biden bus made its way through downtown [reading "Why you shouldn't vote for him if you're Black."] ... [DPW] launched a "Cheddar Storm" fundraising drive featuring ... [Mayor Johnson, Exec. Crowley] welcoming next year's Republican National Convention to the city. ... site of a pre-event party for [Walker's] Young America's Foundation ... Overhead flew an airplane with a banner that read, "GOP 2024: A race for the extreme MAGA base." ... Outside of media tapings for conservative shows and a few food vendors, the crowd was spread thin. ... some young people in the crowd, most visitors were older. ... Walker and [U.S. Sen.] Johnson ... thought Trump should have visited Wisconsin despite his decision to pass on the debate. ... At the nearby No Studios in the Brewery District, more than 100 people packed together before the debate to listen to union and progressive leaders [including Harrison, U.S. Rep. Moore] offer a rebuttal. ... At the second protest, which started at Red Arrow Park [250+ attended, led by Voces' Neumann-Ortiz], speakers made it clear they would not support any candidate from the GOP. ... Speakers accused the Republican Party of being racist, sexist, transphobic and anti-worker. ... chanted, "Milwaukee is a union town" and, "Say it loud, say it clear, Republicans aren't welcome here." ... protesters had disbanded for the night shortly after 9 p.m. ... By 10:30 p.m. the Deer District was calm as debate attendees slowly filed out for the evening.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/milwaukee-became-microcosm-of-political-divisions-for-gop-debate/70605731007/>

- Did Vivek Ramaswamy plagiarize Barack Obama during the Republican presidential primary debate? Chris Christie thought so. ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What the heck is he doing in the middle of this debate stage?" Ramaswamy said early in the debate. ... "The last person who stood up here saying, 'What's a skinny guy with an odd last name doing up here?' was Barack Obama and I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of amateur standing on the stage tonight," Christie said.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-vivek-ramaswamy-plagiarize-barack-obama-republican-debate-chris-christie-chatgpt/70666955007/>

- Trump Jr. suggests dad will skip next one, too ... "Would you name a single political consultant who is not an imbecile who would say, 'You know what? You have a 60-point lead. Why don't you give someone who has got 1%, less than 1%, give him two hours, three hours, whatever it may be, unfettered access to try to land a strike? That doesn't make sense. ... Ron DeSantis has his opportunity tonight and totally missed it. Totally missed it. ... Vivek destroyed him."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/at-gop-debate-donald-trump-jr-suggests-donald-trump-will-skip-next-one-too/70666062007/>

- Mayor Rhodes-Conway outside RNC debate venue invites skeptics to Madison to dispute the idea of a 'nation in decline' ... [in Dem presser denounced "MAGA extremism."] ... "I'm sure that they're going to talk about freedom on the debate stage tonight. But what about the freedom to make my own health care decision? I guess that their version of freedom doesn't include women," she said. ... "I would invite anybody who thinks we are a nation in decline to come to cities, to come to places like Madison, Wisconsin where we have the lowest unemployment rate or damn near close to it in the country. Where our population growth and our economic growth is driving the state of Wisconsin. Where we have a thriving university despite the refusal of Republicans at the state level to invest in it," she said. ... drew a sharp reaction from critics on social media who called her, and Madison, out of touch. ... the summary was, "Come visit cities run by Democrats." DPW chair Wikler touted statewide winning streak, including Justice Protasiewicz.

<https://madison.com/0a5075e6-421c-11ee-a58a-9ffd199f97d2.html>

- National issues were front and center at first GOP presidential debate in Milwaukee, Outside Fiserv Forum, Trump supporters and protesters braved 100-degree heat to speak out ... "I'm not terribly shocked by the lack of Wisconsin content," [MU prof.] Azari [emailed]. "We're not an early or influential primary state, and the discussion is national." ... "Wisconsin is the heart of the Midwest, and if we lose the heart, we can't function and expect to win the presidency," [SEIU's] Lee said. "Wisconsin is key and important. It is a purple state that we have been able to win since 2016, but it is vital and key to the path to the White House." Pro-Trumpers, protesters comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-debate-milwaukee-rnc-fox-news-national-issues-wisconsin>

- Here's what Republican voters at Milwaukee debate gatherings had to say about the candidates: interviews at AFP, other watch parties.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/voters-react-to-what-they-saw-at-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620324007/>

- GOP presidential hopefuls take aim at Bidenomics, each other: pre-debate and debate excerpts. RNC-DNC chairs, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, DPW chair Wikler, RPW chair Schimming comment.

<https://captimes.com/da988408-6742-5544-9cea-a0d0e8e0d621.html>

- In GOP debate spin room, candidates, surrogates discuss winning Wisconsin, Milwaukee Bucks ... [Haley campaign's Dawson] notes strong Wisconsin fundraising ... [O'Malley for Pence] says food and drink is the key ... Trump advisor [Miller] compares Ron De Santis to ... Scott Walker ... Burgum talks visit with Milwaukee Bucks surgeon [for blown Achilles], 2021 playoffs

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/in-gop-debate-spin-room-candidates-surrogates-talk-wisconsin-bucks/70666076007/>

- Donald who? Fox barely mentions Trump in first half of debate until 10-minute indictment discussion

<https://apnews.com/8049cd2370d887946c8064ebdbd84c05>

- Takeaways from the first Republican presidential primary debate ... Candidates go after Ramaswamy ... DeSantis doesn't stand out ... Christie doesn't have a breakout moment ... Candidates draw distinctions on abortion ... DeSantis tries, but fails, to duck January 6 question after being pressed by Pence ... Haley leans towards the general election ... Scott sticks to Mr. Nice Guy routine. Videos include viewing party in IA.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/08/23/politics/takeaways-republican-debate/index.html>

- Bice: Winners and losers from the Republican presidential debate in Milwaukee ... GOP field is being left in the dust by former President Donald Trump, who didn't even show up for the debate. ... Winner: Vivek Ramaswamy ... Loser: Ron DeSantis ... Winner: Mike Pence ... Loser: Chris Christie ... Winner: Milwaukee ... Loser: Tim Scott ... Winner: Oliver Anthony ... Loser: Doug Burgum ... Winner: Joe Biden ... Loser: Asa Hutchinson

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/the-winners-and-losers-from-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620165007/>

- Winners and losers from the first Republican debate ... Winners: Donald Trump ... risk for Trump in not showing up was that he wouldn't be able to defend himself. He didn't have to. ...Vivek Ramaswamy ... [unfunding Ukraine war] was about the only moment that the audience wasn't on Ramaswamy's side. ... Pence's Jan. 6 decision ... Losers: Ron DeSantis ... GOP's political pride ... Mike Pence and Tim Scott ... Fox News

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/23/who-won-republican-debate/>

- Ramaswamy Seizes Spotlight as DeSantis Hangs Back: 7 Debate Takeaways ... It was the Ramaswamy show. ... DeSantis avoided attacks -- and ended up on the periphery. ... Policy clashes [Ukraine, climate, abortion] showed G.O.P. divides. ... Pence came out punching. ... Haley positioned herself as the pragmatist. ... Boos underscored Christie's challenge. ... Trump avoided the debate, and meaningful attacks. Some video clips.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/24/us/politics/republican-debate-takeaways.html>

- Who won, who lost and who fizzled in the first Republican debate, DeSantis was a non-factor as Republicans piled on Ramaswamy, instead.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/08/24/republican-debate-who-won-takeaways-00112691>

- Debate does little to dissuade voters from Trump at one Republican watch party: At the Red Mouse Bar and Grill in Cross Plains ... "I might be wrong, I've been wrong before," Bernier told the Wisconsin Examiner. "I think most people, a lot of Republican voters, very devoted Republican voters, are kind of sick of it." ... "They can begin to focus Republican primary voters on issues for the first time in eight years really," Ribble told the Examiner days before the debate. "If they focus on issues, what are we going to do about the national debt, Social Security and Medicare, immigration reform? If they relegate Trump to irrelevance at the debate, I think it can be positive to Republican primary voters." Some of the 15 attendees comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/24/debate-does-little-to-dissuade-voters>

- Tim Scott, Chris Christie, Vivek Ramaswamy: Wisconsin voters debate who won first debate ... correspondent Shaquille Brewster watched the first GOP debate with conservative Trump voters in suburban Waukesha, Wisconsin and explored how voters viewed the candidates, the war in Ukraine, who would be an ideal vice presidential candidate. 6:46 video

<https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/video/tim-19147987721>

- Inside RNC's Milwaukee vendor fair showing off local businesses ... "This is what it's all about," RNC Milwaukee Host Committee chairman Reince Priebus said during a brief press appearance at the event. ... [RNC Chair] McDaniel said the vendors at Baird Center included 48 that were minority-owned and 45 that were women-owned. ... "We're looking forward to all businesses in Milwaukee being able to cash in and be a part of the excitement here in Milwaukee next year," [Mayor] Johnson said. ... drew 1K+ people in its first two hours

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/go-inside-rncs-milwaukee-expo-showing-off-local-b.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Dems would punish sham lawsuits as GOP senator continues fighting local news site: Sen. Tomczyk sued Wausau Pilot & Review for defamation over reporting the new site stands by, backed by 3 witnesses. Judge tossed his suit saying he failed to prove defamation, but Tomczyk is appealing. Site founder/editor Siewert has about \$200K in legal bills so far, "He knows we don't have deep pockets and that continuing to fight this lawsuit is very damaging to us financially and could shut us down." Dem bill would allow judge to dismiss such suits and order plaintiff to pay defendant's legal fees. Story's publicity and GoFundMe page have raised about \$100K for defense. Tomczyk's office declined comment, atty. Fernholz did not respond.

<https://apnews.com/1bf0e032d446cc9a5bc9e99c1ac2cd54>

- Democrats propose anti-SLAPP legislation as Republican senator's lawsuit against Wausau publication continues

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/democrats-propose-anti-slapp-legislation>

- SOS Godlewski on lawsuit: I don't have any records

<https://captimes.com/news/99949e6e-abaa-525d-ae9e-7cee13d62c6e.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Second Aug Prep school could open at former Cardinal Stritch campus in 2025

<https://biztimes.com/second-aug-prep-school-could-open-at-former-cardinal>

- Notre Dame School of Milwaukee expands campus with third building, Will serve boys in grades 5-8, help grow enrollment

<https://biztimes.com/notre-dame-school-of-milwaukee-expands-campus-with>

- 12K+ Wisconsinites to see student loan forgiveness under changes to income-based repayment plans: Harvard prof. Dynarski, UW prof. Hillman comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/more-12-000-wisconsinites-see-student-loan-forgiveness-under->

[changes-income-based-repayment-plans](#)

ELECTIONS [^top^](#)

- Moms for Liberty is growing in Wisconsin as critics call them extremists, The parental rights organization has built membership from groups that formed during the pandemic and is looking to shape policy and elections ... co-founder Tiffany Justice defended an Indiana chapter ... "One of our moms in a newsletter quotes Hitler. I stand with that mom," she said to applause. "If [@Moms4Liberty](#) is a 'hate group,' add me to the list," GOP presidential candidate and former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley tweeted a few days later. ... One of the Kenosha members, State Rep. Amanda Nedweski, R-Pleasant Prairie, went on to run for county board and state Assembly. ... Book removals in the works ... Liberal groups, including Stop Moms for Liberty, Defense of Democracy and Red Wine & Blue, have formed to counter Moms for Liberty, mobilizing suburban, Democratic voters at the school board level and starting campaigns related to racial equity and stopping book bans. Wood County Moms for Liberty chair Schueller, Ozaukee Co. Moms for Liberty's Johnson and Schroeder, members Tremelling and Scheuer, PFLAG's Johnson, advocate Norcross, WELPH's Lambert comment.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/moms-for-liberty-wisconsin-critics-call>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Legislators press DNR policy board appointees on wolves, pollution, sandhill crane hunt ... sporting heritage committee didn't get a lot of hard answers from Sharon Adams, Dylan Jennings or Paul Buhr during a 90-minute hearing ... precursor to a committee vote on whether to recommend Senate confirmation. ... trio revealed little about their personal stances, keeping their answers vague. ... don't need confirmation to serve ... But a Senate vote to reject them would result in them losing their jobs. All 7 Boarders are Evers appointees, but only Smith [2019] and West [2020] have been confirmed; Buhr is a re-appointment. Naas and VandenBrook were invited but Naas had a teaching commitment and VandenBrook was out of the country.

* Chair Stafsholt asked each appointee if ... DNR's wolf management plan should set a hard population limit and whether they believe people should hunt wolves. DNR draft plan recommends population management ranges between 350 and 1,200. Stafsholt bill mandates firm population limit. Stafsholt noted 40 years of wolf study should yield firm population answer, questioned Jennings on wolf-tribe spirituality.

* Sen. Felzkowski asked each about hunting sandhill cranes to stop crop poaching and who should pay for PFAS clean-up.

... Paraphrased answers. Reviews PFAS cities and suits.

<https://apnews.com/679946d73de54265ac9e84f1c35c87e3>

- Evers appointees to NR Board questioned on wolf hunting by Senate committee

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/evers-appointees-to-natural-resources>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- HHS' Westergaard renews vaccine call with COVID-19 uptick, looming flu season

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/health-department-renews-vaccine-call>

- Abortion-ban states pour millions into pregnancy centers with little medical care ...

Legislators in states with some of the strictest abortion bans are pouring millions into pregnancy resource centers, painting them as solutions to poor birth outcomes and the lack of access to adequate prenatal and postpartum care. ... In 2017, MO became the first state to issue tax credits for donations to pregnancy resource centers and it recently removed its limit on how many tax credits the state can issue. [MS, LA have laws]. ... centers can't be associated with abortion providers or refer clients for abortions. ... AL, KS, NE considered their own tax credits in this year's legislative sessions. ... The Southeast is home to about 900 pregnancy resource centers, more than a third of the national total,

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/24/abortion-ban-states-pour-millions-into-pregnancy-centers-with-little-medical-care/>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- WI housing market: Some regions see inventory increase, prices moderate: in WRA data

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/2023/08/24/wisconsin-home-sales-drop-in-july-while-economist-sees-positive-signs/70611350007/>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Rockwell Automation building hydroponic farm at Milwaukee HQ ... partnering with Green Bay-based Fork Farms ... an agriculture technology startup ... More than 70 Fork Farms "Flex Acres" will be installed ... Each Flex Acre is capable of producing over 100 pounds of leafy greens and other vegetables every month. ... green roof is also home to more than a dozen varieties of native perennials and in 2022, a small colony of honeybees was introduced. ... "Clock Tower Farms will engage employees and the community while serving as a showcase for manufacturers spanning diverse industries who want to see sustainable solutions in action," said CEO Moret

<https://biztimes.com/rockwell-automation-building-hydroponic-farm-at-milwaukee-hq/>

- AI, genetic testing: what washed up at Epic's global conference

<https://captimes.com/4cc21fb9-79f6-533a-b4f7-300fddcce032.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee streetcar to remain free to ride, could expand weekend service ... currently funded by a combination of state and federal transit grants, revenue from selling advertising on the system and, if needed, money from the city Transportation Fund. ... Atlanta's streetcar system, for example, implemented fares in 2016. ... \$1-per-ride fare accounted for 6.2% of its 2022 operating revenue. The system collected \$65.9 million in fares in 2022, down from \$133 million pre-pandemic in 2019.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/milwaukee-streetcar>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT [^top^](#)

- GOP lawmakers propose eliminating work permits for Wisconsin's 14- and 15-year-olds, Labor groups say [Tomczyk-Moses-Binsfeld bill] rolls back protections for minors in the workplace: sponsors, AFL-CIO's Bloomingdale, WDC's Flores comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/gop-lawmakers-propose-eliminating-work-permits-wisconsins-14-and-15-year-olds>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- CT Editorial: Trump's refusal to debate is an insult to Wisconsin voters

<https://captimes.com/b83bf4aa-3dc2-5336-8185-b10902639b24.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dan O'Donnell: What the real winner of the first debate can teach every single candidate (including Trump) ... The biggest winner of the first Republican presidential debate wasn't on the stage. He wasn't in Milwaukee and no, he wasn't on Twitter talking with Elon Musk. He was somewhere south of Richmond continuing to take the world by storm. Oliver Anthony, an unassuming singer-songwriter from Virginia, has the number one song in America--a monumental achievement for an unsigned artist made even more impressive by the fact that his "Rich Men North of Richmond" features no production whatsoever.

<https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2023/08/what-the-real-winner-of-the-first-debate-can-teach-every-single-candidate-including-trump/>

- David Blaska: About last night: Misconstruing the first Republican presidential debate

<https://davidblaska.com/2023/08/24/about-last-night-3/>

- Owen Robinson: Quick thoughts on the first GOP debate ... It was good to see an actual debate that displayed the rich spectrum of opinions in the Republican Party on important issues.

<https://www.bootsandsabers.com/2023/08/24/quick-thoughts-on-the-first-gop-debate/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Ramaswamy won ... He didn't win with me, understand. ... But I think he won with Republican voters.

<https://yellowstripsdeadarmadillos.org/2023/08/23/ramaswamy-won/>

- Van Mobley: Trumpkins cry "Vive la Vivek!": The best part of Wednesday night was Trump's interview with Tucker Carlson. Trump was on his game and laid out the policy issues at the core of his campaign.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/van-mobley-trumpkins-cry-vive-la-vivek/>

- Dave Zweifel: Consumer protection efforts save consumers billions, so the GOP wants to end them

<https://captimes.com/18e116d3-4687-5b32-8b49-57b6448dd40a.html>

- Spencer Black: Cheater Vos doubles down on gerrymandering

<https://captimes.com/e18e4782-4cd1-53b1-b24a-f7280faae212.html>

- Ruth Conniff: Wisconsin's Trump enablers are still undermining democracy

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/22/wisconsins-trump-enablers-are-still>

- Retired farmer Jim Goodman: What's missing from discussion of the Farm Bill

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/whats-missing-from-discussion>

- Bruce Murphy: How David Crowley led on sales tax: The inside story of how the county exec and mayor helped pass state legislation to save Milwaukee.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/23/murphys-law-how-david-crowley-led-on-sales-tax/>

- Sen. Brad Pfaff: Building healthy, resilient soil

<https://lacrossetribune.com/3591365a-402d-11ee-9d83-3b348700f96d.html>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Courting disaster, The Wisconsin Supreme Court has virtually no credibility ... as an impartial, thoughtful, nonpartisan and fair body. To apply school yard logic, it's true that the conservatives and the Republicans started it. But the Democrats and the liberals have only accelerated the race toward oblivion.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/courting-disaster/>

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TOP STORIES

Takeaways from RNC debate: Candidates tangle on Trump, Ukraine and abortion

* Donald Trump was the subject that couldn't be avoided ... Someone has got to stop normalizing this conduct," Christie said, drawing boos from the audience. "Whether or not you believe the criminal charges are right or wrong, the conduct is beneath the office of President of the United States." Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," Ramaswamy countered that Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie of running a campaign of being based on "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Mike Pence, Tim Scott favor 15-week federal abortion ban, while Nikki Haley wants consensus in Congress ... DeSantis talked up a six-week bill he signed in Florida, didn't commit to a federal measure but said, "I'm going to stand on the side of life."

* Funding for Ukraine takes center stage ... DeSantis called on Europe "to pull its weight" ... Ramaswamy [alone] declared he would not support any more funding to Ukraine. Christie: "This is the Vladimir Putin who Donald Trump called brilliant and a genius. If we don't stand up to this kind of autocratic killing in the world, we will be

- [Workforce development](#)

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next." DeSantis said he'd send troops, sending Special forces over the border to stop Mexican cartels.

* Taking whacks at Joe Biden: DeSantis: "We need to send Joe Biden back to his basement and reverse American decline ... We must reverse Bidenomics." candidates were asked if they would support a mental acuity test for presidents over 70. ... Pence said the country shouldn't have a president who is too old or too young, while Ramaswamy said it was time for a generational change.

* Vivek Ramaswamy came out hot, and the others noticed it ... tried to claim the mantle of outsider ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What's he doing in the middle of a debate stage?" called climate change agenda "a hoax" and claiming "more people are dying of bad climate change policies than they are of actual climate."

... attacked the other candidates on stage as being "bought and paid for." Christie: "I have had enough already tonight of a guy who sounds like ChatGPT," noted "skinny guy with a funny last name" sounded like Obama, "I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of (person)." By Glauber and Andrea, MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/23/five-key-takeaways-from-the-republican-presidential-debate-in-milwaukee/70620272007/>

WI GOP ask newly elected liberal justice to not hear redistricting case

... during her campaign for the seat earlier this year she called the Republican-drawn maps "unfair" and "rigged" and said there needs to be "a fresh look at the gerrymandering question." ... [Protasiewicz] never committed to recusing herself from hearing the case. ... did promise to recuse herself from any case brought by [DPW] because it donated nearly \$10M to her campaign. There are two pending redistricting lawsuits, neither of which was brought by [DPW]. Reviews suits, plaintiffs, attorneys.

* legislative GOP motion to Supreme Court argued DPW will benefit from new maps, hence, she must recuse or violate their due process right, "Justice Protasiewicz's campaign statements reveal that her thumb is very much on the scale in this case." Speaker Vos has hinted at pursuing impeachment if she does not recuse.

* asked for comment, Protasiewicz emailed, "I appreciate your interest in the Wisconsin Supreme Court. I do not wish to comment, but thank you very much for reaching out to me."

* Plaintiff attorneys declined comment. By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/2a528003e32c3f51f9ef036f6d13f52e>

WEC Admin. Wolfe won't attend Senate reappointment hearing

... after [AG] Kaul [who is representing Wolfe in the matter] said the GOP-controlled Senate has no authority to vote on Wolfe's appointment. ... In a letter [Legis Council dir.] Sappenfield ... "This is not a close question under state law," Kaul said. "The plain language

of the pertinent statute requires that an administrator be appointed 'by a majority of the members of the commission.'" ... Senate Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections and Consumer Protection plans to meet Tuesday ... "As the state's chief election official, engaging with lawmakers is a critical part of my role, and I look forward to discussing the good work of the Commission with them in the future," Wolfe said. Review. Chair Knodl did not respond.

By Schmidt, WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

<https://madison.com/d34aa40e-4202-11ee-98c5-63f79a71f598.html>

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STORY TOPICS

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WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- In competing events, Trump and his 8 challengers offer split-screen view of GOP's future ... Trump, in a 45-minute interview with [ex-FNS host] Carlson released five minutes before the first GOP presidential debate began airing ... forcefully defended his actions leading up to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol ... again falsely claimed he won Wisconsin's presidential election and alleged all absentee voting was rigged again argued the 2020 election should have been overturned. ... [all but DeSantis among debate] opponents ... agreed [then-VP] Pence was right in refusing Trump's request to overturn the results ... "Anytime you have mail-in ballots, you're going to have massive cheating in your elections," Trump said, a claim that is not supported by evidence. ... Ramaswamy took most of the fire as his opponents viewed him as most likely to get a bump in polling following the debate.

* Ramaswamy said Trump was the "best president of the 21st century," accusing Christie campaign of being "vengeance and grievance" against one man.

* Christie: "You make me laugh, because you sit here talking about how you want to stand up for the rule of law and law and order. ... I am not going to bow to anyone, when we have a president of the United States who disrespects the Constitution."

... candidates overall were divided over ... six-week federal abortion ban ... DeSantis said he would "support the cause of life" as president, but did not stake a clear position [on federalizing the] state law he signed in Florida in April. Burgum, holding a pocket-sized Constitution, said that while he is pro-life, he believes a federal abortion ban would violate the 10th Amendment ... biggest clash on abortion came between Pence and Haley. [Haley called for "consensus" on a federal law. Pence: "Consensus is the opposite of leadership. It's not a states-only issue, it's a moral issue."]

* Haley blamed \$2.2T COVID stimulus bill for extant economic woes, "Donald Trump added \$8 trillion to our debt and our kids are never going to forgive us for this."

* Ramaswamy agreed with others on education, promoting choice, adding, "Education starts with the family, and the nuclear family is the greatest form of governance known to mankind."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-trump-interview-put-republican-split-screen-in-full-view/70620223007/>

- Milwaukee became a microcosm of nation's political divisions during GOP presidential debate ... candidates threw barbs and skirmished ... audience cheered

and jeered, at times forcing the candidates to wait to speak. ... But ... in the city in the hours and days leading up to the debate ... people from across the political spectrum made their voices heard but seemed to avoid clashes. ... Nationally known members of both parties were spotted in Milwaukee [including Trump Jr., DNC Chair Harrison.] Trump surrogate [US Rep.] Taylor Greene [pressed to renew Trump] with local host Sherwin Hughes on 101.7 The Truth, the news-talk radio station focusing on Milwaukee's Black community. ... anti-Biden bus made its way through downtown [reading "Why you shouldn't vote for him if you're Black."] ... [DPW] launched a "Cheddar Storm" fundraising drive featuring ... [Mayor Johnson, Exec. Crowley] welcoming next year's Republican National Convention to the city. ... site of a pre-event party for [Walker's] Young America's Foundation ... Overhead flew an airplane with a banner that read, "GOP 2024: A race for the extreme MAGA base." ... Outside of media tapings for conservative shows and a few food vendors, the crowd was spread thin. ... some young people in the crowd, most visitors were older. ... Walker and [U.S. Sen.] Johnson ... thought Trump should have visited Wisconsin despite his decision to pass on the debate. ... At the nearby No Studios in the Brewery District, more than 100 people packed together before the debate to listen to union and progressive leaders [including Harrison, U.S. Rep. Moore] offer a rebuttal. ... At the second protest, which started at Red Arrow Park [250+ attended, led by Voces' Neumann-Ortiz], speakers made it clear they would not support any candidate from the GOP. ... Speakers accused the Republican Party of being racist, sexist, transphobic and anti-worker. ... chanted, "Milwaukee is a union town" and, "Say it loud, say it clear, Republicans aren't welcome here." ... protesters had disbanded for the night shortly after 9 p.m. ... By 10:30 p.m. the Deer District was calm as debate attendees slowly filed out for the evening.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/milwaukee-became-microcosm-of-political-divisions-for-gop-debate/70605731007/>

- Did Vivek Ramaswamy plagiarize Barack Obama during the Republican presidential primary debate? Chris Christie thought so. ... "Who the heck is this skinny guy with a funny last name? What the heck is he doing in the middle of this debate stage?" Ramaswamy said early in the debate. ... "The last person who stood up here saying, 'What's a skinny guy with an odd last name doing up here?' was Barack Obama and I'm afraid we're dealing with the same type of amateur standing on the stage tonight," Christie said.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/gop-debate-vivek-ramaswamy-plagiarize-barack-obama-republican-debate-chris-christie-chatgpt/70666955007/>

- Trump Jr. suggests dad will skip next one, too ... "Would you name a single political consultant who is not an imbecile who would say, 'You know what? You have a 60-point lead. Why don't you give someone who has got 1%, less than 1%, give him two hours, three hours, whatever it may be, unfettered access to try to land a strike? That doesn't make sense. ... Ron DeSantis has his opportunity tonight and totally missed it. Totally missed it. ... Vivek destroyed him."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/at-gop-debate-donald-trump-jr-suggests-donald-trump-will-skip-next-one-too/70666062007/>

- Mayor Rhodes-Conway outside RNC debate venue invites skeptics to Madison to dispute the idea of a 'nation in decline' ... [in Dem presser denounced "MAGA extremism."] ... "I'm sure that they're going to talk about freedom on the debate stage tonight. But what about the freedom to make my own health care decision? I guess that their version of freedom doesn't include women," she said. ... "I would invite anybody who thinks we are a nation in decline to come to cities, to come to places like Madison, Wisconsin where we have the lowest unemployment rate or damn near close to it in the country. Where our population growth and our economic growth is driving the state of Wisconsin. Where we have a thriving university despite the refusal of Republicans at the state level to invest in it," she said. ... drew a sharp reaction from critics on social media who called her, and Madison, out of touch. ... the summary was, "Come visit cities run by Democrats." DPW chair Wikler touted statewide winning streak, including Justice Protasiewicz.

<https://madison.com/0a5075e6-421c-11ee-a58a-9ffd199f97d2.html>

- National issues were front and center at first GOP presidential debate in Milwaukee, Outside Fiserv Forum, Trump supporters and protesters braved 100-degree heat to speak out ... "I'm not terribly shocked by the lack of Wisconsin content," [MU prof.] Azari [emailed]. "We're not an early or influential primary state, and the discussion is national." ... "Wisconsin is the heart of the Midwest, and if we lose the heart, we can't function and expect to win the presidency," [SEIU's] Lee said. "Wisconsin is key and important. It is a purple state that we have been able to win since 2016, but it is vital and key to the path to the White House." Pro-Trumpers, protesters comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-debate-milwaukee-rnc-fox-news-national-issues-wisconsin>

- Here's what Republican voters at Milwaukee debate gatherings had to say about the candidates: interviews at AFP, other watch parties.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/voters-react-to-what-they-saw-at-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620324007/>

- GOP presidential hopefuls take aim at Bidenomics, each other: pre-debate and debate excerpts. RNC-DNC chairs, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, DPW chair Wikler, RPW chair Schimming comment.

<https://captimes.com/da988408-6742-5544-9cea-a0d0e8e0d621.html>

- In GOP debate spin room, candidates, surrogates discuss winning Wisconsin, Milwaukee Bucks ... [Haley campaign's Dawson] notes strong Wisconsin fundraising ... [O'Malley for Pence] says food and drink is the key ... Trump advisor [Miller] compares Ron De Santis to ... Scott Walker ... Burgum talks visit with Milwaukee Bucks surgeon [for blown Achilles], 2021 playoffs

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/in-gop-debate-spin-room-candidates-surrogates-talk-wisconsin-bucks/70666076007/>

- Donald who? Fox barely mentions Trump in first half of debate until 10-minute indictment discussion

<https://apnews.com/8049cd2370d887946c8064ebdbd84c05>

- Takeaways from the first Republican presidential primary debate ... Candidates go after Ramaswamy ... DeSantis doesn't stand out ... Christie doesn't have a breakout moment ... Candidates draw distinctions on abortion ... DeSantis tries, but fails, to duck January 6 question after being pressed by Pence ... Haley leans towards the general election ... Scott sticks to Mr. Nice Guy routine. Videos include viewing party in IA.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/08/23/politics/takeaways-republican-debate/index.html>

- Bice: Winners and losers from the Republican presidential debate in Milwaukee ... GOP field is being left in the dust by former President Donald Trump, who didn't even show up for the debate. ... Winner: Vivek Ramaswamy ... Loser: Ron DeSantis ... Winner: Mike Pence ... Loser: Chris Christie ... Winner: Milwaukee ... Loser: Tim Scott ... Winner: Oliver Anthony ... Loser: Doug Burgum ... Winner: Joe Biden ... Loser: Asa Hutchinson

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/elections/2023/08/24/the-winners-and-losers-from-the-republican-presidential-debate/70620165007/>

- Winners and losers from the first Republican debate ... Winners: Donald Trump ... risk for Trump in not showing up was that he wouldn't be able to defend himself. He didn't have to. ...Vivek Ramaswamy ... [unfunding Ukraine war] was about the only moment that the audience wasn't on Ramaswamy's side. ... Pence's Jan. 6 decision ... Losers: Ron DeSantis ... GOP's political pride ... Mike Pence and Tim Scott ... Fox News

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/23/who-won-republican-debate/>

- Ramaswamy Seizes Spotlight as DeSantis Hangs Back: 7 Debate Takeaways ... It was the Ramaswamy show. ... DeSantis avoided attacks -- and ended up on the periphery. ... Policy clashes [Ukraine, climate, abortion] showed G.O.P. divides. ... Pence came out punching. ... Haley positioned herself as the pragmatist. ... Boos underscored Christie's challenge. ... Trump avoided the debate, and meaningful attacks. Some video clips.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/24/us/politics/republican-debate-takeaways.html>

- Who won, who lost and who fizzled in the first Republican debate, DeSantis was a non-factor as Republicans piled on Ramaswamy, instead.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/08/24/republican-debate-who-won-takeaways-00112691>

- Debate does little to dissuade voters from Trump at one Republican watch party: At the Red Mouse Bar and Grill in Cross Plains ... "I might be wrong, I've been wrong before," Bernier told the Wisconsin Examiner. "I think most people, a lot of Republican voters, very devoted Republican voters, are kind of sick of it." ... "They can begin to focus Republican primary voters on issues for the first time in eight years really," Ribble told the Examiner days before the debate. "If they focus on issues, what are we going to do about the national debt, Social Security and Medicare, immigration reform? If they relegate Trump to irrelevance at the debate, I think it can be positive to Republican primary voters." Some of the 15 attendees comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/24/debate-does-little-to-dissuade-voters>

- Tim Scott, Chris Christie, Vivek Ramaswamy: Wisconsin voters debate who won first debate ... correspondent Shaquille Brewster watched the first GOP debate with conservative Trump voters in suburban Waukesha, Wisconsin and explored how voters viewed the candidates, the war in Ukraine, who would be an ideal vice presidential candidate. 6:46 video

<https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/video/tim-19147987721>

- Inside RNC's Milwaukee vendor fair showing off local businesses ... "This is what it's all about," RNC Milwaukee Host Committee chairman Reince Priebus said during a brief press appearance at the event. ... [RNC Chair] McDaniel said the vendors at Baird Center included 48 that were minority-owned and 45 that were women-owned. ... "We're looking forward to all businesses in Milwaukee being able to cash in and be a part of the excitement here in Milwaukee next year," [Mayor] Johnson said. ... drew 1K+ people in its first two hours

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/go-inside-rncs-milwaukee-expo-showing-off-local-b.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Dems would punish sham lawsuits as GOP senator continues fighting local news site: Sen. Tomczyk sued Wausau Pilot & Review for defamation over reporting the new site stands by, backed by 3 witnesses. Judge tossed his suit saying he failed to prove defamation, but Tomczyk is appealing. Site founder/editor Siewert has about \$200K in legal bills so far, "He knows we don't have deep pockets and that continuing to fight this lawsuit is very damaging to us financially and could shut us down." Dem bill would allow judge to dismiss such suits and order plaintiff to pay defendant's legal fees. Story's publicity and GoFundMe page have raised about \$100K for defense. Tomczyk's office declined comment, atty. Fernholz did not respond.

<https://apnews.com/1bf0e032d446cc9a5bc9e99c1ac2cd54>

- Democrats propose anti-SLAPP legislation as Republican senator's lawsuit against Wausau publication continues

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/democrats-propose-anti-slapp-legislation>

- SOS Godlewski on lawsuit: I don't have any records

<https://captimes.com/news/99949e6e-abaa-525d-ae9e-7cee13d62c6e.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Second Aug Prep school could open at former Cardinal Stritch campus in 2025

<https://biztimes.com/second-aug-prep-school-could-open-at-former-cardinal>

- Notre Dame School of Milwaukee expands campus with third building, Will serve boys in grades 5-8, help grow enrollment

<https://biztimes.com/notre-dame-school-of-milwaukee-expands-campus-with>

- 12K+ Wisconsinites to see student loan forgiveness under changes to income-based repayment plans: Harvard prof. Dynarski, UW prof. Hillman comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/more-12-000-wisconsinites-see-student-loan-forgiveness-under->

[changes-income-based-repayment-plans](#)

ELECTIONS [^top^](#)

- Moms for Liberty is growing in Wisconsin as critics call them extremists, The parental rights organization has built membership from groups that formed during the pandemic and is looking to shape policy and elections ... co-founder Tiffany Justice defended an Indiana chapter ... "One of our moms in a newsletter quotes Hitler. I stand with that mom," she said to applause. "If [@Moms4Liberty](#) is a 'hate group,' add me to the list," GOP presidential candidate and former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley tweeted a few days later. ... One of the Kenosha members, State Rep. Amanda Nedweski, R-Pleasant Prairie, went on to run for county board and state Assembly. ... Book removals in the works ... Liberal groups, including Stop Moms for Liberty, Defense of Democracy and Red Wine & Blue, have formed to counter Moms for Liberty, mobilizing suburban, Democratic voters at the school board level and starting campaigns related to racial equity and stopping book bans. Wood County Moms for Liberty chair Schueller, Ozaukee Co. Moms for Liberty's Johnson and Schroeder, members Tremelling and Scheuer, PFLAG's Johnson, advocate Norcross, WELPH's Lambert comment.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/moms-for-liberty-wisconsin-critics-call>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Legislators press DNR policy board appointees on wolves, pollution, sandhill crane hunt ... sporting heritage committee didn't get a lot of hard answers from Sharon Adams, Dylan Jennings or Paul Buhr during a 90-minute hearing ... precursor to a committee vote on whether to recommend Senate confirmation. ... trio revealed little about their personal stances, keeping their answers vague. ... don't need confirmation to serve ... But a Senate vote to reject them would result in them losing their jobs. All 7 Boarders are Evers appointees, but only Smith [2019] and West [2020] have been confirmed; Buhr is a re-appointment. Naas and VandenBrook were invited but Naas had a teaching commitment and VandenBrook was out of the country.

* Chair Stafsholt asked each appointee if ... DNR's wolf management plan should set a hard population limit and whether they believe people should hunt wolves. DNR draft plan recommends population management ranges between 350 and 1,200. Stafsholt bill mandates firm population limit. Stafsholt noted 40 years of wolf study should yield firm population answer, questioned Jennings on wolf-tribe spirituality.

* Sen. Felzkowski asked each about hunting sandhill cranes to stop crop poaching and who should pay for PFAS clean-up.

... Paraphrased answers. Reviews PFAS cities and suits.

<https://apnews.com/679946d73de54265ac9e84f1c35c87e3>

- Evers appointees to NR Board questioned on wolf hunting by Senate committee

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/evers-appointees-to-natural-resources>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- HHS' Westergaard renews vaccine call with COVID-19 uptick, looming flu season

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/health-department-renews-vaccine-call>

- Abortion-ban states pour millions into pregnancy centers with little medical care ...

Legislators in states with some of the strictest abortion bans are pouring millions into pregnancy resource centers, painting them as solutions to poor birth outcomes and the lack of access to adequate prenatal and postpartum care. ... In 2017, MO became the first state to issue tax credits for donations to pregnancy resource centers and it recently removed its limit on how many tax credits the state can issue. [MS, LA have laws]. ... centers can't be associated with abortion providers or refer clients for abortions. ... AL, KS, NE considered their own tax credits in this year's legislative sessions. ... The Southeast is home to about 900 pregnancy resource centers, more than a third of the national total,

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/24/abortion-ban-states-pour-millions-into-pregnancy-centers-with-little-medical-care/>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- WI housing market: Some regions see inventory increase, prices moderate: in WRA data

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/2023/08/24/wisconsin-home-sales-drop-in-july-while-economist-sees-positive-signs/70611350007/>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Rockwell Automation building hydroponic farm at Milwaukee HQ ... partnering with Green Bay-based Fork Farms ... an agriculture technology startup ... More than 70 Fork Farms "Flex Acres" will be installed ... Each Flex Acre is capable of producing over 100 pounds of leafy greens and other vegetables every month. ... green roof is also home to more than a dozen varieties of native perennials and in 2022, a small colony of honeybees was introduced. ... "Clock Tower Farms will engage employees and the community while serving as a showcase for manufacturers spanning diverse industries who want to see sustainable solutions in action," said CEO Moret

<https://biztimes.com/rockwell-automation-building-hydroponic-farm-at-milwaukee-hq/>

- AI, genetic testing: what washed up at Epic's global conference

<https://captimes.com/4cc21fb9-79f6-533a-b4f7-300fddcce032.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee streetcar to remain free to ride, could expand weekend service ... currently funded by a combination of state and federal transit grants, revenue from selling advertising on the system and, if needed, money from the city Transportation Fund. ... Atlanta's streetcar system, for example, implemented fares in 2016. ... \$1-per-ride fare accounted for 6.2% of its 2022 operating revenue. The system collected \$65.9 million in fares in 2022, down from \$133 million pre-pandemic in 2019.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/23/milwaukee-streetcar>

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT [^top^](#)

- GOP lawmakers propose eliminating work permits for Wisconsin's 14- and 15-year-olds, Labor groups say [Tomczyk-Moses-Binsfeld bill] rolls back protections for minors in the workplace: sponsors, AFL-CIO's Bloomingdale, WDC's Flores comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/gop-lawmakers-propose-eliminating-work-permits-wisconsins-14-and-15-year-olds>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- CT Editorial: Trump's refusal to debate is an insult to Wisconsin voters

<https://captimes.com/b83bf4aa-3dc2-5336-8185-b10902639b24.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dan O'Donnell: What the real winner of the first debate can teach every single candidate (including Trump) ... The biggest winner of the first Republican presidential debate wasn't on the stage. He wasn't in Milwaukee and no, he wasn't on Twitter talking with Elon Musk. He was somewhere south of Richmond continuing to take the world by storm. Oliver Anthony, an unassuming singer-songwriter from Virginia, has the number one song in America--a monumental achievement for an unsigned artist made even more impressive by the fact that his "Rich Men North of Richmond" features no production whatsoever.

<https://www.maciverinstitute.com/2023/08/what-the-real-winner-of-the-first-debate-can-teach-every-single-candidate-including-trump/>

- David Blaska: About last night: Misconstruing the first Republican presidential debate

<https://davidblaska.com/2023/08/24/about-last-night-3/>

- Owen Robinson: Quick thoughts on the first GOP debate ... It was good to see an actual debate that displayed the rich spectrum of opinions in the Republican Party on important issues.

<https://www.bootsandsabers.com/2023/08/24/quick-thoughts-on-the-first-gop-debate/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Ramaswamy won ... He didn't win with me, understand. ... But I think he won with Republican voters.

<https://yellowstripsdeadarmadillos.org/2023/08/23/ramaswamy-won/>

- Van Mobley: Trumpkins cry "Vive la Vivek!": The best part of Wednesday night was Trump's interview with Tucker Carlson. Trump was on his game and laid out the policy issues at the core of his campaign.

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/van-mobley-trumpkins-cry-vive-la-vivek/>

- Dave Zweifel: Consumer protection efforts save consumers billions, so the GOP wants to end them

<https://captimes.com/18e116d3-4687-5b32-8b49-57b6448dd40a.html>

- Spencer Black: Cheater Vos doubles down on gerrymandering

<https://captimes.com/e18e4782-4cd1-53b1-b24a-f7280faae212.html>

- Ruth Conniff: Wisconsin's Trump enablers are still undermining democracy

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/22/wisconsins-trump-enablers-are-still>

- Retired farmer Jim Goodman: What's missing from discussion of the Farm Bill

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/08/23/whats-missing-from-discussion>

- Bruce Murphy: How David Crowley led on sales tax: The inside story of how the county exec and mayor helped pass state legislation to save Milwaukee.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/23/murphys-law-how-david-crowley-led-on-sales-tax/>

- Sen. Brad Pfaff: Building healthy, resilient soil

<https://lacrossetribune.com/3591365a-402d-11ee-9d83-3b348700f96d.html>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Courting disaster, The Wisconsin Supreme Court has virtually no credibility ... as an impartial, thoughtful, nonpartisan and fair body. To apply school yard logic, it's true that the conservatives and the Republicans started it. But the Democrats and the liberals have only accelerated the race toward oblivion.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/courting-disaster/>

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Fri Aug 25 2023



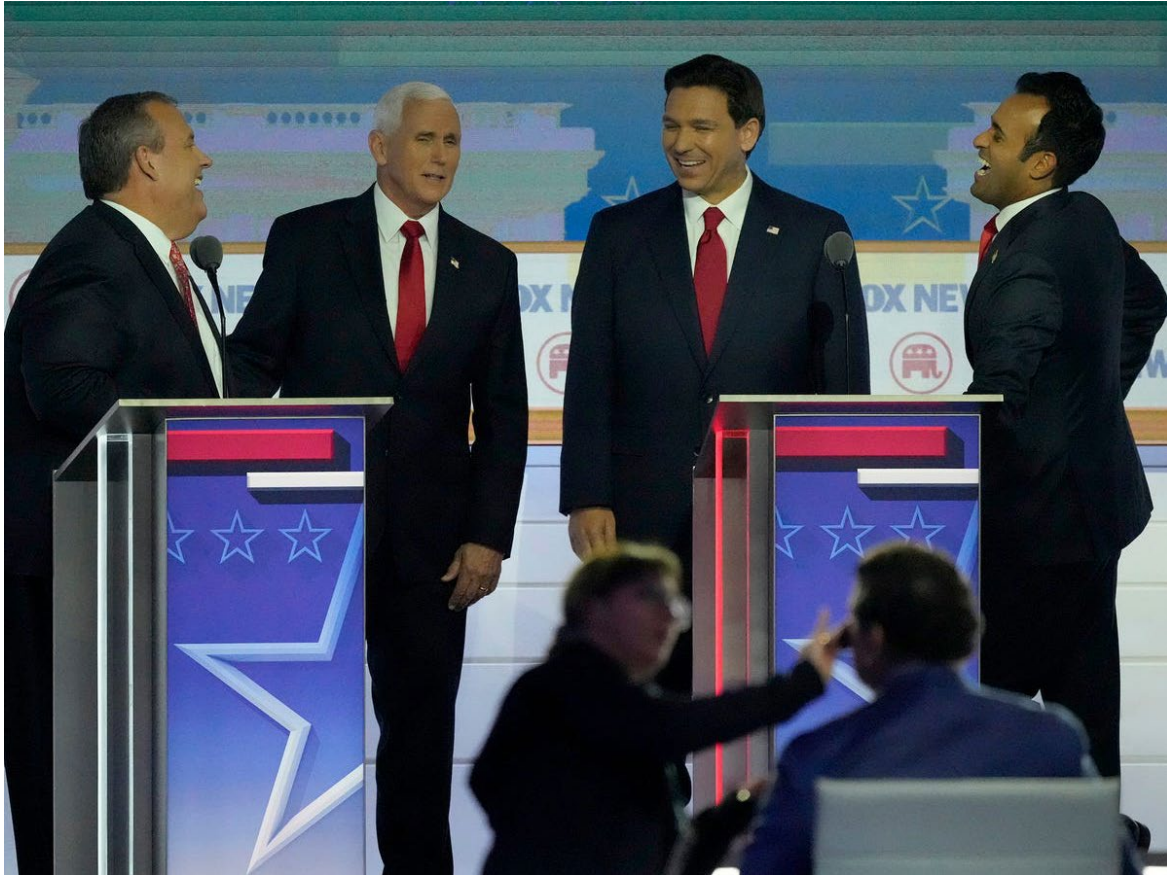
Bill Glauber | General assignment reporter

I'm Bill Glauber and this is the Daily Briefing newsletter by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. [Sign up here to get it sent to your inbox each morning.](#)

We finally get a break in the weather Friday, with temperatures in the low 80's under partly cloudy skies, and a few degrees cooler by the lake. The

weekend is shaping up to be splendid, with temperatures in the 70's on Saturday and Sunday.

Debate cleanup



From left, former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, former Vice President Mike Pence, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and biotech entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy joke with one another during a commercial break at the first Republican presidential debate on Aug. 23, 2023, in Milwaukee.

Mike De Sisti/Milwaukee Journal Sentinel via USA TODAY Network

For Milwaukee, the first big political event of the 2024 cycle went off without a hitch.

We're talking about Wednesday night's GOP presidential primary debate at Fiserv Forum. It was the appetizer, if you will, before next year's main dish when Republicans return to Milwaukee for their national convention.

The debate was [spicy and the protests were peaceful](#). Deer District looked swell. And everyone survived the heat dome.

Columnist Daniel Bice has [the winners and losers](#). And national [outlets weighed in as well](#).

[Reporters Molly Beck and Lawrence Andrea provide some further analysis of the split-screen night](#), as eight candidates in Milwaukee fought for airtime against former President Donald Trump, who took his act to X, formerly known as Twitter.

Analyst Craig Gilbert writes that the [debate without Trump gave the other, lesser-known candidates more exposure](#).

I spent early Thursday at The Original Pancake House in Brookfield, where Brian Kilmeade of Fox News Channel's Fox & Friends held court with diners. Among those who swung by were Republican National Committee Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel, North Dakota Gov. Doug Burgum and Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis.

The atmosphere in the restaurant was cozy and friendly. They opened at 5 a.m., two hours earlier than usual. The staff was terrific – service with a smile, even well before dawn. And the pancakes were great.

The RNC wraps up its meetings today, with an anticipated announcement of the host city for the 2028 convention.

Don't miss these



The Rosebud Cinema, 6823 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa, has been closed since March 17, 2020, when gathering places were shut down amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Posters outside the building still promote movies that were scheduled to open in April 2020.

Chris Foran / Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

- Dining critic Rachel Bernhard reports on this [fall's return of Milwaukee's Southside Dining Week](#).
- [A meeting will explore nonprofit role at Wauwatosa's Rosebud Cinema](#), closed since the pandemic.
- The Baird Center is going to be a key venue for next year's RNC. [Here's what you need to know about the expansion](#).
- [Matt LaFleur names rookie quarterback Sean Clifford](#) as top backup to Jordan Love.
- [From Peso Pluma to Nelly to Diana Ross: 10 top Milwaukee concerts for September 2023](#),

The drug you need is in short supply. Why this is becoming such a common, frustrating problem?

Reporter Devi Shastri digs into a difficult issue facing patients and their doctors – [coping with near historic drug shortages](#).

Shastri writes:

"The American Society of Health System Pharmacists, which tracks drug shortages, found that in the second quarter of the year, there were 309 active, ongoing drug shortages, the highest number in nearly a decade. In a survey of [more than 1,000 pharmacy](#) professionals, more than 99% said they were experiencing shortages. Among the most critical have been chemotherapy drugs that have platinum in them, including carboplatin and cisplatin."

Benjamin Parsons, chair for hematology at Gundersen Health, told Shastri there is no clear answer to the shortages, but change is needed on a systemic level.

"It's a real travesty to run into this situation in a modern age where we would hope that we would have better supply chains that wouldn't run into these issues," he said.

Student's duct tape dress is part of Mount Mary fashion archive



Oak Creek High School senior Ritika Singh made a dress out of duct tape and entered it into a college scholarship contest.

Paige Block, Allison Rydzewski, Josiah Inthalaphet

Amy Schwabe has a delightful story on [recent Oak Creek High School graduate Ritika Singh and her duct tape dress.](#)

Turns out that even though Singh didn't win a big contest with the work, she made a dress for the ages.

Schwabe writes:

"[Singh took hundreds of hours](#) out of her busy senior year spring to design, create and model a 15-pound dress made out of 38 rolls of duct tape. She entered the dress into the [Stuck at Prom scholarship contest by Duck Brand](#), hoping to win a \$10,000 cash scholarship.

"She didn't win the contest, but she did achieve what she called a "happy outcome" when she got a call from Donna Ricco, an executive fellow in the

fashion department at Mount Mary. Ricco had been contacted by Mary Elliot Nowakowski, the now-retired curator for the university's fashion archive collection. Nowakowski suggested that Ricco find a way to procure Singh's dress for the archive, where it will be preserved for fashion design students to reference, sometimes be displayed as part of fashion exhibitions and cataloged in the university's digital archive."

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Bill Glauber can be reached at (414) 224-2526 or bill.glauber@jrn.com. Follow him on Twitter at [@BillGlauber](#).

TOP STORIES

Bice: The winners and losers from the GOP debate in Milwaukee



With Donald Trump absent, candidates Vivek Ramaswamy, Ron DeSantis, MIke Pence and others tried to break through at the GOP debate in Milwaukee.

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Trump and his 8 challengers offer split- screen view of GOP's future

Trump and eight of his presidential primary challengers spoke to voters Wednesday night in a split-screen duel for the future of the Republican Party,

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Meeting is called to look at reopening the Rosebud Cinema in Wauwatosa

The Rosebud, a neighborhood movie



theater, has been shuttered since March 2020. A community meeting has been set to explore options for reopening it.

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Here's what you need to know about the Baird Center's expansion

The \$456 million expansion of Milwaukee's Baird Center is advancing. Here's what to know before it hosts the 2024 Republican National Convention.

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Rookie quarterback Sean Clifford named top backup to Jordan Love

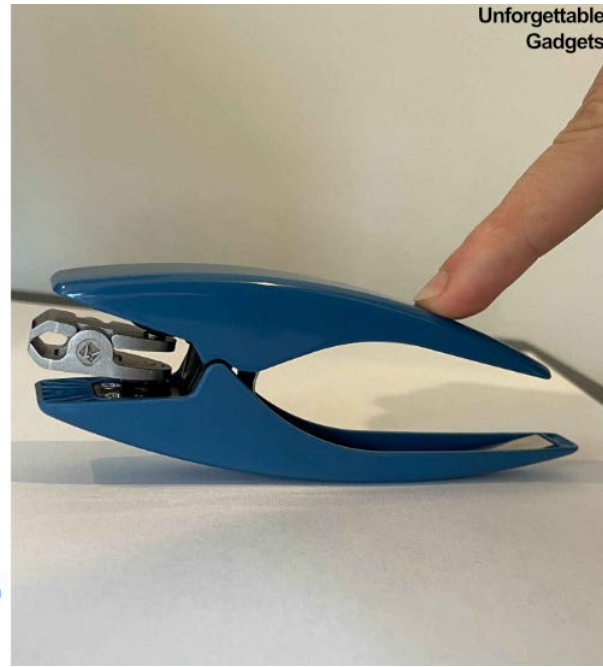
The four-year starter at Penn State has impressed in camp, especially during the 2-minute drill.

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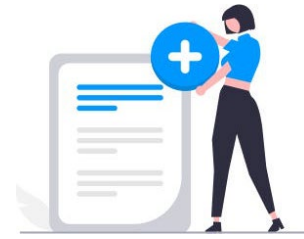
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From: [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)
To: [Weix, Stephanie - GOV](#)
Subject: Your Week: Milwaukee takes the national stage with presidential debate
Date: Friday, August 25, 2023 2:01:57 PM

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Fri Aug 25 2023



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Wisconsin gun store owners take in firearms hoping to lessen suicide

Gun store owners in Wisconsin and across the country are offering to take in firearms from people who want to store their guns during difficult times.

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UW-Madison to bear the brunt of UW System's state budget cut

The University of Wisconsin System lost \$32 million in the state budget but might be able to recoup it. For now, one campus is



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"He's going to correct you and get you right, and then he's going to come back and move on like the mature quarterback he is," Luke Musgrave said.

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Johnson condemns violence, insists on prosecutions

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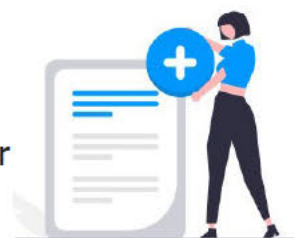
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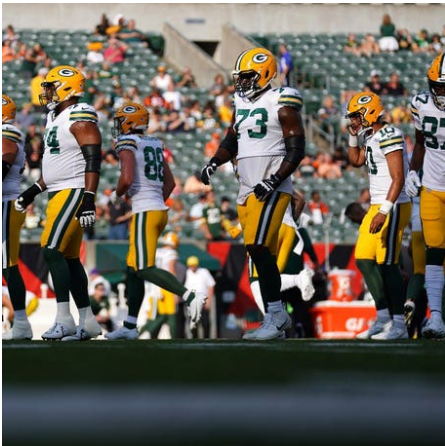
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From: WisPolitics.com
To: [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#)
Subject: MON News Summary: Fitzgerald visits Syria; First lady Biden to visit Madison Thursday
Date: Monday, August 28, 2023 10:42:52 AM

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TOP STORIES

Members of US Congress make a rare visit to opposition-held northwest Syria

Three US Congress members [Cline, Hill, Fitzgerald] have made a brief visit to opposition-held northwest Syria in the first known trip to the war-torn country by American lawmakers in six years ... facility is a school for orphans that is a project of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, a U.S.-based Syrian opposition organization that facilitated the lawmakers' trip. ... also met with opposition and humanitarian leaders. Last Congressional trips were McCain, Gabbard in 2017. By Knickmeyer & Sewell, AP <https://www.channel3000.com/c96c23a0-2a8c-50c2-983f-37e981719fab.html>

First lady Jill Biden to travel to Madison

First lady Jill Biden is planning to make a stop in Madison [Thursday], capping off a three-stop visit around the Midwest. In the afternoon, as part of the Biden Cancer Moonshot, the First Lady and Sen. Baldwin will participate in a tour and listening session to highlight the importance of early detection and improving access to cancer screenings. In addition, Jill Biden will

- [Law and order](#)
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deliver remarks at an educator appreciation event with the National Education Association and American Federation of Teachers in Madison. Biden will also attend and deliver remarks at a political finance event with Baldwin in the evening. By Davis, WMTV
<https://www.nbc15.com/2023/08/26/first-lady-jill-biden-travel-madison/>

Johnson says Wisconsin fake electors should not face charges for 'political activity'

... "The fact that we are criminalizing political activity, that's a danger to our democracy. It shouldn't happen," Johnson told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel following a roundtable focused on barriers people face after incarceration. [referenced alternative Dem electors in HI in 1960 pre-recount when Nixon won by 100 votes; JFK was winner after recount] ... "It's a way to preserve a legal position, should courts rule that there were issues in the election. Democrats have done this, Republicans have done this," Johnson said. ... said he has not been subpoenaed in a [Trump] federal grand jury ... "There has to be accountability for perpetrating the big lie," [Baldwin] said in Port Washington. "We know who won the election in Wisconsin. The folks who oversee the election said it was the most secure election we ever had." ... A jury trial in a civil lawsuit against the Republican fake electors will take place in Dane County Circuit Court in September 2024, just weeks before the presidential election. By Katzenberger, Hope
 MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-wisconsin-fake-electors-shouldnt-be-charged/70680003007/>

Brewers principal owner is optimistic about stadium negotiations, wants to keep team in Milwaukee.

Brewers Am Fam Field lease expires in 2030, with SEWPBPD paying stadium upkeep/improvements, for which board claims NSF. Evers' \$290M deal extended lease to 2043. Speaker Vos pooh-poohed that and suggested a lengthier extension.

* Attanasio before 5-4 win over Padres at AmFam Field: "I'm optimistic. We just have to get the three constituencies -- which would be the governor, the Assembly and the Senate -- to come together. ... We have very good chemistry with the politicians in terms of having a shared goal. The goal is to keep the team here for another generation, whether that's 2040, or now frankly they are talking about 2050, which (is) great by me. ... We very much want to stay here. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the reality that while this ballpark, it's beautiful, the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast. The simple fact is the district is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. We're

trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money, and not in a band-aid kind of way." By AP
<https://apnews.com/97f3ca909423b3a8eb95ced312048f7f>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Inside spin room after GOP debate in Milwaukee, candidates seek post-debate bump, 'UPFRONT' with instant access to the candidates, new analysts on impact of Milwaukee debate: Conway, Priebus, Walker comment.

<https://www.wisn.com/article/upfront-recap-inside-spin-room-after-gop-debate-in-milwaukee-candidates-seek-post-debate-bump/44914289>

- Trump's drumbeat of lies about the 2020 election keeps getting louder. Here are the facts ... [in MI, PA, AZ, NV, GA] In Wisconsin, a recount slightly improved Biden's victory over Trump by 87 votes, increasing Biden's statewide lead to 20,682, or 0.6 percentage points. A nonpartisan audit that concluded a year after the election made recommendations on how to improve future elections in Wisconsin but did not uncover evidence of widespread voter fraud in the state, leading the Republican co-chair of the audit committee to declare that "the election was largely safe and secure." The state's Assembly speaker, a Republican, ordered a separate review, which a state judge said found "absolutely no evidence of election fraud." ... exhaustive AP investigation in 2021 found fewer than 475 instances of confirmed voter fraud across six battleground states ... almost every instance of voter fraud was committed by individuals [of both parties] acting alone ... almost always caught before the fraudulent ballot was counted ... Trump was repeatedly advised by members of his own administration that there was no evidence of widespread fraud. ... courts heard Trump's legal challenges and rejected them ... conspiracy theories about voting machines were unfounded ... claims involving suitcases and ballot mules are debunked.

<https://apnews.com/4fc26546b07962fdbf9d66e739fbb50d>

- John Nichols: The Conservatives Who Read the Constitution-- and Found It Disqualifies Trump, Asa Hutchinson is the only Republican presidential candidate with the courage to discuss the 14th Amendment.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/asa-hutchinson-trump-constitution/>

- DNC Chair Jaime Harrison Energizes Milwaukee Ahead of Republican Debate

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/dnc-chair-jaime-harrison>

- RNC ends summer meetings by picking Houston to host 2028 convention ... Houston last hosted a major political convention in 1992 when Republicans nominated President George H.W. Bush.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/republicans-pick-houston-for-2028-national-convention-gop/70679438007/>

- Houston will host the 2028 Republican National Convention, GOP says
<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/houston/article/republican-national-convention-announcement-18306660.php>

US SENATE RACE [^top^](#)

- Bice: Tammy Baldwin said to 'stay home' in 2020. She'd just taken a personal trip with tax dollars ... "Don't host or go to gatherings with people outside your household," Baldwin said on Nov. 25, 2020. "And just stay home if you can." ... Records show she billed taxpayers \$630 to fly from Madison to New York City, where her partner lives, for an extended weekend from Nov. 5-9, 2020, before heading back to Washington, D.C. Both Wisconsin and New York City were then experiencing a surge in COVID cases. Wisconsin was also on New York's travel restriction list at the time, too. ...

* Nov. 5 tweet: "Count this, [@realDonaldTrump](#). Today, Wisconsin has 5,922 new #COVID19 infections, 223 more people have been hospitalized, and 38 people lost their lives because of your complete and total failure to provide leadership we can count on."

* Nov. 9 tweet: "We have a raging #COVID19 outbreak in Wisconsin and across the country. This pandemic is getting worse and we need to start working together to contain it so we can get our economy on the right track and move forward."

* Nov. 10 DC presser: "My home state has one of the worst outbreaks of COVID-19 infections in the country, and we are experiencing the worst phase of this pandemic since it began ... In my state, the pandemic is getting worse, not better."

... made no trips to New York City before 2018, the year Baldwin met Brisbane at a fundraiser for New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand. Baldwin and Brisbane together own a \$1.3 million rooftop condo just steps from the U.S. Capitol. ... On eight of the nine trips [to NYC since 2018], Baldwin billed the taxpayers when on official business in the Big Apple, or she used her own funds or frequent-flyer points to cover the cost of flights if the New York leg of the trip was primarily personal. ... Just recently, Baldwin's office reimbursed the federal government for the cost of [Nov. 5-9] trip after being asked about it ... campaign staffers said the trip had been erroneously marked as official travel. Baldwin decided to reimburse the federal government, they said, "out of an abundance of caution" and without being asked. More details on Baldwin's mixed biz/personal travel.

* NRSC's Mitchell: "It takes a special kind of arrogance to tell Wisconsin taxpayers not to see their loved ones for the holidays while you bill them for a vacation to see your girlfriend."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/28/bice-baldwin-pays-back-cost-of-personal-trip-during-covid-surge/70672630007/>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- City of Stanley sues landlord over blighted property ... After numerous failed attempts to get a landlord [Kerry Brown] to clean up a yard
<https://www.leadertelegram.com/99fafb06-436d-11ee-b240-03602abb1be5.html>

- Bayfield pursues parking fees ... to address ... lack of revenue to pay for street repairs and other infrastructure .. and cars left parked all day ... Mayor Gordon

Ringberg said. "We want people to come in and do some shopping and to have a place to park to do that."

<https://www.apg-wi.com/01bbe0fa-4370-11ee-9a9b-838ea99a90fd.html>

CONSUMER PROTECTION [^top^](#)

- Whitewater tax preparer charged with tax crimes after filing 340 false returns

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/29f5ebd8-ec3d-526c-b161-175f5a48b860.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court flips liberal, creating a 'seismic shift' ... Conservatives had controlled the court for 15 years, during which they upheld a voter ID law, approved limits on collective bargaining for public workers, banned absentee ballot drop boxes and shut down a wide-ranging campaign finance investigation into Republicans. ... fielding judges and prosecutors as candidates, sharpening tough-on-crime messages and securing the support of deep-pocketed groups aligned with Republicans. But in recent years, liberals in Wisconsin have recruited candidates with similar backgrounds and seized on popular political themes. [DPW] has poured millions in ... with the retirement of a conservative justice ... Janet Protasiewicz [who] won by 11 points and flipped control of the court [gave] liberals a 4-3 majority when she was sworn in on Aug. 1. Liberals have gone on offense [in WI]. One [Dem] group [sued] over voting rules even before Protasiewicz was sworn in ... two sets of Democratic voters [sued over redistricting] within days of her taking office. A week later, [AG Kaul sought quick ruling on 1849 abortion law to speed it to Supreme Court.

* Ziegler downplayed the possibility of suing her colleagues but didn't rule it out. "I think legal action is not good for the court. Honestly, I'm sad that it's even come to the point where that might be discussed," saw Koschnick firing as "raw exercise of overreaching power."

* Justice Dallet attributed the liberals' action to Ziegler's ignoring requests to schedule a meeting on the new administrative group, "It is deeply inappropriate for the Chief Justice to continue to refuse to engage with her colleagues, but instead to publicly litigate these issues."

* Bradley noted 4-3 July ruling denying CEC for DEI class, "The new majority will reverse this court's order at its first opportunity."

* Senate Dem Leader Agard said GOP knows they will lose cases, "They can't stand it. They're mad. It sucks to lose elections, and I say that with all sincerity. It's not fun to lose, and they haven't had to lose that much."

* conservative ex-justice Wilcox: "The main thing that concerns me is the politicization of this court. Both sides. That's distressful to me because I tried as a justice when I was here to be ... evenhanded and fair-minded. And I don't think they're going to have that anymore."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/27/wisconsin-supreme-court-liberal/>

- Ron Johnson calls on Janet Protasiewicz to recuse from maps cases ... would support lawmakers impeaching Protasiewicz if she did not recuse herself. ... "They have their constitutional duties and responsibilities as well, and that may be the next step," Johnson said. "But hopefully she'll do the right thing." ... former campaign spokesman for Protasiewicz did not immediately have a reaction to Johnson's comments. ... U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, called Johnson's claim "ridiculous ... partisan

hackery ... a guy who has no credibility. He is a U.S. Senator, but he's also a joke by most standards." Reviews statements by Speaker Vos, Justice Bradley, Sen. Wanggaard at hearing on Judicial Commission appointees. Wanggaard said he had not spoken with Leader LeMahieu about scheduling a vote. LeMahieu did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-protasiewicz-to-recuse-from-wisconsin-supreme-court-redistributing-maps-cases/70679384007/>

- Jacob Blake files new federal lawsuit against Kenosha, Ofc. Sheskey ... argue excessive force was used by Sheskey and Blake's Fourth Amendment rights [unreasonable search/seizure] were violated. ... retired Police Chief Daniel Miskinis and other officers failed to properly train and supervise officers, and as a result Blake's 14th Amendment rights [equal protection] were violated after he suffered lasting injuries. ... requesting payment for pain and suffering. Kenosha did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/08/25/jacob-blake-files-new-federal-lawsuit-against-kenosha/70682929007/>

- Jacob Blake files lawsuit against city of Kenosha, former chief and officers in aftermath of 2020 shooting

<https://kenoshanews.com/1566af22-42a8-11ee-8063-bfaf3a95fec4.html>

- Charge dismissed against volunteer pastor ... Alan Lee Delvecchio, 59, of Duluth, was facing one felony count of failure to maintain sex offender registry. [Douglas County] charge was dismissed Aug. 18 [does not say why]

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/charge-dismissed-against-volunteer-pastor>

ECONOMY [^top^](#)

- Sticker shock: Average new car payments north of \$700 per month; used car prices above \$29K with 10K of debt as consumers get smacked

<https://www.dailyunion.com/a5e27206-6569-5742-904b-cbe63a4f1c47.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- UWM work group calls for no merger between UWM-WashCo and MPTC ... Washington County Board [and GOP budget] recommended Moraine Park run the merged campus, effectively ending UWM's involvement. ... The UWM work group said a merger would be "infeasible" but also concluded "UWM at Washington County cannot continue as it is, "given enrollment trends." ... Fewer than one-fifth of UWM at Washington County students receive associate degrees ... Most attend with the hope of earning a four-year degree. Just 4% of surveyed students said they'd be more likely to attend a merged institution, while 45% said they would be less likely to attend it ... recommended fully integrating the campus with UWM over the next several years. WashCo Exec. Schoemann saw more task force-work group similarities. "It seems like everyone's moving in same direction even if we don't want to use the same exact words." MPTC did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/proposal-to-merger-uwm->

[at-washington-county-with-moraine-park-stalls/70678713007/](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/)

- UW-Oshkosh sent these recent MBA grads their diplomas. Then it surprised them with a bill for another \$7,900. ... students' understanding was that because they applied for graduation and received diplomas, they had paid all bills related to the \$59,500 program, five graduates explained in a written letter [to Chancellor Leavitt] ... But a June 1 letter from university bursar Sarah Anderson informed students about a recently completed audit that found [thru a "coding error"] they had been undercharged for their final term. ... UWO doesn't have a policy linking graduation or receipt of a diploma to the end of student payments to the university. ... "My gut instinct is that most colleges would just eat the loss on a billing mistake, but UWO is in a challenging financial position," [UT prof.] Klechen said in an email. UWO's Breister said mistake affected only recent graduates of the executive MBA program. Recent grad Kuzik said he'd notified UWO of previous billing errors and got refund, never received a response from Leavitt letter, emails to controller Braatz, dean Braun also went unanswered or denied their meeting request, as did letters to System pres. ROTHman, Ed Sec. Cardona. Sment for Rothman cited Aug. 7 response, but Kuzik didn't get it. UWO agreed to extend repayment over six months
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Environmental groups recruit people of color into overwhelmingly white conservation world ... More than 80% of National Park Service employees are white, according to service data. A 2022 survey of the 40 largest non-government environmental organizations and foundations by Green 2.0, an organization advocating for minority inclusion in the environmental sector, found 60% of staff and almost 70% of organization heads identified as white. Hispanics made up only about 13.6% of grad students and 12.8% of doctoral students in biology/nat res in 2021 [Blacks 9.5% and 6%, Native Americans less than 1% of both].

* Green Jobs Board/Brown Girl Green podcaster Drutman: "I don't think BIPOC are choosing not to be in the outdoors, they're just not given the same opportunity. Urbanization, racial segregation, all these histories have separated BIPOC from neighbors with more green spaces. It's become a white people's thing because of that."

* UWSP minority recruiter Alba: "(Minority) mentors and educators are unfamiliar with these opportunities."

* UW-Madison's Barajas landed an internship for people of color at Baraboo's Int'l Crane Foundation HQ, "Sometimes I'll hear about children's programming on different natural things. I'm thinking, what opportunities do you have for people who don't speak English?"

* Natural Resources Foundation of WI's Gaddameedi: "No one solution fits all. People of color are in the communities facing the worst impact. It's important that they have a voice."

* Amplify the Future's James provides college scholarships for Black and Latinx bird watchers, "When we're making decisions about the use of finite resources ... it requires a diversity of vision to answer these types of important questions."

<https://apnews.com/c7b2b268dfcbf5e46c347ab2294bb061>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Cities are embracing teen curfews, though they might not curb crime, Experts worry that curfews disproportionately target young people of color. ... In 1996, President Bill Clinton called on cities and towns to impose nightly curfews on teenagers. Today more than 400 towns, cities and counties have enacted youth curfew laws ... More than a dozen cities and counties have reinstated or enforced juvenile curfews this year, including Washington, D.C.; Memphis, Tennessee; New Smyrna Beach, Florida; Sea Isle City, New Jersey; and Fulton County, Georgia. Philadelphia and Chicago made their curfews permanent last year. Vicksburg, Mississippi, recently reinstated its curfew following a shooting in January that killed a 13-year-old and left two others injured.... But U.S. juvenile curfews are "ineffective at reducing crime and victimization," according to a review summarizing the findings of 12 studies that was published in 2016 by the Campbell Collaboration ... found a slight increase in crime during curfew hours and no effect on non-curfew hours. ... may also move crime from one area to another because "kids don't obey geographic boundaries." ... Black minors have been arrested for curfew and loitering charges at two or three times the rate of their white counterparts. ... "Treatments and interventions, and as little contact with police and courts as possible, are very important ingredients in trying to prevent juvenile crime," [prof] Carbone said.

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/28/cities-are-embracing-teen-curfews-though-they-might-not-curb-crime/>

MANUFACTURING [^top^](#)

- Growing amidst constant change will be theme of Next Generation Manufacturing Summit [Oct. 5] ... will be a half-day program with exhibitors, seminars, breakout sessions and a panel of local manufacturing leaders discussing trends and best practices. ... at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. ... sponsored by Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WMEP) and BMO.

<https://biztimes.com/growing-amidst-constant-change-will-be-theme-of-next-generation-manufacturing-summit/>

- Microsoft moving dirt in Mount Pleasant, selects lead builder for \$1B data center ... Chicago-based megabuilder Walsh Construction ... is starting the process of seeking subcontractors to prepare for the start of vertical construction of the data center's four buildings. ... The Microsoft project will create thousands of construction jobs during a time when many private industrial projects are stalling or stopping in response to rising interest rates, construction costs and other factors. ... gained [DNR] approvals in mid-July to fill some wetlands ... village approval for a site plan in late June.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/27/microsoft-data-center-walsh-construction.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee renters face higher lead poisoning risks as city struggles to hold landlords accountable, 'We have to do something,' a Milwaukee Health Dept.'s Mannan says as the city rolls out a new approach to removing lead from older rentals ... Landlords sometimes refuse inspectors entry for fear they will find other code violations ... [mother of poisoned child's] landlord didn't fully address the home's lead

hazards. ... broke her lease and moved in with family and later lived at a shelter. ... Ogden and Company, Inc., sued her and garnished her mother's wages for years, since she had co-signed on the lease, she said. ... Branch has since found a safe home and become an advocate for parents facing lead hazards, even spotlighting the issue while meeting President Joe Biden. ... Milwaukee Common Council ... in July 2022, enacting an ordinance ... That included allowing the Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services, or DNS, to allow tenants to withhold rent when landlords fail to comply. But DNS received zero rent-withholding referrals during the ordinance's first year ... city health department issued just 26 citations to 13 companies or individual landlords for unaddressed lead problems from July 2022 to June 2023, with nine citations against four entities later dropped due to out-of-date inspections ... Not all landlords are the same, and some struggle to afford the average \$40,000-per-unit cost of abatement. ... [DHS'] Lead-Safe Homes program covers 100% of abatement costs to landlords ...has completed lead abatement in 332 homes statewide ... since its 2020 launch. [details of lead testing on Branch's ADHD-afflicted son.] ... Republican-controlled Legislature under former Gov. Scott Walker capped [inspection] fees as part of a series of laws that limited renter protections. [see Taylor column]

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/milwaukee-renters-face-high-lead-poisoning-risks/>

- Worried about lead as a Wisconsin tenant or property owner? Here's what to know.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/lead-hazard-wisconsin-tenants-property>

RACE RELATIONS [^top^](#)

- 'Tell 'em about the dream, Martin!': Memories from the crowd at MLK's March on Washington

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/nation/2023/08/23/march-on-washington-60th-anniversary-faces-in-the-crowd-share-stories/70233565007/>

RETAIL [^top^](#)

- Are Wisconsin businesses size inclusive? Customers ask for more room to maneuver, but hurdles are complex ... An estimated 34 million Americans faced weight discrimination in 2019 alone ... verbal stigma, denied access to medical treatment, financial inequality and struggles to use local resources like public buses or clothing stores. ... USAT-WI surveyed readers and talked to consumers and business owners about their experiences and struggles in addressing size inclusivity. Local and national experts also shared insights about the issue and what can be done to address it.

<https://www.postcrescent.com/story/money/2023/08/28/wisconsin-shoppers-talk-size-inclusivity-with-local-businesses/70406005007/>

SMALL BUSINESS [^top^](#)

- Fork Farms, RC Mowers among 5 Green Bay area companies named 'fastest growing' by Inc. magazine

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/companies/2023/08/18/five-companies-from-the-green-bay-area-made-the-inc-5000-list-of-2023/70601505007/>

- New Auburn transload company wins Business of the Year award

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/74d8292a-42aa-11ee-bd13-0be2e357f926.html>

- Calm and Collected Cannabis Co. offers legal cannabinoid products in Chippewa Falls

<https://lacrossetribune.com/d4d58714-4516-11ee-9abd-bb6dc64ba892.html>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Madison gaming industry is booming, panelists say ... at the annual Power Up Wisconsin Gaming and Esports Summit Friday at the Annex. ... local industry includes Raven Software, based in Middleton, a subsidiary of multibillion dollar publisher Activision ... Bethesda Softworks -- a publisher whose studio is known for series such as Elder Scrolls and Fallout ... Roundhouse, in Madison ... PUBG Corporation (developer of PUBG: Battlegrounds), Epic Games (developer and publisher of Fortnite), Respawn Entertainment (developer of Apex Legends), Filament Games and Lost Boys Interactive also have offices in Madison.

<https://captimes.com/fd10bdac-5400-54ee-8593-19e53a1b0359.html>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Mark Attanasio discusses future of Craig Counsell as Brewers manager; ballpark funding ... [Counsell] signed a three-year extension on Jan. 8, 2020, and since then has become Milwaukee's winningest manager529 winning percentage while becoming the senior skipper in the National League as well as the third-longest-tenured manager in all the major leagues. ... Attanasio: "It's up to Craig. We'd love to have him here, obviously, for a jillion reasons." ... [VP Schlesinger said stadium funding issue is in "middle innings." Attanasio: "I'll tell you one of the things a politician made a point of. Let's say you had a major airline that wanted to come in and have a hub here, or even let's say the center of the government in Madison. Would the state build an airport to have a major hub here? Of course they would." On moving the team: Attanasio: "Look, me, Debbie, our family, we very much want to stay. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the fact that while the ballpark looks beautiful -- I mean, it is beautiful -- the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast and the simple fact is the District is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. And so, we're trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money. And not in a Band-Aid kind of way. And so, whatever speculation, my goal is to be here. The politicians say 2050? I say great, until 2050." Downplays his chairmanship of MLB relocation committee.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/mlb/brewers/2023/08/26/mark-attanasio-discusses-craig-counsell-with-brewers-ballpark-funding/70677148007/>

- Hudson's Randy Hohn completes bucket list bike trip across country

<https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/8966612a-42a7-11ee-8b34-5bdf2c447ab1.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Debate heats up on proposal to tear down Interstate 794 ... Sen. Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville) released a letter Aug. 21 in which he pointed out any proposal to remove the section of freeway would need approval from the state Legislature. ... Ald. Jonathan Brostoff, a proponent of the teardown option, said Stroebel was wrong. ...

Some downtown stakeholders have raised similar concerns that removing I-794 could make commuting more difficult, or lead to congested local streets that would also [deter foot traffic] ... "Downtown employers aren't choosing downtown because of the highways," said [Rethink 794's] Jones ... "They choose downtowns because they know a vibrant, attractive, mixed use neighborhood is what the future of their workforce demands. This isn't 1960. The freeway-as-economic-development-tool has failed us and it's time to give up on the experiment. ... This isn't just a small loud group, it's a movement of people that are interested in seeing a better future for Milwaukee than the status-quo. Would the Deer District and Fiserv Forum be what it is if we kept the status-quo? Would the Third Ward be what it is today if people didn't envision it as a premier place to live and shop 30 years ago?"

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/25/debate-heats-up-on-proposal-to-tear-down-interstat.html>

- Portage municipal airport not closing -- yet

<https://wiscnews.com/1b13b76e-434b-11ee-ad07-eb65b8be06ff.html>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Potawatomi casino gambling revenue stays flat as tribe prepares to fight new competitors ... won at least \$415M from gamblers during the 12 month period that ended June 30 ... increased by just 1.7% ... lags that of other tribal [+4.9%] and Las Vegas [+10.5%] casinos. ... has allowed the tribe to pay its members dividends of about \$70,000 a year. "The Milwaukee casino market is maturing, but there is still room for future growth," said [Victor Strategies] Johnson ... "Tribal gaming is still growing. I expect the Potawatomi to continue to grow. ... Las Vegas is doing well. Regional casinos are having a harder time." ... tribe pays the city and county of Milwaukee 1.5% of its net win [after \$20M to state] ... \$5.9M+ to each government for the year that ended June 30. ... new competitors will soon be opening in Chicago's downtown; Waukegan, Illinois; and Beloit in coming months. ... Add to that the Menominee tribe's never-ending effort to place a casino in Kenosha. ... "I don't think anyone was anticipating the massive expansion of gaming in Illinois," said [Potawatomi AG] Crawford ... "Obviously it's something we're paying attention to. ... A good number of these entities make Potawatomi look like a small operation. We're kind of like a mom-and-pop operation compared with the big boys." Reviews new sports book, food/music venues at Potawatomi.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/business/2023/08/28/gamblers-lose-more-than-400-million-to-potawatomi-in-past-year/70663782007/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- WSJ editorial: Where's the GOP plan to prevent child care centers from closing? ... [Steffen-James] tax exemption on baby products ... is being reintroduced just as the governor seeks legislative action to address the looming end to federal subsidies for child care providers. But saving \$5 a month on \$100 in diapers, while helpful, isn't going to make or break a family budget. ... Vos has a point. The state can't backfill every fading federal relief program ... But what's the Republicans' alternative ... Saving \$5 on diapers? ... If Republican lawmakers ... won't even discuss it in special session, as the governor requested -- what's their counter proposal? Wisconsin is waiting.

<https://madison.com/d0b7ec44-4084-11ee-8348-47cf8fcdf88a.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dave Zweifel: UW shortfall of the GOP's making

<https://captimes.com/244dc00f-9c6f-5fa5-a353-bc0ee08a850c.html>

- James Causey: Making family phone calls free for prisoners is a cheap tool for reducing recidivism, Evidence shows close family ties makes reentry easier for inmates, keeps their kids healthier and prisons safer. ... [ex-inmate Ross] estimates his parents spent between \$15-17K [over 20-yrs] to receive phone calls from him in prison. Wisconsin is one of a dozen states where bills have been introduced or are being drafted allowing for free or reduced calls in jails and prisons. ... While phone calls are essential, [Table of Saints] McMurray said she didn't think phone calls should be free. ... Currently, Wisconsin has some of the highest rates for calls from prisons and jails and is considering upping the fees it charges inmates for sending e-mails. ... survey shows Wisconsin has among the "highest costs of a 15-minute in-state call from a jail," at \$21.97. ... "They nickel and dime inmates every chance they get. It's not right because if you look at who the inmates are, they are already poor," [Ross] said. ... In 2021, Connecticut became the first state to make all prison phone calls free. Since then, California, Colorado, and Minnesota have followed. ... Over the years, I have taken dozens of phone calls from prisoners who wanted to talk to me about their cases or inform me about the abuse they deal with while incarcerated. ... "When you are locked up, people on the outside keep living," [ex-inmate Dixon] said. "They travel, have birthdays, go to parties, and sometimes you don't have anything going on when locked up. Those calls are all you need to keep going."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/columnists/2023/08/26/free-phone-calls-for-inmates/70682963007/>

- Sen. Lena Taylor: Lead Lateral Replacement Timeline Doesn't Add Up ... WI should receive \$370M+ [from Infrastructure law], with MWW requesting \$30M of that. Milwaukee Mayor Johnson said his original goal was to replace all lead service lines in the next 70 years, the new funding changes it to 20 years. VP Harris seemed to believe that we would have them replaced in 10 years. ... Milwaukee must do better. There needs to be a sense of urgency that shows up in our planning and ability to scale up to meet an aggressive repair schedule. We have to look at best practices around the country, or right in our own backyard (Madison) to see how to make meaningful progress. The health of our residents demands no less.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/lead-lateral-replacement>

- Rep. LaKeshia Myers' Summer Reading List #3: The 'Girl Power' Edition ... five books by authors I found worthwhile. Friedan, Betty. The Feminine Mystique. New York: Norton, 1963. ... Chisholm, Shirley, 1924- 2005. Unbought and Unbossed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1970. ... Schlafly, Phyllis. A Choice, Not an Echo. 1st ed. Alton, IL: Pere Marquette, 1963. ... Steinem, Gloria. Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1983. ... Abzug, Bella. Bella!: Ms. Abzug Goes to Washington. New York: Sunday Review Press, 1972.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/rep-myers-summer-reading>

- UW prof. Susan Webb Yackee and MGIC chair Curt S. Culver: Lunch at Culver's fitting place to find common ground in polarizing political climate, The promotion of civil discourse is one of the most urgent actions the La Follette School can take going forward ... As an educator and a businessman, we recognize that it is far easier to talk about issues with people who tend to agree with you. But, in school and in the workplace, there is immense value in debating and listening to people who -- quite frankly -- don't. Just like a ButterBurger, we'd like to think this is something nearly everyone in Wisconsin can agree on.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/2023/08/28/civil-discourse-priority-at-la-follette-school-in-ere-of-incivility/70682714007/>

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TOP STORIES

Members of US Congress make a rare visit to opposition-held northwest Syria

Three US Congress members [Cline, Hill, Fitzgerald] have made a brief visit to opposition-held northwest Syria in the first known trip to the war-torn country by American lawmakers in six years ... facility is a school for orphans that is a project of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, a U.S.-based Syrian opposition organization that facilitated the lawmakers' trip. ... also met with opposition and humanitarian leaders. Last Congressional trips were McCain, Gabbard in 2017. By Knickmeyer & Sewell, AP <https://www.channel3000.com/c96c23a0-2a8c-50c2-983f-37e981719fab.html>

First lady Jill Biden to travel to Madison

First lady Jill Biden is planning to make a stop in Madison [Thursday], capping off a three-stop visit around the Midwest. In the afternoon, as part of the Biden Cancer Moonshot, the First Lady and Sen. Baldwin will participate in a tour and listening session to highlight the importance of early detection and improving access to cancer screenings. In addition, Jill Biden will

- [Law and order](#)
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deliver remarks at an educator appreciation event with the National Education Association and American Federation of Teachers in Madison. Biden will also attend and deliver remarks at a political finance event with Baldwin in the evening. By Davis, WMTV <https://www.nbc15.com/2023/08/26/first-lady-jill-biden-travel-madison/>

Johnson says Wisconsin fake electors should not face charges for 'political activity'

... "The fact that we are criminalizing political activity, that's a danger to our democracy. It shouldn't happen," Johnson told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel following a roundtable focused on barriers people face after incarceration. [referenced alternative Dem electors in HI in 1960 pre-recount when Nixon won by 100 votes; JFK was winner after recount] ... "It's a way to preserve a legal position, should courts rule that there were issues in the election. Democrats have done this, Republicans have done this," Johnson said. ... said he has not been subpoenaed in a [Trump] federal grand jury ... "There has to be accountability for perpetrating the big lie," [Baldwin] said in Port Washington. "We know who won the election in Wisconsin. The folks who oversee the election said it was the most secure election we ever had." ... A jury trial in a civil lawsuit against the Republican fake electors will take place in Dane County Circuit Court in September 2024, just weeks before the presidential election. By Katzenberger, Hope MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-wisconsin-fake-electors-shouldnt-be-charged/70680003007/>

Brewers principal owner is optimistic about stadium negotiations, wants to keep team in Milwaukee.

Brewers Am Fam Field lease expires in 2030, with SEWPBPD paying stadium upkeep/improvements, for which board claims NSF. Evers' \$290M deal extended lease to 2043. Speaker Vos pooh-poohed that and suggested a lengthier extension.

* Attanasio before 5-4 win over Padres at AmFam Field: "I'm optimistic. We just have to get the three constituencies -- which would be the governor, the Assembly and the Senate -- to come together. ... We have very good chemistry with the politicians in terms of having a shared goal. The goal is to keep the team here for another generation, whether that's 2040, or now frankly they are talking about 2050, which (is) great by me. ... We very much want to stay here. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the reality that while this ballpark, it's beautiful, the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast. The simple fact is the district is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. We're

trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money, and not in a band-aid kind of way." By AP
<https://apnews.com/97f3ca909423b3a8eb95ced312048f7f>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Inside spin room after GOP debate in Milwaukee, candidates seek post-debate bump, 'UPFRONT' with instant access to the candidates, new analysts on impact of Milwaukee debate: Conway, Priebus, Walker comment.

<https://www.wisn.com/article/upfront-recap-inside-spin-room-after-gop-debate-in-milwaukee-candidates-seek-post-debate-bump/44914289>

- Trump's drumbeat of lies about the 2020 election keeps getting louder. Here are the facts ... [in MI, PA, AZ, NV, GA] In Wisconsin, a recount slightly improved Biden's victory over Trump by 87 votes, increasing Biden's statewide lead to 20,682, or 0.6 percentage points. A nonpartisan audit that concluded a year after the election made recommendations on how to improve future elections in Wisconsin but did not uncover evidence of widespread voter fraud in the state, leading the Republican co-chair of the audit committee to declare that "the election was largely safe and secure." The state's Assembly speaker, a Republican, ordered a separate review, which a state judge said found "absolutely no evidence of election fraud." ... exhaustive AP investigation in 2021 found fewer than 475 instances of confirmed voter fraud across six battleground states ... almost every instance of voter fraud was committed by individuals [of both parties] acting alone ... almost always caught before the fraudulent ballot was counted ... Trump was repeatedly advised by members of his own administration that there was no evidence of widespread fraud. ... courts heard Trump's legal challenges and rejected them ... conspiracy theories about voting machines were unfounded ... claims involving suitcases and ballot mules are debunked.

<https://apnews.com/4fc26546b07962fdbf9d66e739fbb50d>

- John Nichols: The Conservatives Who Read the Constitution-- and Found It Disqualifies Trump, Asa Hutchinson is the only Republican presidential candidate with the courage to discuss the 14th Amendment.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/asa-hutchinson-trump-constitution/>

- DNC Chair Jaime Harrison Energizes Milwaukee Ahead of Republican Debate

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/dnc-chair-jaime-harrison>

- RNC ends summer meetings by picking Houston to host 2028 convention ... Houston last hosted a major political convention in 1992 when Republicans nominated President George H.W. Bush.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/republicans-pick-houston-for-2028-national-convention-gop/70679438007/>

- Houston will host the 2028 Republican National Convention, GOP says
<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/houston/article/republican-national-convention-announcement-18306660.php>

US SENATE RACE [^top^](#)

- Bice: Tammy Baldwin said to 'stay home' in 2020. She'd just taken a personal trip with tax dollars ... "Don't host or go to gatherings with people outside your household," Baldwin said on Nov. 25, 2020. "And just stay home if you can." ... Records show she billed taxpayers \$630 to fly from Madison to New York City, where her partner lives, for an extended weekend from Nov. 5-9, 2020, before heading back to Washington, D.C. Both Wisconsin and New York City were then experiencing a surge in COVID cases. Wisconsin was also on New York's travel restriction list at the time, too. ...

* Nov. 5 tweet: "Count this, [@realDonaldTrump](#). Today, Wisconsin has 5,922 new #COVID19 infections, 223 more people have been hospitalized, and 38 people lost their lives because of your complete and total failure to provide leadership we can count on."

* Nov. 9 tweet: "We have a raging #COVID19 outbreak in Wisconsin and across the country. This pandemic is getting worse and we need to start working together to contain it so we can get our economy on the right track and move forward."

* Nov. 10 DC presser: "My home state has one of the worst outbreaks of COVID-19 infections in the country, and we are experiencing the worst phase of this pandemic since it began ... In my state, the pandemic is getting worse, not better."

... made no trips to New York City before 2018, the year Baldwin met Brisbane at a fundraiser for New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand. Baldwin and Brisbane together own a \$1.3 million rooftop condo just steps from the U.S. Capitol. ... On eight of the nine trips [to NYC since 2018], Baldwin billed the taxpayers when on official business in the Big Apple, or she used her own funds or frequent-flyer points to cover the cost of flights if the New York leg of the trip was primarily personal. ... Just recently, Baldwin's office reimbursed the federal government for the cost of [Nov. 5-9] trip after being asked about it ... campaign staffers said the trip had been erroneously marked as official travel. Baldwin decided to reimburse the federal government, they said, "out of an abundance of caution" and without being asked. More details on Baldwin's mixed biz/personal travel.

* NRSC's Mitchell: "It takes a special kind of arrogance to tell Wisconsin taxpayers not to see their loved ones for the holidays while you bill them for a vacation to see your girlfriend."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/28/bice-baldwin-pays-back-cost-of-personal-trip-during-covid-surge/70672630007/>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- City of Stanley sues landlord over blighted property ... After numerous failed attempts to get a landlord [Kerry Brown] to clean up a yard
<https://www.leadertelegram.com/99fafb06-436d-11ee-b240-03602abb1be5.html>

- Bayfield pursues parking fees ... to address ... lack of revenue to pay for street repairs and other infrastructure .. and cars left parked all day ... Mayor Gordon

Ringberg said. "We want people to come in and do some shopping and to have a place to park to do that."

<https://www.apg-wi.com/01bbe0fa-4370-11ee-9a9b-838ea99a90fd.html>

CONSUMER PROTECTION [^top^](#)

- Whitewater tax preparer charged with tax crimes after filing 340 false returns

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/29f5ebd8-ec3d-526c-b161-175f5a48b860.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court flips liberal, creating a 'seismic shift' ... Conservatives had controlled the court for 15 years, during which they upheld a voter ID law, approved limits on collective bargaining for public workers, banned absentee ballot drop boxes and shut down a wide-ranging campaign finance investigation into Republicans. ... fielding judges and prosecutors as candidates, sharpening tough-on-crime messages and securing the support of deep-pocketed groups aligned with Republicans. But in recent years, liberals in Wisconsin have recruited candidates with similar backgrounds and seized on popular political themes. [DPW] has poured millions in ... with the retirement of a conservative justice ... Janet Protasiewicz [who] won by 11 points and flipped control of the court [gave] liberals a 4-3 majority when she was sworn in on Aug. 1. Liberals have gone on offense [in WI]. One [Dem] group [sued] over voting rules even before Protasiewicz was sworn in ... two sets of Democratic voters [sued over redistricting] within days of her taking office. A week later, [AG Kaul sought quick ruling on 1849 abortion law to speed it to Supreme Court.

* Ziegler downplayed the possibility of suing her colleagues but didn't rule it out. "I think legal action is not good for the court. Honestly, I'm sad that it's even come to the point where that might be discussed," saw Koschnick firing as "raw exercise of overreaching power."

* Justice Dallet attributed the liberals' action to Ziegler's ignoring requests to schedule a meeting on the new administrative group, "It is deeply inappropriate for the Chief Justice to continue to refuse to engage with her colleagues, but instead to publicly litigate these issues."

* Bradley noted 4-3 July ruling denying CEC for DEI class, "The new majority will reverse this court's order at its first opportunity."

* Senate Dem Leader Agard said GOP knows they will lose cases, "They can't stand it. They're mad. It sucks to lose elections, and I say that with all sincerity. It's not fun to lose, and they haven't had to lose that much."

* conservative ex-justice Wilcox: "The main thing that concerns me is the politicization of this court. Both sides. That's distressful to me because I tried as a justice when I was here to be ... evenhanded and fair-minded. And I don't think they're going to have that anymore."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/27/wisconsin-supreme-court-liberal/>

- Ron Johnson calls on Janet Protasiewicz to recuse from maps cases ... would support lawmakers impeaching Protasiewicz if she did not recuse herself. ... "They have their constitutional duties and responsibilities as well, and that may be the next step," Johnson said. "But hopefully she'll do the right thing." ... former campaign spokesman for Protasiewicz did not immediately have a reaction to Johnson's comments. ... U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, called Johnson's claim "ridiculous ... partisan

hackery ... a guy who has no credibility. He is a U.S. Senator, but he's also a joke by most standards." Reviews statements by Speaker Vos, Justice Bradley, Sen. Wanggaard at hearing on Judicial Commission appointees. Wanggaard said he had not spoken with Leader LeMahieu about scheduling a vote. LeMahieu did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-protasiewicz-to-recuse-from-wisconsin-supreme-court-redistributing-maps-cases/70679384007/>

- Jacob Blake files new federal lawsuit against Kenosha, Ofc. Sheskey ... argue excessive force was used by Sheskey and Blake's Fourth Amendment rights [unreasonable search/seizure] were violated. ... retired Police Chief Daniel Miskinis and other officers failed to properly train and supervise officers, and as a result Blake's 14th Amendment rights [equal protection] were violated after he suffered lasting injuries. ... requesting payment for pain and suffering. Kenosha did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/08/25/jacob-blake-files-new-federal-lawsuit-against-kenosha/70682929007/>

- Jacob Blake files lawsuit against city of Kenosha, former chief and officers in aftermath of 2020 shooting

<https://kenoshanews.com/1566af22-42a8-11ee-8063-bfaf3a95fec4.html>

- Charge dismissed against volunteer pastor ... Alan Lee Delvecchio, 59, of Duluth, was facing one felony count of failure to maintain sex offender registry. [Douglas County] charge was dismissed Aug. 18 [does not say why]

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/charge-dismissed-against-volunteer-pastor>

ECONOMY [^top^](#)

- Sticker shock: Average new car payments north of \$700 per month; used car prices above \$29K with 10K of debt as consumers get smacked

<https://www.dailyunion.com/a5e27206-6569-5742-904b-cbe63a4f1c47.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- UWM work group calls for no merger between UWM-WashCo and MPTC ... Washington County Board [and GOP budget] recommended Moraine Park run the merged campus, effectively ending UWM's involvement. ... The UWM work group said a merger would be "infeasible" but also concluded "UWM at Washington County cannot continue as it is, "given enrollment trends." ... Fewer than one-fifth of UWM at Washington County students receive associate degrees ... Most attend with the hope of earning a four-year degree. Just 4% of surveyed students said they'd be more likely to attend a merged institution, while 45% said they would be less likely to attend it ... recommended fully integrating the campus with UWM over the next several years. WashCo Exec. Schoemann saw more task force-work group similarities. "It seems like everyone's moving in same direction even if we don't want to use the same exact words." MPTC did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/proposal-to-merger-uwm->

[at-washington-county-with-moraine-park-stalls/70678713007/](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/)

- UW-Oshkosh sent these recent MBA grads their diplomas. Then it surprised them with a bill for another \$7,900. ... students' understanding was that because they applied for graduation and received diplomas, they had paid all bills related to the \$59,500 program, five graduates explained in a written letter [to Chancellor Leavitt] ... But a June 1 letter from university bursar Sarah Anderson informed students about a recently completed audit that found [thru a "coding error"] they had been undercharged for their final term. ... UWO doesn't have a policy linking graduation or receipt of a diploma to the end of student payments to the university. ... "My gut instinct is that most colleges would just eat the loss on a billing mistake, but UWO is in a challenging financial position," [UT prof.] Klechen said in an email. UWO's Breister said mistake affected only recent graduates of the executive MBA program. Recent grad Kuzik said he'd notified UWO of previous billing errors and got refund, never received a response from Leavitt letter, emails to controller Braatz, dean Braun also went unanswered or denied their meeting request, as did letters to System pres. ROTHman, Ed Sec. Cardona. Sment for Rothman cited Aug. 7 response, but Kuzik didn't get it. UWO agreed to extend repayment over six months
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Environmental groups recruit people of color into overwhelmingly white conservation world ... More than 80% of National Park Service employees are white, according to service data. A 2022 survey of the 40 largest non-government environmental organizations and foundations by Green 2.0, an organization advocating for minority inclusion in the environmental sector, found 60% of staff and almost 70% of organization heads identified as white. Hispanics made up only about 13.6% of grad students and 12.8% of doctoral students in biology/nat res in 2021 [Blacks 9.5% and 6%, Native Americans less than 1% of both].

* Green Jobs Board/Brown Girl Green podcaster Drutman: "I don't think BIPOC are choosing not to be in the outdoors, they're just not given the same opportunity. Urbanization, racial segregation, all these histories have separated BIPOC from neighbors with more green spaces. It's become a white people's thing because of that."

* UWSP minority recruiter Alba: "(Minority) mentors and educators are unfamiliar with these opportunities."

* UW-Madison's Barajas landed an internship for people of color at Baraboo's Int'l Crane Foundation HQ, "Sometimes I'll hear about children's programming on different natural things. I'm thinking, what opportunities do you have for people who don't speak English?"

* Natural Resources Foundation of WI's Gaddameedi: "No one solution fits all. People of color are in the communities facing the worst impact. It's important that they have a voice."

* Amplify the Future's James provides college scholarships for Black and Latinx bird watchers, "When we're making decisions about the use of finite resources ... it requires a diversity of vision to answer these types of important questions."

<https://apnews.com/c7b2b268dfcbf5e46c347ab2294bb061>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Cities are embracing teen curfews, though they might not curb crime, Experts worry that curfews disproportionately target young people of color. ... In 1996, President Bill Clinton called on cities and towns to impose nightly curfews on teenagers. Today more than 400 towns, cities and counties have enacted youth curfew laws ... More than a dozen cities and counties have reinstated or enforced juvenile curfews this year, including Washington, D.C.; Memphis, Tennessee; New Smyrna Beach, Florida; Sea Isle City, New Jersey; and Fulton County, Georgia. Philadelphia and Chicago made their curfews permanent last year. Vicksburg, Mississippi, recently reinstated its curfew following a shooting in January that killed a 13-year-old and left two others injured.... But U.S. juvenile curfews are "ineffective at reducing crime and victimization," according to a review summarizing the findings of 12 studies that was published in 2016 by the Campbell Collaboration ... found a slight increase in crime during curfew hours and no effect on non-curfew hours. ... may also move crime from one area to another because "kids don't obey geographic boundaries." ... Black minors have been arrested for curfew and loitering charges at two or three times the rate of their white counterparts. ... "Treatments and interventions, and as little contact with police and courts as possible, are very important ingredients in trying to prevent juvenile crime," [prof] Carbone said.

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/28/cities-are-embracing-teen-curfews-though-they-might-not-curb-crime/>

MANUFACTURING [^top^](#)

- Growing amidst constant change will be theme of Next Generation Manufacturing Summit [Oct. 5] ... will be a half-day program with exhibitors, seminars, breakout sessions and a panel of local manufacturing leaders discussing trends and best practices. ... at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. ... sponsored by Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WMEP) and BMO.

<https://biztimes.com/growing-amidst-constant-change-will-be-theme-of-next-generation-manufacturing-summit/>

- Microsoft moving dirt in Mount Pleasant, selects lead builder for \$1B data center ... Chicago-based megabuilder Walsh Construction ... is starting the process of seeking subcontractors to prepare for the start of vertical construction of the data center's four buildings. ... The Microsoft project will create thousands of construction jobs during a time when many private industrial projects are stalling or stopping in response to rising interest rates, construction costs and other factors. ... gained [DNR] approvals in mid-July to fill some wetlands ... village approval for a site plan in late June.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/27/microsoft-data-center-walsh-construction.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee renters face higher lead poisoning risks as city struggles to hold landlords accountable, 'We have to do something,' a Milwaukee Health Dept.'s Mannan says as the city rolls out a new approach to removing lead from older rentals ... Landlords sometimes refuse inspectors entry for fear they will find other code violations ... [mother of poisoned child's] landlord didn't fully address the home's lead

hazards. ... broke her lease and moved in with family and later lived at a shelter. ... Ogden and Company, Inc., sued her and garnished her mother's wages for years, since she had co-signed on the lease, she said. ... Branch has since found a safe home and become an advocate for parents facing lead hazards, even spotlighting the issue while meeting President Joe Biden. ... Milwaukee Common Council ... in July 2022, enacting an ordinance ... That included allowing the Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services, or DNS, to allow tenants to withhold rent when landlords fail to comply. But DNS received zero rent-withholding referrals during the ordinance's first year ... city health department issued just 26 citations to 13 companies or individual landlords for unaddressed lead problems from July 2022 to June 2023, with nine citations against four entities later dropped due to out-of-date inspections ... Not all landlords are the same, and some struggle to afford the average \$40,000-per-unit cost of abatement. ... [DHS'] Lead-Safe Homes program covers 100% of abatement costs to landlords ...has completed lead abatement in 332 homes statewide ... since its 2020 launch. [details of lead testing on Branch's ADHD-afflicted son.] ... Republican-controlled Legislature under former Gov. Scott Walker capped [inspection] fees as part of a series of laws that limited renter protections. [see Taylor column]

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/milwaukee-renters-face-high-lead-poisoning-risks/>

- Worried about lead as a Wisconsin tenant or property owner? Here's what to know.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/lead-hazard-wisconsin-tenants-property>

RACE RELATIONS [^top^](#)

- 'Tell 'em about the dream, Martin!': Memories from the crowd at MLK's March on Washington

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/nation/2023/08/23/march-on-washington-60th-anniversary-faces-in-the-crowd-share-stories/70233565007/>

RETAIL [^top^](#)

- Are Wisconsin businesses size inclusive? Customers ask for more room to maneuver, but hurdles are complex ... An estimated 34 million Americans faced weight discrimination in 2019 alone ... verbal stigma, denied access to medical treatment, financial inequality and struggles to use local resources like public buses or clothing stores. ... USAT-WI surveyed readers and talked to consumers and business owners about their experiences and struggles in addressing size inclusivity. Local and national experts also shared insights about the issue and what can be done to address it.

<https://www.postcrescent.com/story/money/2023/08/28/wisconsin-shoppers-talk-size-inclusivity-with-local-businesses/70406005007/>

SMALL BUSINESS [^top^](#)

- Fork Farms, RC Mowers among 5 Green Bay area companies named 'fastest growing' by Inc. magazine

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/companies/2023/08/18/five-companies-from-the-green-bay-area-made-the-inc-5000-list-of-2023/70601505007/>

- New Auburn transload company wins Business of the Year award

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/74d8292a-42aa-11ee-bd13-0be2e357f926.html>

- Calm and Collected Cannabis Co. offers legal cannabinoid products in Chippewa Falls

<https://lacrossetribune.com/d4d58714-4516-11ee-9abd-bb6dc64ba892.html>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Madison gaming industry is booming, panelists say ... at the annual Power Up Wisconsin Gaming and Esports Summit Friday at the Annex. ... local industry includes Raven Software, based in Middleton, a subsidiary of multibillion dollar publisher Activision ... Bethesda Softworks -- a publisher whose studio is known for series such as Elder Scrolls and Fallout ... Roundhouse, in Madison ... PUBG Corporation (developer of PUBG: Battlegrounds), Epic Games (developer and publisher of Fortnite), Respawn Entertainment (developer of Apex Legends), Filament Games and Lost Boys Interactive also have offices in Madison.

<https://captimes.com/fd10bdac-5400-54ee-8593-19e53a1b0359.html>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Mark Attanasio discusses future of Craig Counsell as Brewers manager; ballpark funding ... [Counsell] signed a three-year extension on Jan. 8, 2020, and since then has become Milwaukee's winningest manager529 winning percentage while becoming the senior skipper in the National League as well as the third-longest-tenured manager in all the major leagues. ... Attanasio: "It's up to Craig. We'd love to have him here, obviously, for a jillion reasons." ... [VP Schlesinger said stadium funding issue is in "middle innings." Attanasio: "I'll tell you one of the things a politician made a point of. Let's say you had a major airline that wanted to come in and have a hub here, or even let's say the center of the government in Madison. Would the state build an airport to have a major hub here? Of course they would." On moving the team: Attanasio: "Look, me, Debbie, our family, we very much want to stay. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the fact that while the ballpark looks beautiful -- I mean, it is beautiful -- the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast and the simple fact is the District is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. And so, we're trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money. And not in a Band-Aid kind of way. And so, whatever speculation, my goal is to be here. The politicians say 2050? I say great, until 2050." Downplays his chairmanship of MLB relocation committee.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/mlb/brewers/2023/08/26/mark-attanasio-discusses-craig-counsell-with-brewers-ballpark-funding/70677148007/>

- Hudson's Randy Hohn completes bucket list bike trip across country

<https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/8966612a-42a7-11ee-8b34-5bdf2c447ab1.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Debate heats up on proposal to tear down Interstate 794 ... Sen. Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville) released a letter Aug. 21 in which he pointed out any proposal to remove the section of freeway would need approval from the state Legislature. ... Ald. Jonathan Brostoff, a proponent of the teardown option, said Stroebel was wrong. ...

Some downtown stakeholders have raised similar concerns that removing I-794 could make commuting more difficult, or lead to congested local streets that would also [deter foot traffic] ... "Downtown employers aren't choosing downtown because of the highways," said [Rethink 794's] Jones ... "They choose downtowns because they know a vibrant, attractive, mixed use neighborhood is what the future of their workforce demands. This isn't 1960. The freeway-as-economic-development-tool has failed us and it's time to give up on the experiment. ... This isn't just a small loud group, it's a movement of people that are interested in seeing a better future for Milwaukee than the status-quo. Would the Deer District and Fiserv Forum be what it is if we kept the status-quo? Would the Third Ward be what it is today if people didn't envision it as a premier place to live and shop 30 years ago?"

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/25/debate-heats-up-on-proposal-to-tear-down-interstat.html>

- Portage municipal airport not closing -- yet

<https://wiscnews.com/1b13b76e-434b-11ee-ad07-eb65b8be06ff.html>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Potawatomi casino gambling revenue stays flat as tribe prepares to fight new competitors ... won at least \$415M from gamblers during the 12 month period that ended June 30 ... increased by just 1.7% ... lags that of other tribal [+4.9%] and Las Vegas [+10.5%] casinos. ... has allowed the tribe to pay its members dividends of about \$70,000 a year. "The Milwaukee casino market is maturing, but there is still room for future growth," said [Victor Strategies] Johnson ... "Tribal gaming is still growing. I expect the Potawatomi to continue to grow. ... Las Vegas is doing well. Regional casinos are having a harder time." ... tribe pays the city and county of Milwaukee 1.5% of its net win [after \$20M to state] ... \$5.9M+ to each government for the year that ended June 30. ... new competitors will soon be opening in Chicago's downtown; Waukegan, Illinois; and Beloit in coming months. ... Add to that the Menominee tribe's never-ending effort to place a casino in Kenosha. ... "I don't think anyone was anticipating the massive expansion of gaming in Illinois," said [Potawatomi AG] Crawford ... "Obviously it's something we're paying attention to. ... A good number of these entities make Potawatomi look like a small operation. We're kind of like a mom-and-pop operation compared with the big boys." Reviews new sports book, food/music venues at Potawatomi.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/business/2023/08/28/gamblers-lose-more-than-400-million-to-potawatomi-in-past-year/70663782007/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- WSJ editorial: Where's the GOP plan to prevent child care centers from closing? ... [Steffen-James] tax exemption on baby products ... is being reintroduced just as the governor seeks legislative action to address the looming end to federal subsidies for child care providers. But saving \$5 a month on \$100 in diapers, while helpful, isn't going to make or break a family budget. ... Vos has a point. The state can't backfill every fading federal relief program ... But what's the Republicans' alternative ... Saving \$5 on diapers? ... If Republican lawmakers ... won't even discuss it in special session, as the governor requested -- what's their counter proposal? Wisconsin is waiting.

<https://madison.com/d0b7ec44-4084-11ee-8348-47cf8fcdf88a.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dave Zweifel: UW shortfall of the GOP's making

<https://captimes.com/244dc00f-9c6f-5fa5-a353-bc0ee08a850c.html>

- James Causey: Making family phone calls free for prisoners is a cheap tool for reducing recidivism, Evidence shows close family ties makes reentry easier for inmates, keeps their kids healthier and prisons safer. ... [ex-inmate Ross] estimates his parents spent between \$15-17K [over 20-yrs] to receive phone calls from him in prison. Wisconsin is one of a dozen states where bills have been introduced or are being drafted allowing for free or reduced calls in jails and prisons. ... While phone calls are essential, [Table of Saints] McMurray said she didn't think phone calls should be free. ... Currently, Wisconsin has some of the highest rates for calls from prisons and jails and is considering upping the fees it charges inmates for sending e-mails. ... survey shows Wisconsin has among the "highest costs of a 15-minute in-state call from a jail," at \$21.97. ... "They nickel and dime inmates every chance they get. It's not right because if you look at who the inmates are, they are already poor," [Ross] said. ... In 2021, Connecticut became the first state to make all prison phone calls free. Since then, California, Colorado, and Minnesota have followed. ... Over the years, I have taken dozens of phone calls from prisoners who wanted to talk to me about their cases or inform me about the abuse they deal with while incarcerated. ... "When you are locked up, people on the outside keep living," [ex-inmate Dixon] said. "They travel, have birthdays, go to parties, and sometimes you don't have anything going on when locked up. Those calls are all you need to keep going."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/columnists/2023/08/26/free-phone-calls-for-inmates/70682963007/>

- Sen. Lena Taylor: Lead Lateral Replacement Timeline Doesn't Add Up ... WI should receive \$370M+ [from Infrastructure law], with MWW requesting \$30M of that. Milwaukee Mayor Johnson said his original goal was to replace all lead service lines in the next 70 years, the new funding changes it to 20 years. VP Harris seemed to believe that we would have them replaced in 10 years. ... Milwaukee must do better. There needs to be a sense of urgency that shows up in our planning and ability to scale up to meet an aggressive repair schedule. We have to look at best practices around the country, or right in our own backyard (Madison) to see how to make meaningful progress. The health of our residents demands no less.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/lead-lateral-replacement>

- Rep. LaKeshia Myers' Summer Reading List #3: The 'Girl Power' Edition ... five books by authors I found worthwhile. Friedan, Betty. The Feminine Mystique. New York: Norton, 1963. ... Chisholm, Shirley, 1924- 2005. Unbought and Unbossed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1970. ... Schlafly, Phyllis. A Choice, Not an Echo. 1st ed. Alton, IL: Pere Marquette, 1963. ... Steinem, Gloria. Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1983. ... Abzug, Bella. Bella!: Ms. Abzug Goes to Washington. New York: Sunday Review Press, 1972.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/rep-myers-summer-reading>

- UW prof. Susan Webb Yackee and MGIC chair Curt S. Culver: Lunch at Culver's fitting place to find common ground in polarizing political climate, The promotion of civil discourse is one of the most urgent actions the La Follette School can take going forward ... As an educator and a businessman, we recognize that it is far easier to talk about issues with people who tend to agree with you. But, in school and in the workplace, there is immense value in debating and listening to people who -- quite frankly -- don't. Just like a ButterBurger, we'd like to think this is something nearly everyone in Wisconsin can agree on.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/2023/08/28/civil-discourse-priority-at-la-follette-school-in-ere-of-incivility/70682714007/>

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TOP STORIES

Members of US Congress make a rare visit to opposition-held northwest Syria

Three US Congress members [Cline, Hill, Fitzgerald] have made a brief visit to opposition-held northwest Syria in the first known trip to the war-torn country by American lawmakers in six years ... facility is a school for orphans that is a project of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, a U.S.-based Syrian opposition organization that facilitated the lawmakers' trip. ... also met with opposition and humanitarian leaders. Last Congressional trips were McCain, Gabbard in 2017. By Knickmeyer & Sewell, AP <https://www.channel3000.com/c96c23a0-2a8c-50c2-983f-37e981719fab.html>

First lady Jill Biden to travel to Madison

First lady Jill Biden is planning to make a stop in Madison [Thursday], capping off a three-stop visit around the Midwest. In the afternoon, as part of the Biden Cancer Moonshot, the First Lady and Sen. Baldwin will participate in a tour and listening session to highlight the importance of early detection and improving access to cancer screenings. In addition, Jill Biden will

- [Law and order](#)
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deliver remarks at an educator appreciation event with the National Education Association and American Federation of Teachers in Madison. Biden will also attend and deliver remarks at a political finance event with Baldwin in the evening. By Davis, WMTV <https://www.nbc15.com/2023/08/26/first-lady-jill-biden-travel-madison/>

Johnson says Wisconsin fake electors should not face charges for 'political activity'

... "The fact that we are criminalizing political activity, that's a danger to our democracy. It shouldn't happen," Johnson told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel following a roundtable focused on barriers people face after incarceration. [referenced alternative Dem electors in HI in 1960 pre-recount when Nixon won by 100 votes; JFK was winner after recount] ... "It's a way to preserve a legal position, should courts rule that there were issues in the election. Democrats have done this, Republicans have done this," Johnson said. ... said he has not been subpoenaed in a [Trump] federal grand jury ... "There has to be accountability for perpetrating the big lie," [Baldwin] said in Port Washington. "We know who won the election in Wisconsin. The folks who oversee the election said it was the most secure election we ever had." ... A jury trial in a civil lawsuit against the Republican fake electors will take place in Dane County Circuit Court in September 2024, just weeks before the presidential election. By Katzenberger, Hope MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-wisconsin-fake-electors-shouldnt-be-charged/70680003007/>

Brewers principal owner is optimistic about stadium negotiations, wants to keep team in Milwaukee.

Brewers Am Fam Field lease expires in 2030, with SEWPBPD paying stadium upkeep/improvements, for which board claims NSF. Evers' \$290M deal extended lease to 2043. Speaker Vos pooh-poohed that and suggested a lengthier extension.

* Attanasio before 5-4 win over Padres at AmFam Field: "I'm optimistic. We just have to get the three constituencies -- which would be the governor, the Assembly and the Senate -- to come together. ... We have very good chemistry with the politicians in terms of having a shared goal. The goal is to keep the team here for another generation, whether that's 2040, or now frankly they are talking about 2050, which (is) great by me. ... We very much want to stay here. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the reality that while this ballpark, it's beautiful, the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast. The simple fact is the district is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. We're

trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money, and not in a band-aid kind of way." By AP
<https://apnews.com/97f3ca909423b3a8eb95ced312048f7f>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Inside spin room after GOP debate in Milwaukee, candidates seek post-debate bump, 'UPFRONT' with instant access to the candidates, new analysts on impact of Milwaukee debate: Conway, Priebus, Walker comment.

<https://www.wisn.com/article/upfront-recap-inside-spin-room-after-gop-debate-in-milwaukee-candidates-seek-post-debate-bump/44914289>

- Trump's drumbeat of lies about the 2020 election keeps getting louder. Here are the facts ... [in MI, PA, AZ, NV, GA] In Wisconsin, a recount slightly improved Biden's victory over Trump by 87 votes, increasing Biden's statewide lead to 20,682, or 0.6 percentage points. A nonpartisan audit that concluded a year after the election made recommendations on how to improve future elections in Wisconsin but did not uncover evidence of widespread voter fraud in the state, leading the Republican co-chair of the audit committee to declare that "the election was largely safe and secure." The state's Assembly speaker, a Republican, ordered a separate review, which a state judge said found "absolutely no evidence of election fraud." ... exhaustive AP investigation in 2021 found fewer than 475 instances of confirmed voter fraud across six battleground states ... almost every instance of voter fraud was committed by individuals [of both parties] acting alone ... almost always caught before the fraudulent ballot was counted ... Trump was repeatedly advised by members of his own administration that there was no evidence of widespread fraud. ... courts heard Trump's legal challenges and rejected them ... conspiracy theories about voting machines were unfounded ... claims involving suitcases and ballot mules are debunked.

<https://apnews.com/4fc26546b07962fdbf9d66e739fbb50d>

- John Nichols: The Conservatives Who Read the Constitution-- and Found It Disqualifies Trump, Asa Hutchinson is the only Republican presidential candidate with the courage to discuss the 14th Amendment.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/asa-hutchinson-trump-constitution/>

- DNC Chair Jaime Harrison Energizes Milwaukee Ahead of Republican Debate

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/dnc-chair-jaime-harrison>

- RNC ends summer meetings by picking Houston to host 2028 convention ... Houston last hosted a major political convention in 1992 when Republicans nominated President George H.W. Bush.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/republicans-pick-houston-for-2028-national-convention-gop/70679438007/>

- Houston will host the 2028 Republican National Convention, GOP says
<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/houston/article/republican-national-convention-announcement-18306660.php>

US SENATE RACE [^top^](#)

- Bice: Tammy Baldwin said to 'stay home' in 2020. She'd just taken a personal trip with tax dollars ... "Don't host or go to gatherings with people outside your household," Baldwin said on Nov. 25, 2020. "And just stay home if you can." ... Records show she billed taxpayers \$630 to fly from Madison to New York City, where her partner lives, for an extended weekend from Nov. 5-9, 2020, before heading back to Washington, D.C. Both Wisconsin and New York City were then experiencing a surge in COVID cases. Wisconsin was also on New York's travel restriction list at the time, too. ...

* Nov. 5 tweet: "Count this, [@realDonaldTrump](#). Today, Wisconsin has 5,922 new #COVID19 infections, 223 more people have been hospitalized, and 38 people lost their lives because of your complete and total failure to provide leadership we can count on."

* Nov. 9 tweet: "We have a raging #COVID19 outbreak in Wisconsin and across the country. This pandemic is getting worse and we need to start working together to contain it so we can get our economy on the right track and move forward."

* Nov. 10 DC presser: "My home state has one of the worst outbreaks of COVID-19 infections in the country, and we are experiencing the worst phase of this pandemic since it began ... In my state, the pandemic is getting worse, not better."

... made no trips to New York City before 2018, the year Baldwin met Brisbane at a fundraiser for New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand. Baldwin and Brisbane together own a \$1.3 million rooftop condo just steps from the U.S. Capitol. ... On eight of the nine trips [to NYC since 2018], Baldwin billed the taxpayers when on official business in the Big Apple, or she used her own funds or frequent-flyer points to cover the cost of flights if the New York leg of the trip was primarily personal. ... Just recently, Baldwin's office reimbursed the federal government for the cost of [Nov. 5-9] trip after being asked about it ... campaign staffers said the trip had been erroneously marked as official travel. Baldwin decided to reimburse the federal government, they said, "out of an abundance of caution" and without being asked. More details on Baldwin's mixed biz/personal travel.

* NRSC's Mitchell: "It takes a special kind of arrogance to tell Wisconsin taxpayers not to see their loved ones for the holidays while you bill them for a vacation to see your girlfriend."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/28/bice-baldwin-pays-back-cost-of-personal-trip-during-covid-surge/70672630007/>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- City of Stanley sues landlord over blighted property ... After numerous failed attempts to get a landlord [Kerry Brown] to clean up a yard
<https://www.leadertelegram.com/99fafb06-436d-11ee-b240-03602abb1be5.html>

- Bayfield pursues parking fees ... to address ... lack of revenue to pay for street repairs and other infrastructure .. and cars left parked all day ... Mayor Gordon

Ringberg said. "We want people to come in and do some shopping and to have a place to park to do that."

<https://www.apg-wi.com/01bbe0fa-4370-11ee-9a9b-838ea99a90fd.html>

CONSUMER PROTECTION [^top^](#)

- Whitewater tax preparer charged with tax crimes after filing 340 false returns

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/29f5ebd8-ec3d-526c-b161-175f5a48b860.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court flips liberal, creating a 'seismic shift' ... Conservatives had controlled the court for 15 years, during which they upheld a voter ID law, approved limits on collective bargaining for public workers, banned absentee ballot drop boxes and shut down a wide-ranging campaign finance investigation into Republicans. ... fielding judges and prosecutors as candidates, sharpening tough-on-crime messages and securing the support of deep-pocketed groups aligned with Republicans. But in recent years, liberals in Wisconsin have recruited candidates with similar backgrounds and seized on popular political themes. [DPW] has poured millions in ... with the retirement of a conservative justice ... Janet Protasiewicz [who] won by 11 points and flipped control of the court [gave] liberals a 4-3 majority when she was sworn in on Aug. 1. Liberals have gone on offense [in WI]. One [Dem] group [sued] over voting rules even before Protasiewicz was sworn in ... two sets of Democratic voters [sued over redistricting] within days of her taking office. A week later, [AG Kaul sought quick ruling on 1849 abortion law to speed it to Supreme Court.

* Ziegler downplayed the possibility of suing her colleagues but didn't rule it out. "I think legal action is not good for the court. Honestly, I'm sad that it's even come to the point where that might be discussed," saw Koschnick firing as "raw exercise of overreaching power."

* Justice Dallet attributed the liberals' action to Ziegler's ignoring requests to schedule a meeting on the new administrative group, "It is deeply inappropriate for the Chief Justice to continue to refuse to engage with her colleagues, but instead to publicly litigate these issues."

* Bradley noted 4-3 July ruling denying CEC for DEI class, "The new majority will reverse this court's order at its first opportunity."

* Senate Dem Leader Agard said GOP knows they will lose cases, "They can't stand it. They're mad. It sucks to lose elections, and I say that with all sincerity. It's not fun to lose, and they haven't had to lose that much."

* conservative ex-justice Wilcox: "The main thing that concerns me is the politicization of this court. Both sides. That's distressful to me because I tried as a justice when I was here to be ... evenhanded and fair-minded. And I don't think they're going to have that anymore."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/27/wisconsin-supreme-court-liberal/>

- Ron Johnson calls on Janet Protasiewicz to recuse from maps cases ... would support lawmakers impeaching Protasiewicz if she did not recuse herself. ... "They have their constitutional duties and responsibilities as well, and that may be the next step," Johnson said. "But hopefully she'll do the right thing." ... former campaign spokesman for Protasiewicz did not immediately have a reaction to Johnson's comments. ... U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, called Johnson's claim "ridiculous ... partisan

hackery ... a guy who has no credibility. He is a U.S. Senator, but he's also a joke by most standards." Reviews statements by Speaker Vos, Justice Bradley, Sen. Wanggaard at hearing on Judicial Commission appointees. Wanggaard said he had not spoken with Leader LeMahieu about scheduling a vote. LeMahieu did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-protasiewicz-to-recuse-from-wisconsin-supreme-court-redistributing-maps-cases/70679384007/>

- Jacob Blake files new federal lawsuit against Kenosha, Ofc. Sheskey ... argue excessive force was used by Sheskey and Blake's Fourth Amendment rights [unreasonable search/seizure] were violated. ... retired Police Chief Daniel Miskinis and other officers failed to properly train and supervise officers, and as a result Blake's 14th Amendment rights [equal protection] were violated after he suffered lasting injuries. ... requesting payment for pain and suffering. Kenosha did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/08/25/jacob-blake-files-new-federal-lawsuit-against-kenosha/70682929007/>

- Jacob Blake files lawsuit against city of Kenosha, former chief and officers in aftermath of 2020 shooting

<https://kenoshanews.com/1566af22-42a8-11ee-8063-bfaf3a95fec4.html>

- Charge dismissed against volunteer pastor ... Alan Lee Delvecchio, 59, of Duluth, was facing one felony count of failure to maintain sex offender registry. [Douglas County] charge was dismissed Aug. 18 [does not say why]

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/charge-dismissed-against-volunteer-pastor>

ECONOMY [^top^](#)

- Sticker shock: Average new car payments north of \$700 per month; used car prices above \$29K with 10K of debt as consumers get smacked

<https://www.dailyunion.com/a5e27206-6569-5742-904b-cbe63a4f1c47.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- UWM work group calls for no merger between UWM-WashCo and MPTC ... Washington County Board [and GOP budget] recommended Moraine Park run the merged campus, effectively ending UWM's involvement. ... The UWM work group said a merger would be "infeasible" but also concluded "UWM at Washington County cannot continue as it is, "given enrollment trends." ... Fewer than one-fifth of UWM at Washington County students receive associate degrees ... Most attend with the hope of earning a four-year degree. Just 4% of surveyed students said they'd be more likely to attend a merged institution, while 45% said they would be less likely to attend it ... recommended fully integrating the campus with UWM over the next several years. WashCo Exec. Schoemann saw more task force-work group similarities. "It seems like everyone's moving in same direction even if we don't want to use the same exact words." MPTC did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/proposal-to-merger-uwm->

[at-washington-county-with-moraine-park-stalls/70678713007/](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/)

- UW-Oshkosh sent these recent MBA grads their diplomas. Then it surprised them with a bill for another \$7,900. ... students' understanding was that because they applied for graduation and received diplomas, they had paid all bills related to the \$59,500 program, five graduates explained in a written letter [to Chancellor Leavitt] ... But a June 1 letter from university bursar Sarah Anderson informed students about a recently completed audit that found [thru a "coding error"] they had been undercharged for their final term. ... UWO doesn't have a policy linking graduation or receipt of a diploma to the end of student payments to the university. ... "My gut instinct is that most colleges would just eat the loss on a billing mistake, but UWO is in a challenging financial position," [UT prof.] Klechen said in an email. UWO's Breister said mistake affected only recent graduates of the executive MBA program. Recent grad Kuzik said he'd notified UWO of previous billing errors and got refund, never received a response from Leavitt letter, emails to controller Braatz, dean Braun also went unanswered or denied their meeting request, as did letters to System pres. ROTHman, Ed Sec. Cardona. Sment for Rothman cited Aug. 7 response, but Kuzik didn't get it. UWO agreed to extend repayment over six months
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Environmental groups recruit people of color into overwhelmingly white conservation world ... More than 80% of National Park Service employees are white, according to service data. A 2022 survey of the 40 largest non-government environmental organizations and foundations by Green 2.0, an organization advocating for minority inclusion in the environmental sector, found 60% of staff and almost 70% of organization heads identified as white. Hispanics made up only about 13.6% of grad students and 12.8% of doctoral students in biology/nat res in 2021 [Blacks 9.5% and 6%, Native Americans less than 1% of both].

* Green Jobs Board/Brown Girl Green podcaster Drutman: "I don't think BIPOC are choosing not to be in the outdoors, they're just not given the same opportunity. Urbanization, racial segregation, all these histories have separated BIPOC from neighbors with more green spaces. It's become a white people's thing because of that."

* UWSP minority recruiter Alba: "(Minority) mentors and educators are unfamiliar with these opportunities."

* UW-Madison's Barajas landed an internship for people of color at Baraboo's Int'l Crane Foundation HQ, "Sometimes I'll hear about children's programming on different natural things. I'm thinking, what opportunities do you have for people who don't speak English?"

* Natural Resources Foundation of WI's Gaddameedi: "No one solution fits all. People of color are in the communities facing the worst impact. It's important that they have a voice."

* Amplify the Future's James provides college scholarships for Black and Latinx bird watchers, "When we're making decisions about the use of finite resources ... it requires a diversity of vision to answer these types of important questions."

<https://apnews.com/c7b2b268dfcbf5e46c347ab2294bb061>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Cities are embracing teen curfews, though they might not curb crime, Experts worry that curfews disproportionately target young people of color. ... In 1996, President Bill Clinton called on cities and towns to impose nightly curfews on teenagers. Today more than 400 towns, cities and counties have enacted youth curfew laws ... More than a dozen cities and counties have reinstated or enforced juvenile curfews this year, including Washington, D.C.; Memphis, Tennessee; New Smyrna Beach, Florida; Sea Isle City, New Jersey; and Fulton County, Georgia. Philadelphia and Chicago made their curfews permanent last year. Vicksburg, Mississippi, recently reinstated its curfew following a shooting in January that killed a 13-year-old and left two others injured.... But U.S. juvenile curfews are "ineffective at reducing crime and victimization," according to a review summarizing the findings of 12 studies that was published in 2016 by the Campbell Collaboration ... found a slight increase in crime during curfew hours and no effect on non-curfew hours. ... may also move crime from one area to another because "kids don't obey geographic boundaries." ... Black minors have been arrested for curfew and loitering charges at two or three times the rate of their white counterparts. ... "Treatments and interventions, and as little contact with police and courts as possible, are very important ingredients in trying to prevent juvenile crime," [prof] Carbone said.

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/28/cities-are-embracing-teen-curfews-though-they-might-not-curb-crime/>

MANUFACTURING [^top^](#)

- Growing amidst constant change will be theme of Next Generation Manufacturing Summit [Oct. 5] ... will be a half-day program with exhibitors, seminars, breakout sessions and a panel of local manufacturing leaders discussing trends and best practices. ... at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. ... sponsored by Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WMEP) and BMO.

<https://biztimes.com/growing-amidst-constant-change-will-be-theme-of-next-generation-manufacturing-summit/>

- Microsoft moving dirt in Mount Pleasant, selects lead builder for \$1B data center ... Chicago-based megabuilder Walsh Construction ... is starting the process of seeking subcontractors to prepare for the start of vertical construction of the data center's four buildings. ... The Microsoft project will create thousands of construction jobs during a time when many private industrial projects are stalling or stopping in response to rising interest rates, construction costs and other factors. ... gained [DNR] approvals in mid-July to fill some wetlands ... village approval for a site plan in late June.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/27/microsoft-data-center-walsh-construction.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee renters face higher lead poisoning risks as city struggles to hold landlords accountable, 'We have to do something,' a Milwaukee Health Dept.'s Mannan says as the city rolls out a new approach to removing lead from older rentals ... Landlords sometimes refuse inspectors entry for fear they will find other code violations ... [mother of poisoned child's] landlord didn't fully address the home's lead

hazards. ... broke her lease and moved in with family and later lived at a shelter. ... Ogden and Company, Inc., sued her and garnished her mother's wages for years, since she had co-signed on the lease, she said. ... Branch has since found a safe home and become an advocate for parents facing lead hazards, even spotlighting the issue while meeting President Joe Biden. ... Milwaukee Common Council ... in July 2022, enacting an ordinance ... That included allowing the Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services, or DNS, to allow tenants to withhold rent when landlords fail to comply. But DNS received zero rent-withholding referrals during the ordinance's first year ... city health department issued just 26 citations to 13 companies or individual landlords for unaddressed lead problems from July 2022 to June 2023, with nine citations against four entities later dropped due to out-of-date inspections ... Not all landlords are the same, and some struggle to afford the average \$40,000-per-unit cost of abatement. ... [DHS'] Lead-Safe Homes program covers 100% of abatement costs to landlords ...has completed lead abatement in 332 homes statewide ... since its 2020 launch. [details of lead testing on Branch's ADHD-afflicted son.] ... Republican-controlled Legislature under former Gov. Scott Walker capped [inspection] fees as part of a series of laws that limited renter protections. [see Taylor column]

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/milwaukee-renters-face-high-lead-poisoning-risks/>

- Worried about lead as a Wisconsin tenant or property owner? Here's what to know.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/lead-hazard-wisconsin-tenants-property>

RACE RELATIONS [^top^](#)

- 'Tell 'em about the dream, Martin!': Memories from the crowd at MLK's March on Washington

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/nation/2023/08/23/march-on-washington-60th-anniversary-faces-in-the-crowd-share-stories/70233565007/>

RETAIL [^top^](#)

- Are Wisconsin businesses size inclusive? Customers ask for more room to maneuver, but hurdles are complex ... An estimated 34 million Americans faced weight discrimination in 2019 alone ... verbal stigma, denied access to medical treatment, financial inequality and struggles to use local resources like public buses or clothing stores. ... USAT-WI surveyed readers and talked to consumers and business owners about their experiences and struggles in addressing size inclusivity. Local and national experts also shared insights about the issue and what can be done to address it.

<https://www.postcrescent.com/story/money/2023/08/28/wisconsin-shoppers-talk-size-inclusivity-with-local-businesses/70406005007/>

SMALL BUSINESS [^top^](#)

- Fork Farms, RC Mowers among 5 Green Bay area companies named 'fastest growing' by Inc. magazine

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/companies/2023/08/18/five-companies-from-the-green-bay-area-made-the-inc-5000-list-of-2023/70601505007/>

- New Auburn transload company wins Business of the Year award

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/74d8292a-42aa-11ee-bd13-0be2e357f926.html>

- Calm and Collected Cannabis Co. offers legal cannabinoid products in Chippewa Falls

<https://lacrossetribune.com/d4d58714-4516-11ee-9abd-bb6dc64ba892.html>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Madison gaming industry is booming, panelists say ... at the annual Power Up Wisconsin Gaming and Esports Summit Friday at the Annex. ... local industry includes Raven Software, based in Middleton, a subsidiary of multibillion dollar publisher Activision ... Bethesda Softworks -- a publisher whose studio is known for series such as Elder Scrolls and Fallout ... Roundhouse, in Madison ... PUBG Corporation (developer of PUBG: Battlegrounds), Epic Games (developer and publisher of Fortnite), Respawn Entertainment (developer of Apex Legends), Filament Games and Lost Boys Interactive also have offices in Madison.

<https://captimes.com/fd10bdac-5400-54ee-8593-19e53a1b0359.html>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Mark Attanasio discusses future of Craig Counsell as Brewers manager; ballpark funding ... [Counsell] signed a three-year extension on Jan. 8, 2020, and since then has become Milwaukee's winningest manager529 winning percentage while becoming the senior skipper in the National League as well as the third-longest-tenured manager in all the major leagues. ... Attanasio: "It's up to Craig. We'd love to have him here, obviously, for a jillion reasons." ... [VP Schlesinger said stadium funding issue is in "middle innings." Attanasio: "I'll tell you one of the things a politician made a point of. Let's say you had a major airline that wanted to come in and have a hub here, or even let's say the center of the government in Madison. Would the state build an airport to have a major hub here? Of course they would." On moving the team: Attanasio: "Look, me, Debbie, our family, we very much want to stay. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the fact that while the ballpark looks beautiful -- I mean, it is beautiful -- the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast and the simple fact is the District is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. And so, we're trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money. And not in a Band-Aid kind of way. And so, whatever speculation, my goal is to be here. The politicians say 2050? I say great, until 2050." Downplays his chairmanship of MLB relocation committee.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/mlb/brewers/2023/08/26/mark-attanasio-discusses-craig-counsell-with-brewers-ballpark-funding/70677148007/>

- Hudson's Randy Hohn completes bucket list bike trip across country

<https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/8966612a-42a7-11ee-8b34-5bdf2c447ab1.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Debate heats up on proposal to tear down Interstate 794 ... Sen. Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville) released a letter Aug. 21 in which he pointed out any proposal to remove the section of freeway would need approval from the state Legislature. ... Ald. Jonathan Brostoff, a proponent of the teardown option, said Stroebel was wrong. ...

Some downtown stakeholders have raised similar concerns that removing I-794 could make commuting more difficult, or lead to congested local streets that would also [deter foot traffic] ... "Downtown employers aren't choosing downtown because of the highways," said [Rethink 794's] Jones ... "They choose downtowns because they know a vibrant, attractive, mixed use neighborhood is what the future of their workforce demands. This isn't 1960. The freeway-as-economic-development-tool has failed us and it's time to give up on the experiment. ... This isn't just a small loud group, it's a movement of people that are interested in seeing a better future for Milwaukee than the status-quo. Would the Deer District and Fiserv Forum be what it is if we kept the status-quo? Would the Third Ward be what it is today if people didn't envision it as a premier place to live and shop 30 years ago?"

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/25/debate-heats-up-on-proposal-to-tear-down-interstat.html>

- Portage municipal airport not closing -- yet

<https://wiscnews.com/1b13b76e-434b-11ee-ad07-eb65b8be06ff.html>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Potawatomi casino gambling revenue stays flat as tribe prepares to fight new competitors ... won at least \$415M from gamblers during the 12 month period that ended June 30 ... increased by just 1.7% ... lags that of other tribal [+4.9%] and Las Vegas [+10.5%] casinos. ... has allowed the tribe to pay its members dividends of about \$70,000 a year. "The Milwaukee casino market is maturing, but there is still room for future growth," said [Victor Strategies] Johnson ... "Tribal gaming is still growing. I expect the Potawatomi to continue to grow. ... Las Vegas is doing well. Regional casinos are having a harder time." ... tribe pays the city and county of Milwaukee 1.5% of its net win [after \$20M to state] ... \$5.9M+ to each government for the year that ended June 30. ... new competitors will soon be opening in Chicago's downtown; Waukegan, Illinois; and Beloit in coming months. ... Add to that the Menominee tribe's never-ending effort to place a casino in Kenosha. ... "I don't think anyone was anticipating the massive expansion of gaming in Illinois," said [Potawatomi AG] Crawford ... "Obviously it's something we're paying attention to. ... A good number of these entities make Potawatomi look like a small operation. We're kind of like a mom-and-pop operation compared with the big boys." Reviews new sports book, food/music venues at Potawatomi.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/business/2023/08/28/gamblers-lose-more-than-400-million-to-potawatomi-in-past-year/70663782007/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- WSJ editorial: Where's the GOP plan to prevent child care centers from closing? ... [Steffen-James] tax exemption on baby products ... is being reintroduced just as the governor seeks legislative action to address the looming end to federal subsidies for child care providers. But saving \$5 a month on \$100 in diapers, while helpful, isn't going to make or break a family budget. ... Vos has a point. The state can't backfill every fading federal relief program ... But what's the Republicans' alternative ... Saving \$5 on diapers? ... If Republican lawmakers ... won't even discuss it in special session, as the governor requested -- what's their counter proposal? Wisconsin is waiting.

<https://madison.com/d0b7ec44-4084-11ee-8348-47cf8fcdf88a.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dave Zweifel: UW shortfall of the GOP's making

<https://captimes.com/244dc00f-9c6f-5fa5-a353-bc0ee08a850c.html>

- James Causey: Making family phone calls free for prisoners is a cheap tool for reducing recidivism, Evidence shows close family ties makes reentry easier for inmates, keeps their kids healthier and prisons safer. ... [ex-inmate Ross] estimates his parents spent between \$15-17K [over 20-yrs] to receive phone calls from him in prison. Wisconsin is one of a dozen states where bills have been introduced or are being drafted allowing for free or reduced calls in jails and prisons. ... While phone calls are essential, [Table of Saints] McMurray said she didn't think phone calls should be free. ... Currently, Wisconsin has some of the highest rates for calls from prisons and jails and is considering upping the fees it charges inmates for sending e-mails. ... survey shows Wisconsin has among the "highest costs of a 15-minute in-state call from a jail," at \$21.97. ... "They nickel and dime inmates every chance they get. It's not right because if you look at who the inmates are, they are already poor," [Ross] said. ... In 2021, Connecticut became the first state to make all prison phone calls free. Since then, California, Colorado, and Minnesota have followed. ... Over the years, I have taken dozens of phone calls from prisoners who wanted to talk to me about their cases or inform me about the abuse they deal with while incarcerated. ... "When you are locked up, people on the outside keep living," [ex-inmate Dixon] said. "They travel, have birthdays, go to parties, and sometimes you don't have anything going on when locked up. Those calls are all you need to keep going."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/columnists/2023/08/26/free-phone-calls-for-inmates/70682963007/>

- Sen. Lena Taylor: Lead Lateral Replacement Timeline Doesn't Add Up ... WI should receive \$370M+ [from Infrastructure law], with MWW requesting \$30M of that. Milwaukee Mayor Johnson said his original goal was to replace all lead service lines in the next 70 years, the new funding changes it to 20 years. VP Harris seemed to believe that we would have them replaced in 10 years. ... Milwaukee must do better. There needs to be a sense of urgency that shows up in our planning and ability to scale up to meet an aggressive repair schedule. We have to look at best practices around the country, or right in our own backyard (Madison) to see how to make meaningful progress. The health of our residents demands no less.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/lead-lateral-replacement>

- Rep. LaKeshia Myers' Summer Reading List #3: The 'Girl Power' Edition ... five books by authors I found worthwhile. Friedan, Betty. The Feminine Mystique. New York: Norton, 1963. ... Chisholm, Shirley, 1924- 2005. Unbought and Unbossed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1970. ... Schlafly, Phyllis. A Choice, Not an Echo. 1st ed. Alton, IL: Pere Marquette, 1963. ... Steinem, Gloria. Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1983. ... Abzug, Bella. Bella!: Ms. Abzug Goes to Washington. New York: Sunday Review Press, 1972.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/rep-myers-summer-reading>

- UW prof. Susan Webb Yackee and MGIC chair Curt S. Culver: Lunch at Culver's fitting place to find common ground in polarizing political climate, The promotion of civil discourse is one of the most urgent actions the La Follette School can take going forward ... As an educator and a businessman, we recognize that it is far easier to talk about issues with people who tend to agree with you. But, in school and in the workplace, there is immense value in debating and listening to people who -- quite frankly -- don't. Just like a ButterBurger, we'd like to think this is something nearly everyone in Wisconsin can agree on.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/2023/08/28/civil-discourse-priority-at-la-follette-school-in-ere-of-incivility/70682714007/>

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TOP STORIES

Members of US Congress make a rare visit to opposition-held northwest Syria

Three US Congress members [Cline, Hill, Fitzgerald] have made a brief visit to opposition-held northwest Syria in the first known trip to the war-torn country by American lawmakers in six years ... facility is a school for orphans that is a project of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, a U.S.-based Syrian opposition organization that facilitated the lawmakers' trip. ... also met with opposition and humanitarian leaders. Last Congressional trips were McCain, Gabbard in 2017. By Knickmeyer & Sewell, AP <https://www.channel3000.com/c96c23a0-2a8c-50c2-983f-37e981719fab.html>

First lady Jill Biden to travel to Madison

First lady Jill Biden is planning to make a stop in Madison [Thursday], capping off a three-stop visit around the Midwest. In the afternoon, as part of the Biden Cancer Moonshot, the First Lady and Sen. Baldwin will participate in a tour and listening session to highlight the importance of early detection and improving access to cancer screenings. In addition, Jill Biden will

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deliver remarks at an educator appreciation event with the National Education Association and American Federation of Teachers in Madison. Biden will also attend and deliver remarks at a political finance event with Baldwin in the evening. By Davis, WMTV <https://www.nbc15.com/2023/08/26/first-lady-jill-biden-travel-madison/>

Johnson says Wisconsin fake electors should not face charges for 'political activity'

... "The fact that we are criminalizing political activity, that's a danger to our democracy. It shouldn't happen," Johnson told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel following a roundtable focused on barriers people face after incarceration. [referenced alternative Dem electors in HI in 1960 pre-recount when Nixon won by 100 votes; JFK was winner after recount] ... "It's a way to preserve a legal position, should courts rule that there were issues in the election. Democrats have done this, Republicans have done this," Johnson said. ... said he has not been subpoenaed in a [Trump] federal grand jury ... "There has to be accountability for perpetrating the big lie," [Baldwin] said in Port Washington. "We know who won the election in Wisconsin. The folks who oversee the election said it was the most secure election we ever had." ... A jury trial in a civil lawsuit against the Republican fake electors will take place in Dane County Circuit Court in September 2024, just weeks before the presidential election. By Katzenberger, Hope MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-wisconsin-fake-electors-shouldnt-be-charged/70680003007/>

Brewers principal owner is optimistic about stadium negotiations, wants to keep team in Milwaukee.

Brewers Am Fam Field lease expires in 2030, with SEWPBPD paying stadium upkeep/improvements, for which board claims NSF. Evers' \$290M deal extended lease to 2043. Speaker Vos pooh-poohed that and suggested a lengthier extension.

* Attanasio before 5-4 win over Padres at AmFam Field: "I'm optimistic. We just have to get the three constituencies -- which would be the governor, the Assembly and the Senate -- to come together. ... We have very good chemistry with the politicians in terms of having a shared goal. The goal is to keep the team here for another generation, whether that's 2040, or now frankly they are talking about 2050, which (is) great by me. ... We very much want to stay here. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the reality that while this ballpark, it's beautiful, the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast. The simple fact is the district is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. We're

trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money, and not in a band-aid kind of way." By AP
<https://apnews.com/97f3ca909423b3a8eb95ced312048f7f>

STORY TOPICS
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WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Inside spin room after GOP debate in Milwaukee, candidates seek post-debate bump, 'UPFRONT' with instant access to the candidates, new analysts on impact of Milwaukee debate: Conway, Priebus, Walker comment.

<https://www.wisn.com/article/upfront-recap-inside-spin-room-after-gop-debate-in-milwaukee-candidates-seek-post-debate-bump/44914289>

- Trump's drumbeat of lies about the 2020 election keeps getting louder. Here are the facts ... [in MI, PA, AZ, NV, GA] In Wisconsin, a recount slightly improved Biden's victory over Trump by 87 votes, increasing Biden's statewide lead to 20,682, or 0.6 percentage points. A nonpartisan audit that concluded a year after the election made recommendations on how to improve future elections in Wisconsin but did not uncover evidence of widespread voter fraud in the state, leading the Republican co-chair of the audit committee to declare that "the election was largely safe and secure." The state's Assembly speaker, a Republican, ordered a separate review, which a state judge said found "absolutely no evidence of election fraud." ... exhaustive AP investigation in 2021 found fewer than 475 instances of confirmed voter fraud across six battleground states ... almost every instance of voter fraud was committed by individuals [of both parties] acting alone ... almost always caught before the fraudulent ballot was counted ... Trump was repeatedly advised by members of his own administration that there was no evidence of widespread fraud. ... courts heard Trump's legal challenges and rejected them ... conspiracy theories about voting machines were unfounded ... claims involving suitcases and ballot mules are debunked.

<https://apnews.com/4fc26546b07962fdbf9d66e739fbb50d>

- John Nichols: The Conservatives Who Read the Constitution-- and Found It Disqualifies Trump, Asa Hutchinson is the only Republican presidential candidate with the courage to discuss the 14th Amendment.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/asa-hutchinson-trump-constitution/>

- DNC Chair Jaime Harrison Energizes Milwaukee Ahead of Republican Debate

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/dnc-chair-jaime-harrison>

- RNC ends summer meetings by picking Houston to host 2028 convention ... Houston last hosted a major political convention in 1992 when Republicans nominated President George H.W. Bush.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/republicans-pick-houston-for-2028-national-convention-gop/70679438007/>

- Houston will host the 2028 Republican National Convention, GOP says
<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/houston/article/republican-national-convention-announcement-18306660.php>

US SENATE RACE [^top^](#)

- Bice: Tammy Baldwin said to 'stay home' in 2020. She'd just taken a personal trip with tax dollars ... "Don't host or go to gatherings with people outside your household," Baldwin said on Nov. 25, 2020. "And just stay home if you can." ... Records show she billed taxpayers \$630 to fly from Madison to New York City, where her partner lives, for an extended weekend from Nov. 5-9, 2020, before heading back to Washington, D.C. Both Wisconsin and New York City were then experiencing a surge in COVID cases. Wisconsin was also on New York's travel restriction list at the time, too. ...

* Nov. 5 tweet: "Count this, [@realDonaldTrump](#). Today, Wisconsin has 5,922 new #COVID19 infections, 223 more people have been hospitalized, and 38 people lost their lives because of your complete and total failure to provide leadership we can count on."

* Nov. 9 tweet: "We have a raging #COVID19 outbreak in Wisconsin and across the country. This pandemic is getting worse and we need to start working together to contain it so we can get our economy on the right track and move forward."

* Nov. 10 DC presser: "My home state has one of the worst outbreaks of COVID-19 infections in the country, and we are experiencing the worst phase of this pandemic since it began ... In my state, the pandemic is getting worse, not better."

... made no trips to New York City before 2018, the year Baldwin met Brisbane at a fundraiser for New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand. Baldwin and Brisbane together own a \$1.3 million rooftop condo just steps from the U.S. Capitol. ... On eight of the nine trips [to NYC since 2018], Baldwin billed the taxpayers when on official business in the Big Apple, or she used her own funds or frequent-flyer points to cover the cost of flights if the New York leg of the trip was primarily personal. ... Just recently, Baldwin's office reimbursed the federal government for the cost of [Nov. 5-9] trip after being asked about it ... campaign staffers said the trip had been erroneously marked as official travel. Baldwin decided to reimburse the federal government, they said, "out of an abundance of caution" and without being asked. More details on Baldwin's mixed biz/personal travel.

* NRSC's Mitchell: "It takes a special kind of arrogance to tell Wisconsin taxpayers not to see their loved ones for the holidays while you bill them for a vacation to see your girlfriend."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/28/bice-baldwin-pays-back-cost-of-personal-trip-during-covid-surge/70672630007/>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- City of Stanley sues landlord over blighted property ... After numerous failed attempts to get a landlord [Kerry Brown] to clean up a yard
<https://www.leadertelegram.com/99fafb06-436d-11ee-b240-03602abb1be5.html>

- Bayfield pursues parking fees ... to address ... lack of revenue to pay for street repairs and other infrastructure .. and cars left parked all day ... Mayor Gordon

Ringberg said. "We want people to come in and do some shopping and to have a place to park to do that."

<https://www.apg-wi.com/01bbe0fa-4370-11ee-9a9b-838ea99a90fd.html>

CONSUMER PROTECTION [^top^](#)

- Whitewater tax preparer charged with tax crimes after filing 340 false returns

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/29f5ebd8-ec3d-526c-b161-175f5a48b860.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court flips liberal, creating a 'seismic shift' ... Conservatives had controlled the court for 15 years, during which they upheld a voter ID law, approved limits on collective bargaining for public workers, banned absentee ballot drop boxes and shut down a wide-ranging campaign finance investigation into Republicans. ... fielding judges and prosecutors as candidates, sharpening tough-on-crime messages and securing the support of deep-pocketed groups aligned with Republicans. But in recent years, liberals in Wisconsin have recruited candidates with similar backgrounds and seized on popular political themes. [DPW] has poured millions in ... with the retirement of a conservative justice ... Janet Protasiewicz [who] won by 11 points and flipped control of the court [gave] liberals a 4-3 majority when she was sworn in on Aug. 1. Liberals have gone on offense [in WI]. One [Dem] group [sued] over voting rules even before Protasiewicz was sworn in ... two sets of Democratic voters [sued over redistricting] within days of her taking office. A week later, [AG Kaul sought quick ruling on 1849 abortion law to speed it to Supreme Court.

* Ziegler downplayed the possibility of suing her colleagues but didn't rule it out. "I think legal action is not good for the court. Honestly, I'm sad that it's even come to the point where that might be discussed," saw Koschnick firing as "raw exercise of overreaching power."

* Justice Dallet attributed the liberals' action to Ziegler's ignoring requests to schedule a meeting on the new administrative group, "It is deeply inappropriate for the Chief Justice to continue to refuse to engage with her colleagues, but instead to publicly litigate these issues."

* Bradley noted 4-3 July ruling denying CEC for DEI class, "The new majority will reverse this court's order at its first opportunity."

* Senate Dem Leader Agard said GOP knows they will lose cases, "They can't stand it. They're mad. It sucks to lose elections, and I say that with all sincerity. It's not fun to lose, and they haven't had to lose that much."

* conservative ex-justice Wilcox: "The main thing that concerns me is the politicization of this court. Both sides. That's distressful to me because I tried as a justice when I was here to be ... evenhanded and fair-minded. And I don't think they're going to have that anymore."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/27/wisconsin-supreme-court-liberal/>

- Ron Johnson calls on Janet Protasiewicz to recuse from maps cases ... would support lawmakers impeaching Protasiewicz if she did not recuse herself. ... "They have their constitutional duties and responsibilities as well, and that may be the next step," Johnson said. "But hopefully she'll do the right thing." ... former campaign spokesman for Protasiewicz did not immediately have a reaction to Johnson's comments. ... U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, called Johnson's claim "ridiculous ... partisan

hackery ... a guy who has no credibility. He is a U.S. Senator, but he's also a joke by most standards." Reviews statements by Speaker Vos, Justice Bradley, Sen. Wanggaard at hearing on Judicial Commission appointees. Wanggaard said he had not spoken with Leader LeMahieu about scheduling a vote. LeMahieu did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-protasiewicz-to-recuse-from-wisconsin-supreme-court-redistributing-maps-cases/70679384007/>

- Jacob Blake files new federal lawsuit against Kenosha, Ofc. Sheskey ... argue excessive force was used by Sheskey and Blake's Fourth Amendment rights [unreasonable search/seizure] were violated. ... retired Police Chief Daniel Miskinis and other officers failed to properly train and supervise officers, and as a result Blake's 14th Amendment rights [equal protection] were violated after he suffered lasting injuries. ... requesting payment for pain and suffering. Kenosha did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/08/25/jacob-blake-files-new-federal-lawsuit-against-kenosha/70682929007/>

- Jacob Blake files lawsuit against city of Kenosha, former chief and officers in aftermath of 2020 shooting

<https://kenoshanews.com/1566af22-42a8-11ee-8063-bfaf3a95fec4.html>

- Charge dismissed against volunteer pastor ... Alan Lee Delvecchio, 59, of Duluth, was facing one felony count of failure to maintain sex offender registry. [Douglas County] charge was dismissed Aug. 18 [does not say why]

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/charge-dismissed-against-volunteer-pastor>

ECONOMY [^top^](#)

- Sticker shock: Average new car payments north of \$700 per month; used car prices above \$29K with 10K of debt as consumers get smacked

<https://www.dailyunion.com/a5e27206-6569-5742-904b-cbe63a4f1c47.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- UWM work group calls for no merger between UWM-WashCo and MPTC ... Washington County Board [and GOP budget] recommended Moraine Park run the merged campus, effectively ending UWM's involvement. ... The UWM work group said a merger would be "infeasible" but also concluded "UWM at Washington County cannot continue as it is, "given enrollment trends." ... Fewer than one-fifth of UWM at Washington County students receive associate degrees ... Most attend with the hope of earning a four-year degree. Just 4% of surveyed students said they'd be more likely to attend a merged institution, while 45% said they would be less likely to attend it ... recommended fully integrating the campus with UWM over the next several years. WashCo Exec. Schoemann saw more task force-work group similarities. "It seems like everyone's moving in same direction even if we don't want to use the same exact words." MPTC did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/proposal-to-merger-uwm->

[at-washington-county-with-moraine-park-stalls/70678713007/](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/)

- UW-Oshkosh sent these recent MBA grads their diplomas. Then it surprised them with a bill for another \$7,900. ... students' understanding was that because they applied for graduation and received diplomas, they had paid all bills related to the \$59,500 program, five graduates explained in a written letter [to Chancellor Leavitt] ... But a June 1 letter from university bursar Sarah Anderson informed students about a recently completed audit that found [thru a "coding error"] they had been undercharged for their final term. ... UWO doesn't have a policy linking graduation or receipt of a diploma to the end of student payments to the university. ... "My gut instinct is that most colleges would just eat the loss on a billing mistake, but UWO is in a challenging financial position," [UT prof.] Klechen said in an email. UWO's Breister said mistake affected only recent graduates of the executive MBA program. Recent grad Kuzik said he'd notified UWO of previous billing errors and got refund, never received a response from Leavitt letter, emails to controller Braatz, dean Braun also went unanswered or denied their meeting request, as did letters to System pres. ROTHman, Ed Sec. Cardona. Sment for Rothman cited Aug. 7 response, but Kuzik didn't get it. UWO agreed to extend repayment over six months
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Environmental groups recruit people of color into overwhelmingly white conservation world ... More than 80% of National Park Service employees are white, according to service data. A 2022 survey of the 40 largest non-government environmental organizations and foundations by Green 2.0, an organization advocating for minority inclusion in the environmental sector, found 60% of staff and almost 70% of organization heads identified as white. Hispanics made up only about 13.6% of grad students and 12.8% of doctoral students in biology/nat res in 2021 [Blacks 9.5% and 6%, Native Americans less than 1% of both].

* Green Jobs Board/Brown Girl Green podcaster Drutman: "I don't think BIPOC are choosing not to be in the outdoors, they're just not given the same opportunity. Urbanization, racial segregation, all these histories have separated BIPOC from neighbors with more green spaces. It's become a white people's thing because of that."

* UWSP minority recruiter Alba: "(Minority) mentors and educators are unfamiliar with these opportunities."

* UW-Madison's Barajas landed an internship for people of color at Baraboo's Int'l Crane Foundation HQ, "Sometimes I'll hear about children's programming on different natural things. I'm thinking, what opportunities do you have for people who don't speak English?"

* Natural Resources Foundation of WI's Gaddameedi: "No one solution fits all. People of color are in the communities facing the worst impact. It's important that they have a voice."

* Amplify the Future's James provides college scholarships for Black and Latinx bird watchers, "When we're making decisions about the use of finite resources ... it requires a diversity of vision to answer these types of important questions."

<https://apnews.com/c7b2b268dfcbf5e46c347ab2294bb061>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Cities are embracing teen curfews, though they might not curb crime, Experts worry that curfews disproportionately target young people of color. ... In 1996, President Bill Clinton called on cities and towns to impose nightly curfews on teenagers. Today more than 400 towns, cities and counties have enacted youth curfew laws ... More than a dozen cities and counties have reinstated or enforced juvenile curfews this year, including Washington, D.C.; Memphis, Tennessee; New Smyrna Beach, Florida; Sea Isle City, New Jersey; and Fulton County, Georgia. Philadelphia and Chicago made their curfews permanent last year. Vicksburg, Mississippi, recently reinstated its curfew following a shooting in January that killed a 13-year-old and left two others injured.... But U.S. juvenile curfews are "ineffective at reducing crime and victimization," according to a review summarizing the findings of 12 studies that was published in 2016 by the Campbell Collaboration ... found a slight increase in crime during curfew hours and no effect on non-curfew hours. ... may also move crime from one area to another because "kids don't obey geographic boundaries." ... Black minors have been arrested for curfew and loitering charges at two or three times the rate of their white counterparts. ... "Treatments and interventions, and as little contact with police and courts as possible, are very important ingredients in trying to prevent juvenile crime," [prof] Carbone said.

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/28/cities-are-embracing-teen-curfews-though-they-might-not-curb-crime/>

MANUFACTURING [^top^](#)

- Growing amidst constant change will be theme of Next Generation Manufacturing Summit [Oct. 5] ... will be a half-day program with exhibitors, seminars, breakout sessions and a panel of local manufacturing leaders discussing trends and best practices. ... at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. ... sponsored by Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WMEP) and BMO.

<https://biztimes.com/growing-amidst-constant-change-will-be-theme-of-next-generation-manufacturing-summit/>

- Microsoft moving dirt in Mount Pleasant, selects lead builder for \$1B data center ... Chicago-based megabuilder Walsh Construction ... is starting the process of seeking subcontractors to prepare for the start of vertical construction of the data center's four buildings. ... The Microsoft project will create thousands of construction jobs during a time when many private industrial projects are stalling or stopping in response to rising interest rates, construction costs and other factors. ... gained [DNR] approvals in mid-July to fill some wetlands ... village approval for a site plan in late June.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/27/microsoft-data-center-walsh-construction.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee renters face higher lead poisoning risks as city struggles to hold landlords accountable, 'We have to do something,' a Milwaukee Health Dept.'s Mannan says as the city rolls out a new approach to removing lead from older rentals ... Landlords sometimes refuse inspectors entry for fear they will find other code violations ... [mother of poisoned child's] landlord didn't fully address the home's lead

hazards. ... broke her lease and moved in with family and later lived at a shelter. ... Ogden and Company, Inc., sued her and garnished her mother's wages for years, since she had co-signed on the lease, she said. ... Branch has since found a safe home and become an advocate for parents facing lead hazards, even spotlighting the issue while meeting President Joe Biden. ... Milwaukee Common Council ... in July 2022, enacting an ordinance ... That included allowing the Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services, or DNS, to allow tenants to withhold rent when landlords fail to comply. But DNS received zero rent-withholding referrals during the ordinance's first year ... city health department issued just 26 citations to 13 companies or individual landlords for unaddressed lead problems from July 2022 to June 2023, with nine citations against four entities later dropped due to out-of-date inspections ... Not all landlords are the same, and some struggle to afford the average \$40,000-per-unit cost of abatement. ... [DHS'] Lead-Safe Homes program covers 100% of abatement costs to landlords ...has completed lead abatement in 332 homes statewide ... since its 2020 launch. [details of lead testing on Branch's ADHD-afflicted son.] ... Republican-controlled Legislature under former Gov. Scott Walker capped [inspection] fees as part of a series of laws that limited renter protections. [see Taylor column]

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/milwaukee-renters-face-high-lead-poisoning-risks/>

- Worried about lead as a Wisconsin tenant or property owner? Here's what to know.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/lead-hazard-wisconsin-tenants-property>

RACE RELATIONS [^top^](#)

- 'Tell 'em about the dream, Martin!': Memories from the crowd at MLK's March on Washington

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/nation/2023/08/23/march-on-washington-60th-anniversary-faces-in-the-crowd-share-stories/70233565007/>

RETAIL [^top^](#)

- Are Wisconsin businesses size inclusive? Customers ask for more room to maneuver, but hurdles are complex ... An estimated 34 million Americans faced weight discrimination in 2019 alone ... verbal stigma, denied access to medical treatment, financial inequality and struggles to use local resources like public buses or clothing stores. ... USAT-WI surveyed readers and talked to consumers and business owners about their experiences and struggles in addressing size inclusivity. Local and national experts also shared insights about the issue and what can be done to address it.

<https://www.postcrescent.com/story/money/2023/08/28/wisconsin-shoppers-talk-size-inclusivity-with-local-businesses/70406005007/>

SMALL BUSINESS [^top^](#)

- Fork Farms, RC Mowers among 5 Green Bay area companies named 'fastest growing' by Inc. magazine

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/companies/2023/08/18/five-companies-from-the-green-bay-area-made-the-inc-5000-list-of-2023/70601505007/>

- New Auburn transload company wins Business of the Year award

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/74d8292a-42aa-11ee-bd13-0be2e357f926.html>

- Calm and Collected Cannabis Co. offers legal cannabinoid products in Chippewa Falls

<https://lacrossetribune.com/d4d58714-4516-11ee-9abd-bb6dc64ba892.html>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Madison gaming industry is booming, panelists say ... at the annual Power Up Wisconsin Gaming and Esports Summit Friday at the Annex. ... local industry includes Raven Software, based in Middleton, a subsidiary of multibillion dollar publisher Activision ... Bethesda Softworks -- a publisher whose studio is known for series such as Elder Scrolls and Fallout ... Roundhouse, in Madison ... PUBG Corporation (developer of PUBG: Battlegrounds), Epic Games (developer and publisher of Fortnite), Respawn Entertainment (developer of Apex Legends), Filament Games and Lost Boys Interactive also have offices in Madison.

<https://captimes.com/fd10bdac-5400-54ee-8593-19e53a1b0359.html>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Mark Attanasio discusses future of Craig Counsell as Brewers manager; ballpark funding ... [Counsell] signed a three-year extension on Jan. 8, 2020, and since then has become Milwaukee's winningest manager529 winning percentage while becoming the senior skipper in the National League as well as the third-longest-tenured manager in all the major leagues. ... Attanasio: "It's up to Craig. We'd love to have him here, obviously, for a jillion reasons." ... [VP Schlesinger said stadium funding issue is in "middle innings." Attanasio: "I'll tell you one of the things a politician made a point of. Let's say you had a major airline that wanted to come in and have a hub here, or even let's say the center of the government in Madison. Would the state build an airport to have a major hub here? Of course they would." On moving the team: Attanasio: "Look, me, Debbie, our family, we very much want to stay. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the fact that while the ballpark looks beautiful -- I mean, it is beautiful -- the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast and the simple fact is the District is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. And so, we're trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money. And not in a Band-Aid kind of way. And so, whatever speculation, my goal is to be here. The politicians say 2050? I say great, until 2050." Downplays his chairmanship of MLB relocation committee.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/mlb/brewers/2023/08/26/mark-attanasio-discusses-craig-counsell-with-brewers-ballpark-funding/70677148007/>

- Hudson's Randy Hohn completes bucket list bike trip across country

<https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/8966612a-42a7-11ee-8b34-5bdf2c447ab1.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Debate heats up on proposal to tear down Interstate 794 ... Sen. Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville) released a letter Aug. 21 in which he pointed out any proposal to remove the section of freeway would need approval from the state Legislature. ... Ald. Jonathan Brostoff, a proponent of the teardown option, said Stroebel was wrong. ...

Some downtown stakeholders have raised similar concerns that removing I-794 could make commuting more difficult, or lead to congested local streets that would also [deter foot traffic] ... "Downtown employers aren't choosing downtown because of the highways," said [Rethink 794's] Jones ... "They choose downtowns because they know a vibrant, attractive, mixed use neighborhood is what the future of their workforce demands. This isn't 1960. The freeway-as-economic-development-tool has failed us and it's time to give up on the experiment. ... This isn't just a small loud group, it's a movement of people that are interested in seeing a better future for Milwaukee than the status-quo. Would the Deer District and Fiserv Forum be what it is if we kept the status-quo? Would the Third Ward be what it is today if people didn't envision it as a premier place to live and shop 30 years ago?"

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/25/debate-heats-up-on-proposal-to-tear-down-interstat.html>

- Portage municipal airport not closing -- yet

<https://wiscnews.com/1b13b76e-434b-11ee-ad07-eb65b8be06ff.html>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Potawatomi casino gambling revenue stays flat as tribe prepares to fight new competitors ... won at least \$415M from gamblers during the 12 month period that ended June 30 ... increased by just 1.7% ... lags that of other tribal [+4.9%] and Las Vegas [+10.5%] casinos. ... has allowed the tribe to pay its members dividends of about \$70,000 a year. "The Milwaukee casino market is maturing, but there is still room for future growth," said [Victor Strategies] Johnson ... "Tribal gaming is still growing. I expect the Potawatomi to continue to grow. ... Las Vegas is doing well. Regional casinos are having a harder time." ... tribe pays the city and county of Milwaukee 1.5% of its net win [after \$20M to state] ... \$5.9M+ to each government for the year that ended June 30. ... new competitors will soon be opening in Chicago's downtown; Waukegan, Illinois; and Beloit in coming months. ... Add to that the Menominee tribe's never-ending effort to place a casino in Kenosha. ... "I don't think anyone was anticipating the massive expansion of gaming in Illinois," said [Potawatomi AG] Crawford ... "Obviously it's something we're paying attention to. ... A good number of these entities make Potawatomi look like a small operation. We're kind of like a mom-and-pop operation compared with the big boys." Reviews new sports book, food/music venues at Potawatomi.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/business/2023/08/28/gamblers-lose-more-than-400-million-to-potawatomi-in-past-year/70663782007/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- WSJ editorial: Where's the GOP plan to prevent child care centers from closing? ... [Steffen-James] tax exemption on baby products ... is being reintroduced just as the governor seeks legislative action to address the looming end to federal subsidies for child care providers. But saving \$5 a month on \$100 in diapers, while helpful, isn't going to make or break a family budget. ... Vos has a point. The state can't backfill every fading federal relief program ... But what's the Republicans' alternative ... Saving \$5 on diapers? ... If Republican lawmakers ... won't even discuss it in special session, as the governor requested -- what's their counter proposal? Wisconsin is waiting.

<https://madison.com/d0b7ec44-4084-11ee-8348-47cf8fcdf88a.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dave Zweifel: UW shortfall of the GOP's making

<https://captimes.com/244dc00f-9c6f-5fa5-a353-bc0ee08a850c.html>

- James Causey: Making family phone calls free for prisoners is a cheap tool for reducing recidivism, Evidence shows close family ties makes reentry easier for inmates, keeps their kids healthier and prisons safer. ... [ex-inmate Ross] estimates his parents spent between \$15-17K [over 20-yrs] to receive phone calls from him in prison. Wisconsin is one of a dozen states where bills have been introduced or are being drafted allowing for free or reduced calls in jails and prisons. ... While phone calls are essential, [Table of Saints] McMurray said she didn't think phone calls should be free. ... Currently, Wisconsin has some of the highest rates for calls from prisons and jails and is considering upping the fees it charges inmates for sending e-mails. ... survey shows Wisconsin has among the "highest costs of a 15-minute in-state call from a jail," at \$21.97. ... "They nickel and dime inmates every chance they get. It's not right because if you look at who the inmates are, they are already poor," [Ross] said. ... In 2021, Connecticut became the first state to make all prison phone calls free. Since then, California, Colorado, and Minnesota have followed. ... Over the years, I have taken dozens of phone calls from prisoners who wanted to talk to me about their cases or inform me about the abuse they deal with while incarcerated. ... "When you are locked up, people on the outside keep living," [ex-inmate Dixon] said. "They travel, have birthdays, go to parties, and sometimes you don't have anything going on when locked up. Those calls are all you need to keep going."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/columnists/2023/08/26/free-phone-calls-for-inmates/70682963007/>

- Sen. Lena Taylor: Lead Lateral Replacement Timeline Doesn't Add Up ... WI should receive \$370M+ [from Infrastructure law], with MWW requesting \$30M of that. Milwaukee Mayor Johnson said his original goal was to replace all lead service lines in the next 70 years, the new funding changes it to 20 years. VP Harris seemed to believe that we would have them replaced in 10 years. ... Milwaukee must do better. There needs to be a sense of urgency that shows up in our planning and ability to scale up to meet an aggressive repair schedule. We have to look at best practices around the country, or right in our own backyard (Madison) to see how to make meaningful progress. The health of our residents demands no less.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/lead-lateral-replacement>

- Rep. LaKeshia Myers' Summer Reading List #3: The 'Girl Power' Edition ... five books by authors I found worthwhile. Friedan, Betty. The Feminine Mystique. New York: Norton, 1963. ... Chisholm, Shirley, 1924- 2005. Unbought and Unbossed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1970. ... Schlafly, Phyllis. A Choice, Not an Echo. 1st ed. Alton, IL: Pere Marquette, 1963. ... Steinem, Gloria. Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1983. ... Abzug, Bella. Bella!: Ms. Abzug Goes to Washington. New York: Sunday Review Press, 1972.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/rep-myers-summer-reading>

- UW prof. Susan Webb Yackee and MGIC chair Curt S. Culver: Lunch at Culver's fitting place to find common ground in polarizing political climate, The promotion of civil discourse is one of the most urgent actions the La Follette School can take going forward ... As an educator and a businessman, we recognize that it is far easier to talk about issues with people who tend to agree with you. But, in school and in the workplace, there is immense value in debating and listening to people who -- quite frankly -- don't. Just like a ButterBurger, we'd like to think this is something nearly everyone in Wisconsin can agree on.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/2023/08/28/civil-discourse-priority-at-la-follette-school-in-ere-of-incivility/70682714007/>

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TOP STORIES

Members of US Congress make a rare visit to opposition-held northwest Syria

Three US Congress members [Cline, Hill, Fitzgerald] have made a brief visit to opposition-held northwest Syria in the first known trip to the war-torn country by American lawmakers in six years ... facility is a school for orphans that is a project of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, a U.S.-based Syrian opposition organization that facilitated the lawmakers' trip. ... also met with opposition and humanitarian leaders. Last Congressional trips were McCain, Gabbard in 2017. By Knickmeyer & Sewell, AP <https://www.channel3000.com/c96c23a0-2a8c-50c2-983f-37e981719fab.html>

First lady Jill Biden to travel to Madison

First lady Jill Biden is planning to make a stop in Madison [Thursday], capping off a three-stop visit around the Midwest. In the afternoon, as part of the Biden Cancer Moonshot, the First Lady and Sen. Baldwin will participate in a tour and listening session to highlight the importance of early detection and improving access to cancer screenings. In addition, Jill Biden will

- [Law and order](#)
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deliver remarks at an educator appreciation event with the National Education Association and American Federation of Teachers in Madison. Biden will also attend and deliver remarks at a political finance event with Baldwin in the evening. By Davis, WMTV
<https://www.nbc15.com/2023/08/26/first-lady-jill-biden-travel-madison/>

Johnson says Wisconsin fake electors should not face charges for 'political activity'

... "The fact that we are criminalizing political activity, that's a danger to our democracy. It shouldn't happen," Johnson told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel following a roundtable focused on barriers people face after incarceration. [referenced alternative Dem electors in HI in 1960 pre-recount when Nixon won by 100 votes; JFK was winner after recount] ... "It's a way to preserve a legal position, should courts rule that there were issues in the election. Democrats have done this, Republicans have done this," Johnson said. ... said he has not been subpoenaed in a [Trump] federal grand jury ... "There has to be accountability for perpetrating the big lie," [Baldwin] said in Port Washington. "We know who won the election in Wisconsin. The folks who oversee the election said it was the most secure election we ever had." ... A jury trial in a civil lawsuit against the Republican fake electors will take place in Dane County Circuit Court in September 2024, just weeks before the presidential election. By Katzenberger, Hope
 MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-wisconsin-fake-electors-shouldnt-be-charged/70680003007/>

Brewers principal owner is optimistic about stadium negotiations, wants to keep team in Milwaukee.

Brewers Am Fam Field lease expires in 2030, with SEWPBPD paying stadium upkeep/improvements, for which board claims NSF. Evers' \$290M deal extended lease to 2043. Speaker Vos pooh-poohed that and suggested a lengthier extension.

* Attanasio before 5-4 win over Padres at AmFam Field: "I'm optimistic. We just have to get the three constituencies -- which would be the governor, the Assembly and the Senate -- to come together. ... We have very good chemistry with the politicians in terms of having a shared goal. The goal is to keep the team here for another generation, whether that's 2040, or now frankly they are talking about 2050, which (is) great by me. ... We very much want to stay here. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the reality that while this ballpark, it's beautiful, the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast. The simple fact is the district is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. We're

trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money, and not in a band-aid kind of way." By AP
<https://apnews.com/97f3ca909423b3a8eb95ced312048f7f>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Inside spin room after GOP debate in Milwaukee, candidates seek post-debate bump, 'UPFRONT' with instant access to the candidates, new analysts on impact of Milwaukee debate: Conway, Priebus, Walker comment.

<https://www.wisn.com/article/upfront-recap-inside-spin-room-after-gop-debate-in-milwaukee-candidates-seek-post-debate-bump/44914289>

- Trump's drumbeat of lies about the 2020 election keeps getting louder. Here are the facts ... [in MI, PA, AZ, NV, GA] In Wisconsin, a recount slightly improved Biden's victory over Trump by 87 votes, increasing Biden's statewide lead to 20,682, or 0.6 percentage points. A nonpartisan audit that concluded a year after the election made recommendations on how to improve future elections in Wisconsin but did not uncover evidence of widespread voter fraud in the state, leading the Republican co-chair of the audit committee to declare that "the election was largely safe and secure." The state's Assembly speaker, a Republican, ordered a separate review, which a state judge said found "absolutely no evidence of election fraud." ... exhaustive AP investigation in 2021 found fewer than 475 instances of confirmed voter fraud across six battleground states ... almost every instance of voter fraud was committed by individuals [of both parties] acting alone ... almost always caught before the fraudulent ballot was counted ... Trump was repeatedly advised by members of his own administration that there was no evidence of widespread fraud. ... courts heard Trump's legal challenges and rejected them ... conspiracy theories about voting machines were unfounded ... claims involving suitcases and ballot mules are debunked.

<https://apnews.com/4fc26546b07962fdbf9d66e739fbb50d>

- John Nichols: The Conservatives Who Read the Constitution-- and Found It Disqualifies Trump, Asa Hutchinson is the only Republican presidential candidate with the courage to discuss the 14th Amendment.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/asa-hutchinson-trump-constitution/>

- DNC Chair Jaime Harrison Energizes Milwaukee Ahead of Republican Debate

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/dnc-chair-jaime-harrison>

- RNC ends summer meetings by picking Houston to host 2028 convention ... Houston last hosted a major political convention in 1992 when Republicans nominated President George H.W. Bush.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/republicans-pick-houston-for-2028-national-convention-gop/70679438007/>

- Houston will host the 2028 Republican National Convention, GOP says
<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/houston/article/republican-national-convention-announcement-18306660.php>

US SENATE RACE [^top^](#)

- Bice: Tammy Baldwin said to 'stay home' in 2020. She'd just taken a personal trip with tax dollars ... "Don't host or go to gatherings with people outside your household," Baldwin said on Nov. 25, 2020. "And just stay home if you can." ... Records show she billed taxpayers \$630 to fly from Madison to New York City, where her partner lives, for an extended weekend from Nov. 5-9, 2020, before heading back to Washington, D.C. Both Wisconsin and New York City were then experiencing a surge in COVID cases. Wisconsin was also on New York's travel restriction list at the time, too. ...

* Nov. 5 tweet: "Count this, [@realDonaldTrump](#). Today, Wisconsin has 5,922 new #COVID19 infections, 223 more people have been hospitalized, and 38 people lost their lives because of your complete and total failure to provide leadership we can count on."

* Nov. 9 tweet: "We have a raging #COVID19 outbreak in Wisconsin and across the country. This pandemic is getting worse and we need to start working together to contain it so we can get our economy on the right track and move forward."

* Nov. 10 DC presser: "My home state has one of the worst outbreaks of COVID-19 infections in the country, and we are experiencing the worst phase of this pandemic since it began ... In my state, the pandemic is getting worse, not better."

... made no trips to New York City before 2018, the year Baldwin met Brisbane at a fundraiser for New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand. Baldwin and Brisbane together own a \$1.3 million rooftop condo just steps from the U.S. Capitol. ... On eight of the nine trips [to NYC since 2018], Baldwin billed the taxpayers when on official business in the Big Apple, or she used her own funds or frequent-flyer points to cover the cost of flights if the New York leg of the trip was primarily personal. ... Just recently, Baldwin's office reimbursed the federal government for the cost of [Nov. 5-9] trip after being asked about it ... campaign staffers said the trip had been erroneously marked as official travel. Baldwin decided to reimburse the federal government, they said, "out of an abundance of caution" and without being asked. More details on Baldwin's mixed biz/personal travel.

* NRSC's Mitchell: "It takes a special kind of arrogance to tell Wisconsin taxpayers not to see their loved ones for the holidays while you bill them for a vacation to see your girlfriend."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/28/bice-baldwin-pays-back-cost-of-personal-trip-during-covid-surge/70672630007/>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- City of Stanley sues landlord over blighted property ... After numerous failed attempts to get a landlord [Kerry Brown] to clean up a yard
<https://www.leadertelegram.com/99fafb06-436d-11ee-b240-03602abb1be5.html>

- Bayfield pursues parking fees ... to address ... lack of revenue to pay for street repairs and other infrastructure .. and cars left parked all day ... Mayor Gordon

Ringberg said. "We want people to come in and do some shopping and to have a place to park to do that."

<https://www.apg-wi.com/01bbe0fa-4370-11ee-9a9b-838ea99a90fd.html>

CONSUMER PROTECTION [^top^](#)

- Whitewater tax preparer charged with tax crimes after filing 340 false returns

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/29f5ebd8-ec3d-526c-b161-175f5a48b860.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court flips liberal, creating a 'seismic shift' ... Conservatives had controlled the court for 15 years, during which they upheld a voter ID law, approved limits on collective bargaining for public workers, banned absentee ballot drop boxes and shut down a wide-ranging campaign finance investigation into Republicans. ... fielding judges and prosecutors as candidates, sharpening tough-on-crime messages and securing the support of deep-pocketed groups aligned with Republicans. But in recent years, liberals in Wisconsin have recruited candidates with similar backgrounds and seized on popular political themes. [DPW] has poured millions in ... with the retirement of a conservative justice ... Janet Protasiewicz [who] won by 11 points and flipped control of the court [gave] liberals a 4-3 majority when she was sworn in on Aug. 1. Liberals have gone on offense [in WI]. One [Dem] group [sued] over voting rules even before Protasiewicz was sworn in ... two sets of Democratic voters [sued over redistricting] within days of her taking office. A week later, [AG Kaul sought quick ruling on 1849 abortion law to speed it to Supreme Court.

* Ziegler downplayed the possibility of suing her colleagues but didn't rule it out. "I think legal action is not good for the court. Honestly, I'm sad that it's even come to the point where that might be discussed," saw Koschnick firing as "raw exercise of overreaching power."

* Justice Dallet attributed the liberals' action to Ziegler's ignoring requests to schedule a meeting on the new administrative group, "It is deeply inappropriate for the Chief Justice to continue to refuse to engage with her colleagues, but instead to publicly litigate these issues."

* Bradley noted 4-3 July ruling denying CEC for DEI class, "The new majority will reverse this court's order at its first opportunity."

* Senate Dem Leader Agard said GOP knows they will lose cases, "They can't stand it. They're mad. It sucks to lose elections, and I say that with all sincerity. It's not fun to lose, and they haven't had to lose that much."

* conservative ex-justice Wilcox: "The main thing that concerns me is the politicization of this court. Both sides. That's distressful to me because I tried as a justice when I was here to be ... evenhanded and fair-minded. And I don't think they're going to have that anymore."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/27/wisconsin-supreme-court-liberal/>

- Ron Johnson calls on Janet Protasiewicz to recuse from maps cases ... would support lawmakers impeaching Protasiewicz if she did not recuse herself. ... "They have their constitutional duties and responsibilities as well, and that may be the next step," Johnson said. "But hopefully she'll do the right thing." ... former campaign spokesman for Protasiewicz did not immediately have a reaction to Johnson's comments. ... U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, called Johnson's claim "ridiculous ... partisan

hackery ... a guy who has no credibility. He is a U.S. Senator, but he's also a joke by most standards." Reviews statements by Speaker Vos, Justice Bradley, Sen. Wanggaard at hearing on Judicial Commission appointees. Wanggaard said he had not spoken with Leader LeMahieu about scheduling a vote. LeMahieu did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-protasiewicz-to-recuse-from-wisconsin-supreme-court-redistributing-maps-cases/70679384007/>

- Jacob Blake files new federal lawsuit against Kenosha, Ofc. Sheskey ... argue excessive force was used by Sheskey and Blake's Fourth Amendment rights [unreasonable search/seizure] were violated. ... retired Police Chief Daniel Miskinis and other officers failed to properly train and supervise officers, and as a result Blake's 14th Amendment rights [equal protection] were violated after he suffered lasting injuries. ... requesting payment for pain and suffering. Kenosha did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/08/25/jacob-blake-files-new-federal-lawsuit-against-kenosha/70682929007/>

- Jacob Blake files lawsuit against city of Kenosha, former chief and officers in aftermath of 2020 shooting

<https://kenoshanews.com/1566af22-42a8-11ee-8063-bfaf3a95fec4.html>

- Charge dismissed against volunteer pastor ... Alan Lee Delvecchio, 59, of Duluth, was facing one felony count of failure to maintain sex offender registry. [Douglas County] charge was dismissed Aug. 18 [does not say why]

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/charge-dismissed-against-volunteer-pastor>

ECONOMY [^top^](#)

- Sticker shock: Average new car payments north of \$700 per month; used car prices above \$29K with 10K of debt as consumers get smacked

<https://www.dailyunion.com/a5e27206-6569-5742-904b-cbe63a4f1c47.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- UWM work group calls for no merger between UWM-WashCo and MPTC ... Washington County Board [and GOP budget] recommended Moraine Park run the merged campus, effectively ending UWM's involvement. ... The UWM work group said a merger would be "infeasible" but also concluded "UWM at Washington County cannot continue as it is, "given enrollment trends." ... Fewer than one-fifth of UWM at Washington County students receive associate degrees ... Most attend with the hope of earning a four-year degree. Just 4% of surveyed students said they'd be more likely to attend a merged institution, while 45% said they would be less likely to attend it ... recommended fully integrating the campus with UWM over the next several years. WashCo Exec. Schoemann saw more task force-work group similarities. "It seems like everyone's moving in same direction even if we don't want to use the same exact words." MPTC did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/proposal-to-merger-uwm->

[at-washington-county-with-moraine-park-stalls/70678713007/](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/)

- UW-Oshkosh sent these recent MBA grads their diplomas. Then it surprised them with a bill for another \$7,900. ... students' understanding was that because they applied for graduation and received diplomas, they had paid all bills related to the \$59,500 program, five graduates explained in a written letter [to Chancellor Leavitt] ... But a June 1 letter from university bursar Sarah Anderson informed students about a recently completed audit that found [thru a "coding error"] they had been undercharged for their final term. ... UWO doesn't have a policy linking graduation or receipt of a diploma to the end of student payments to the university. ... "My gut instinct is that most colleges would just eat the loss on a billing mistake, but UWO is in a challenging financial position," [UT prof.] Klechen said in an email. UWO's Breister said mistake affected only recent graduates of the executive MBA program. Recent grad Kuzik said he'd notified UWO of previous billing errors and got refund, never received a response from Leavitt letter, emails to controller Braatz, dean Braun also went unanswered or denied their meeting request, as did letters to System pres. ROTHman, Ed Sec. Cardona. Sment for Rothman cited Aug. 7 response, but Kuzik didn't get it. UWO agreed to extend repayment over six months
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Environmental groups recruit people of color into overwhelmingly white conservation world ... More than 80% of National Park Service employees are white, according to service data. A 2022 survey of the 40 largest non-government environmental organizations and foundations by Green 2.0, an organization advocating for minority inclusion in the environmental sector, found 60% of staff and almost 70% of organization heads identified as white. Hispanics made up only about 13.6% of grad students and 12.8% of doctoral students in biology/nat res in 2021 [Blacks 9.5% and 6%, Native Americans less than 1% of both].

* Green Jobs Board/Brown Girl Green podcaster Drutman: "I don't think BIPOC are choosing not to be in the outdoors, they're just not given the same opportunity. Urbanization, racial segregation, all these histories have separated BIPOC from neighbors with more green spaces. It's become a white people's thing because of that."

* UWSP minority recruiter Alba: "(Minority) mentors and educators are unfamiliar with these opportunities."

* UW-Madison's Barajas landed an internship for people of color at Baraboo's Int'l Crane Foundation HQ, "Sometimes I'll hear about children's programming on different natural things. I'm thinking, what opportunities do you have for people who don't speak English?"

* Natural Resources Foundation of WI's Gaddameedi: "No one solution fits all. People of color are in the communities facing the worst impact. It's important that they have a voice."

* Amplify the Future's James provides college scholarships for Black and Latinx bird watchers, "When we're making decisions about the use of finite resources ... it requires a diversity of vision to answer these types of important questions."

<https://apnews.com/c7b2b268dfcbf5e46c347ab2294bb061>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Cities are embracing teen curfews, though they might not curb crime, Experts worry that curfews disproportionately target young people of color. ... In 1996, President Bill Clinton called on cities and towns to impose nightly curfews on teenagers. Today more than 400 towns, cities and counties have enacted youth curfew laws ... More than a dozen cities and counties have reinstated or enforced juvenile curfews this year, including Washington, D.C.; Memphis, Tennessee; New Smyrna Beach, Florida; Sea Isle City, New Jersey; and Fulton County, Georgia. Philadelphia and Chicago made their curfews permanent last year. Vicksburg, Mississippi, recently reinstated its curfew following a shooting in January that killed a 13-year-old and left two others injured.... But U.S. juvenile curfews are "ineffective at reducing crime and victimization," according to a review summarizing the findings of 12 studies that was published in 2016 by the Campbell Collaboration ... found a slight increase in crime during curfew hours and no effect on non-curfew hours. ... may also move crime from one area to another because "kids don't obey geographic boundaries." ... Black minors have been arrested for curfew and loitering charges at two or three times the rate of their white counterparts. ... "Treatments and interventions, and as little contact with police and courts as possible, are very important ingredients in trying to prevent juvenile crime," [prof] Carbone said.

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/28/cities-are-embracing-teen-curfews-though-they-might-not-curb-crime/>

MANUFACTURING [^top^](#)

- Growing amidst constant change will be theme of Next Generation Manufacturing Summit [Oct. 5] ... will be a half-day program with exhibitors, seminars, breakout sessions and a panel of local manufacturing leaders discussing trends and best practices. ... at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. ... sponsored by Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WMEP) and BMO.

<https://biztimes.com/growing-amidst-constant-change-will-be-theme-of-next-generation-manufacturing-summit/>

- Microsoft moving dirt in Mount Pleasant, selects lead builder for \$1B data center ... Chicago-based megabuilder Walsh Construction ... is starting the process of seeking subcontractors to prepare for the start of vertical construction of the data center's four buildings. ... The Microsoft project will create thousands of construction jobs during a time when many private industrial projects are stalling or stopping in response to rising interest rates, construction costs and other factors. ... gained [DNR] approvals in mid-July to fill some wetlands ... village approval for a site plan in late June.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/27/microsoft-data-center-walsh-construction.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee renters face higher lead poisoning risks as city struggles to hold landlords accountable, 'We have to do something,' a Milwaukee Health Dept.'s Mannan says as the city rolls out a new approach to removing lead from older rentals ... Landlords sometimes refuse inspectors entry for fear they will find other code violations ... [mother of poisoned child's] landlord didn't fully address the home's lead

hazards. ... broke her lease and moved in with family and later lived at a shelter. ... Ogden and Company, Inc., sued her and garnished her mother's wages for years, since she had co-signed on the lease, she said. ... Branch has since found a safe home and become an advocate for parents facing lead hazards, even spotlighting the issue while meeting President Joe Biden. ... Milwaukee Common Council ... in July 2022, enacting an ordinance ... That included allowing the Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services, or DNS, to allow tenants to withhold rent when landlords fail to comply. But DNS received zero rent-withholding referrals during the ordinance's first year ... city health department issued just 26 citations to 13 companies or individual landlords for unaddressed lead problems from July 2022 to June 2023, with nine citations against four entities later dropped due to out-of-date inspections ... Not all landlords are the same, and some struggle to afford the average \$40,000-per-unit cost of abatement. ... [DHS'] Lead-Safe Homes program covers 100% of abatement costs to landlords ...has completed lead abatement in 332 homes statewide ... since its 2020 launch. [details of lead testing on Branch's ADHD-afflicted son.] ... Republican-controlled Legislature under former Gov. Scott Walker capped [inspection] fees as part of a series of laws that limited renter protections. [see Taylor column]

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/milwaukee-renters-face-high-lead-poisoning-risks/>

- Worried about lead as a Wisconsin tenant or property owner? Here's what to know.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/lead-hazard-wisconsin-tenants-property>

RACE RELATIONS [^top^](#)

- 'Tell 'em about the dream, Martin!': Memories from the crowd at MLK's March on Washington

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/nation/2023/08/23/march-on-washington-60th-anniversary-faces-in-the-crowd-share-stories/70233565007/>

RETAIL [^top^](#)

- Are Wisconsin businesses size inclusive? Customers ask for more room to maneuver, but hurdles are complex ... An estimated 34 million Americans faced weight discrimination in 2019 alone ... verbal stigma, denied access to medical treatment, financial inequality and struggles to use local resources like public buses or clothing stores. ... USAT-WI surveyed readers and talked to consumers and business owners about their experiences and struggles in addressing size inclusivity. Local and national experts also shared insights about the issue and what can be done to address it.

<https://www.postcrescent.com/story/money/2023/08/28/wisconsin-shoppers-talk-size-inclusivity-with-local-businesses/70406005007/>

SMALL BUSINESS [^top^](#)

- Fork Farms, RC Mowers among 5 Green Bay area companies named 'fastest growing' by Inc. magazine

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/companies/2023/08/18/five-companies-from-the-green-bay-area-made-the-inc-5000-list-of-2023/70601505007/>

- New Auburn transload company wins Business of the Year award

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/74d8292a-42aa-11ee-bd13-0be2e357f926.html>

- Calm and Collected Cannabis Co. offers legal cannabinoid products in Chippewa Falls

<https://lacrossetribune.com/d4d58714-4516-11ee-9abd-bb6dc64ba892.html>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Madison gaming industry is booming, panelists say ... at the annual Power Up Wisconsin Gaming and Esports Summit Friday at the Annex. ... local industry includes Raven Software, based in Middleton, a subsidiary of multibillion dollar publisher Activision ... Bethesda Softworks -- a publisher whose studio is known for series such as Elder Scrolls and Fallout ... Roundhouse, in Madison ... PUBG Corporation (developer of PUBG: Battlegrounds), Epic Games (developer and publisher of Fortnite), Respawn Entertainment (developer of Apex Legends), Filament Games and Lost Boys Interactive also have offices in Madison.

<https://captimes.com/fd10bdac-5400-54ee-8593-19e53a1b0359.html>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Mark Attanasio discusses future of Craig Counsell as Brewers manager; ballpark funding ... [Counsell] signed a three-year extension on Jan. 8, 2020, and since then has become Milwaukee's winningest manager529 winning percentage while becoming the senior skipper in the National League as well as the third-longest-tenured manager in all the major leagues. ... Attanasio: "It's up to Craig. We'd love to have him here, obviously, for a jillion reasons." ... [VP Schlesinger said stadium funding issue is in "middle innings." Attanasio: "I'll tell you one of the things a politician made a point of. Let's say you had a major airline that wanted to come in and have a hub here, or even let's say the center of the government in Madison. Would the state build an airport to have a major hub here? Of course they would." On moving the team: Attanasio: "Look, me, Debbie, our family, we very much want to stay. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the fact that while the ballpark looks beautiful -- I mean, it is beautiful -- the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast and the simple fact is the District is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. And so, we're trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money. And not in a Band-Aid kind of way. And so, whatever speculation, my goal is to be here. The politicians say 2050? I say great, until 2050." Downplays his chairmanship of MLB relocation committee.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/mlb/brewers/2023/08/26/mark-attanasio-discusses-craig-counsell-with-brewers-ballpark-funding/70677148007/>

- Hudson's Randy Hohn completes bucket list bike trip across country

<https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/8966612a-42a7-11ee-8b34-5bdf2c447ab1.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Debate heats up on proposal to tear down Interstate 794 ... Sen. Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville) released a letter Aug. 21 in which he pointed out any proposal to remove the section of freeway would need approval from the state Legislature. ... Ald. Jonathan Brostoff, a proponent of the teardown option, said Stroebel was wrong. ...

Some downtown stakeholders have raised similar concerns that removing I-794 could make commuting more difficult, or lead to congested local streets that would also [deter foot traffic] ... "Downtown employers aren't choosing downtown because of the highways," said [Rethink 794's] Jones ... "They choose downtowns because they know a vibrant, attractive, mixed use neighborhood is what the future of their workforce demands. This isn't 1960. The freeway-as-economic-development-tool has failed us and it's time to give up on the experiment. ... This isn't just a small loud group, it's a movement of people that are interested in seeing a better future for Milwaukee than the status-quo. Would the Deer District and Fiserv Forum be what it is if we kept the status-quo? Would the Third Ward be what it is today if people didn't envision it as a premier place to live and shop 30 years ago?"

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/25/debate-heats-up-on-proposal-to-tear-down-interstat.html>

- Portage municipal airport not closing -- yet

<https://wiscnews.com/1b13b76e-434b-11ee-ad07-eb65b8be06ff.html>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Potawatomi casino gambling revenue stays flat as tribe prepares to fight new competitors ... won at least \$415M from gamblers during the 12 month period that ended June 30 ... increased by just 1.7% ... lags that of other tribal [+4.9%] and Las Vegas [+10.5%] casinos. ... has allowed the tribe to pay its members dividends of about \$70,000 a year. "The Milwaukee casino market is maturing, but there is still room for future growth," said [Victor Strategies] Johnson ... "Tribal gaming is still growing. I expect the Potawatomi to continue to grow. ... Las Vegas is doing well. Regional casinos are having a harder time." ... tribe pays the city and county of Milwaukee 1.5% of its net win [after \$20M to state] ... \$5.9M+ to each government for the year that ended June 30. ... new competitors will soon be opening in Chicago's downtown; Waukegan, Illinois; and Beloit in coming months. ... Add to that the Menominee tribe's never-ending effort to place a casino in Kenosha. ... "I don't think anyone was anticipating the massive expansion of gaming in Illinois," said [Potawatomi AG] Crawford ... "Obviously it's something we're paying attention to. ... A good number of these entities make Potawatomi look like a small operation. We're kind of like a mom-and-pop operation compared with the big boys." Reviews new sports book, food/music venues at Potawatomi.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/business/2023/08/28/gamblers-lose-more-than-400-million-to-potawatomi-in-past-year/70663782007/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- WSJ editorial: Where's the GOP plan to prevent child care centers from closing? ... [Steffen-James] tax exemption on baby products ... is being reintroduced just as the governor seeks legislative action to address the looming end to federal subsidies for child care providers. But saving \$5 a month on \$100 in diapers, while helpful, isn't going to make or break a family budget. ... Vos has a point. The state can't backfill every fading federal relief program ... But what's the Republicans' alternative ... Saving \$5 on diapers? ... If Republican lawmakers ... won't even discuss it in special session, as the governor requested -- what's their counter proposal? Wisconsin is waiting.

<https://madison.com/d0b7ec44-4084-11ee-8348-47cf8fcdf88a.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dave Zweifel: UW shortfall of the GOP's making

<https://captimes.com/244dc00f-9c6f-5fa5-a353-bc0ee08a850c.html>

- James Causey: Making family phone calls free for prisoners is a cheap tool for reducing recidivism, Evidence shows close family ties makes reentry easier for inmates, keeps their kids healthier and prisons safer. ... [ex-inmate Ross] estimates his parents spent between \$15-17K [over 20-yrs] to receive phone calls from him in prison. Wisconsin is one of a dozen states where bills have been introduced or are being drafted allowing for free or reduced calls in jails and prisons. ... While phone calls are essential, [Table of Saints] McMurray said she didn't think phone calls should be free. ... Currently, Wisconsin has some of the highest rates for calls from prisons and jails and is considering upping the fees it charges inmates for sending e-mails. ... survey shows Wisconsin has among the "highest costs of a 15-minute in-state call from a jail," at \$21.97. ... "They nickel and dime inmates every chance they get. It's not right because if you look at who the inmates are, they are already poor," [Ross] said. ... In 2021, Connecticut became the first state to make all prison phone calls free. Since then, California, Colorado, and Minnesota have followed. ... Over the years, I have taken dozens of phone calls from prisoners who wanted to talk to me about their cases or inform me about the abuse they deal with while incarcerated. ... "When you are locked up, people on the outside keep living," [ex-inmate Dixon] said. "They travel, have birthdays, go to parties, and sometimes you don't have anything going on when locked up. Those calls are all you need to keep going."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/columnists/2023/08/26/free-phone-calls-for-inmates/70682963007/>

- Sen. Lena Taylor: Lead Lateral Replacement Timeline Doesn't Add Up ... WI should receive \$370M+ [from Infrastructure law], with MWW requesting \$30M of that. Milwaukee Mayor Johnson said his original goal was to replace all lead service lines in the next 70 years, the new funding changes it to 20 years. VP Harris seemed to believe that we would have them replaced in 10 years. ... Milwaukee must do better. There needs to be a sense of urgency that shows up in our planning and ability to scale up to meet an aggressive repair schedule. We have to look at best practices around the country, or right in our own backyard (Madison) to see how to make meaningful progress. The health of our residents demands no less.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/lead-lateral-replacement>

- Rep. LaKeshia Myers' Summer Reading List #3: The 'Girl Power' Edition ... five books by authors I found worthwhile. Friedan, Betty. The Feminine Mystique. New York: Norton, 1963. ... Chisholm, Shirley, 1924- 2005. Unbought and Unbossed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1970. ... Schlafly, Phyllis. A Choice, Not an Echo. 1st ed. Alton, IL: Pere Marquette, 1963. ... Steinem, Gloria. Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1983. ... Abzug, Bella. Bella!: Ms. Abzug Goes to Washington. New York: Sunday Review Press, 1972.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/rep-myers-summer-reading>

- UW prof. Susan Webb Yackee and MGIC chair Curt S. Culver: Lunch at Culver's fitting place to find common ground in polarizing political climate, The promotion of civil discourse is one of the most urgent actions the La Follette School can take going forward ... As an educator and a businessman, we recognize that it is far easier to talk about issues with people who tend to agree with you. But, in school and in the workplace, there is immense value in debating and listening to people who -- quite frankly -- don't. Just like a ButterBurger, we'd like to think this is something nearly everyone in Wisconsin can agree on.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/2023/08/28/civil-discourse-priority-at-la-follette-school-in-ere-of-incivility/70682714007/>

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TOP STORIES

Members of US Congress make a rare visit to opposition-held northwest Syria

Three US Congress members [Cline, Hill, Fitzgerald] have made a brief visit to opposition-held northwest Syria in the first known trip to the war-torn country by American lawmakers in six years ... facility is a school for orphans that is a project of the Syrian Emergency Task Force, a U.S.-based Syrian opposition organization that facilitated the lawmakers' trip. ... also met with opposition and humanitarian leaders. Last Congressional trips were McCain, Gabbard in 2017. By Knickmeyer & Sewell, AP <https://www.channel3000.com/c96c23a0-2a8c-50c2-983f-37e981719fab.html>

First lady Jill Biden to travel to Madison

First lady Jill Biden is planning to make a stop in Madison [Thursday], capping off a three-stop visit around the Midwest. In the afternoon, as part of the Biden Cancer Moonshot, the First Lady and Sen. Baldwin will participate in a tour and listening session to highlight the importance of early detection and improving access to cancer screenings. In addition, Jill Biden will

- [Law and order](#)
- [Manufacturing](#)
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deliver remarks at an educator appreciation event with the National Education Association and American Federation of Teachers in Madison. Biden will also attend and deliver remarks at a political finance event with Baldwin in the evening. By Davis, WMTV <https://www.nbc15.com/2023/08/26/first-lady-jill-biden-travel-madison/>

Johnson says Wisconsin fake electors should not face charges for 'political activity'

... "The fact that we are criminalizing political activity, that's a danger to our democracy. It shouldn't happen," Johnson told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel following a roundtable focused on barriers people face after incarceration. [referenced alternative Dem electors in HI in 1960 pre-recount when Nixon won by 100 votes; JFK was winner after recount] ... "It's a way to preserve a legal position, should courts rule that there were issues in the election. Democrats have done this, Republicans have done this," Johnson said. ... said he has not been subpoenaed in a [Trump] federal grand jury ... "There has to be accountability for perpetrating the big lie," [Baldwin] said in Port Washington. "We know who won the election in Wisconsin. The folks who oversee the election said it was the most secure election we ever had." ... A jury trial in a civil lawsuit against the Republican fake electors will take place in Dane County Circuit Court in September 2024, just weeks before the presidential election. By Katzenberger, Hope MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL <https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-wisconsin-fake-electors-shouldnt-be-charged/70680003007/>

Brewers principal owner is optimistic about stadium negotiations, wants to keep team in Milwaukee.

Brewers Am Fam Field lease expires in 2030, with SEWPBPD paying stadium upkeep/improvements, for which board claims NSF. Evers' \$290M deal extended lease to 2043. Speaker Vos pooh-poohed that and suggested a lengthier extension.

* Attanasio before 5-4 win over Padres at AmFam Field: "I'm optimistic. We just have to get the three constituencies -- which would be the governor, the Assembly and the Senate -- to come together. ... We have very good chemistry with the politicians in terms of having a shared goal. The goal is to keep the team here for another generation, whether that's 2040, or now frankly they are talking about 2050, which (is) great by me. ... We very much want to stay here. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the reality that while this ballpark, it's beautiful, the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast. The simple fact is the district is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. We're

trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money, and not in a band-aid kind of way." By AP
<https://apnews.com/97f3ca909423b3a8eb95ced312048f7f>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Inside spin room after GOP debate in Milwaukee, candidates seek post-debate bump, 'UPFRONT' with instant access to the candidates, new analysts on impact of Milwaukee debate: Conway, Priebus, Walker comment.

<https://www.wisn.com/article/upfront-recap-inside-spin-room-after-gop-debate-in-milwaukee-candidates-seek-post-debate-bump/44914289>

- Trump's drumbeat of lies about the 2020 election keeps getting louder. Here are the facts ... [in MI, PA, AZ, NV, GA] In Wisconsin, a recount slightly improved Biden's victory over Trump by 87 votes, increasing Biden's statewide lead to 20,682, or 0.6 percentage points. A nonpartisan audit that concluded a year after the election made recommendations on how to improve future elections in Wisconsin but did not uncover evidence of widespread voter fraud in the state, leading the Republican co-chair of the audit committee to declare that "the election was largely safe and secure." The state's Assembly speaker, a Republican, ordered a separate review, which a state judge said found "absolutely no evidence of election fraud." ... exhaustive AP investigation in 2021 found fewer than 475 instances of confirmed voter fraud across six battleground states ... almost every instance of voter fraud was committed by individuals [of both parties] acting alone ... almost always caught before the fraudulent ballot was counted ... Trump was repeatedly advised by members of his own administration that there was no evidence of widespread fraud. ... courts heard Trump's legal challenges and rejected them ... conspiracy theories about voting machines were unfounded ... claims involving suitcases and ballot mules are debunked.

<https://apnews.com/4fc26546b07962fdbf9d66e739fbb50d>

- John Nichols: The Conservatives Who Read the Constitution-- and Found It Disqualifies Trump, Asa Hutchinson is the only Republican presidential candidate with the courage to discuss the 14th Amendment.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/asa-hutchinson-trump-constitution/>

- DNC Chair Jaime Harrison Energizes Milwaukee Ahead of Republican Debate

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/dnc-chair-jaime-harrison>

- RNC ends summer meetings by picking Houston to host 2028 convention ... Houston last hosted a major political convention in 1992 when Republicans nominated President George H.W. Bush.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/republicans-pick-houston-for-2028-national-convention-gop/70679438007/>

- Houston will host the 2028 Republican National Convention, GOP says
<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/politics/houston/article/republican-national-convention-announcement-18306660.php>

US SENATE RACE [^top^](#)

- Bice: Tammy Baldwin said to 'stay home' in 2020. She'd just taken a personal trip with tax dollars ... "Don't host or go to gatherings with people outside your household," Baldwin said on Nov. 25, 2020. "And just stay home if you can." ... Records show she billed taxpayers \$630 to fly from Madison to New York City, where her partner lives, for an extended weekend from Nov. 5-9, 2020, before heading back to Washington, D.C. Both Wisconsin and New York City were then experiencing a surge in COVID cases. Wisconsin was also on New York's travel restriction list at the time, too. ...

* Nov. 5 tweet: "Count this, [@realDonaldTrump](#). Today, Wisconsin has 5,922 new #COVID19 infections, 223 more people have been hospitalized, and 38 people lost their lives because of your complete and total failure to provide leadership we can count on."

* Nov. 9 tweet: "We have a raging #COVID19 outbreak in Wisconsin and across the country. This pandemic is getting worse and we need to start working together to contain it so we can get our economy on the right track and move forward."

* Nov. 10 DC presser: "My home state has one of the worst outbreaks of COVID-19 infections in the country, and we are experiencing the worst phase of this pandemic since it began ... In my state, the pandemic is getting worse, not better."

... made no trips to New York City before 2018, the year Baldwin met Brisbane at a fundraiser for New York Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand. Baldwin and Brisbane together own a \$1.3 million rooftop condo just steps from the U.S. Capitol. ... On eight of the nine trips [to NYC since 2018], Baldwin billed the taxpayers when on official business in the Big Apple, or she used her own funds or frequent-flyer points to cover the cost of flights if the New York leg of the trip was primarily personal. ... Just recently, Baldwin's office reimbursed the federal government for the cost of [Nov. 5-9] trip after being asked about it ... campaign staffers said the trip had been erroneously marked as official travel. Baldwin decided to reimburse the federal government, they said, "out of an abundance of caution" and without being asked. More details on Baldwin's mixed biz/personal travel.

* NRSC's Mitchell: "It takes a special kind of arrogance to tell Wisconsin taxpayers not to see their loved ones for the holidays while you bill them for a vacation to see your girlfriend."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/28/bice-baldwin-pays-back-cost-of-personal-trip-during-covid-surge/70672630007/>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- City of Stanley sues landlord over blighted property ... After numerous failed attempts to get a landlord [Kerry Brown] to clean up a yard
<https://www.leadertelegram.com/99fafb06-436d-11ee-b240-03602abb1be5.html>

- Bayfield pursues parking fees ... to address ... lack of revenue to pay for street repairs and other infrastructure .. and cars left parked all day ... Mayor Gordon

Ringberg said. "We want people to come in and do some shopping and to have a place to park to do that."

<https://www.apg-wi.com/01bbe0fa-4370-11ee-9a9b-838ea99a90fd.html>

CONSUMER PROTECTION [^top^](#)

- Whitewater tax preparer charged with tax crimes after filing 340 false returns

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/29f5ebd8-ec3d-526c-b161-175f5a48b860.html>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court flips liberal, creating a 'seismic shift' ... Conservatives had controlled the court for 15 years, during which they upheld a voter ID law, approved limits on collective bargaining for public workers, banned absentee ballot drop boxes and shut down a wide-ranging campaign finance investigation into Republicans. ... fielding judges and prosecutors as candidates, sharpening tough-on-crime messages and securing the support of deep-pocketed groups aligned with Republicans. But in recent years, liberals in Wisconsin have recruited candidates with similar backgrounds and seized on popular political themes. [DPW] has poured millions in ... with the retirement of a conservative justice ... Janet Protasiewicz [who] won by 11 points and flipped control of the court [gave] liberals a 4-3 majority when she was sworn in on Aug. 1. Liberals have gone on offense [in WI]. One [Dem] group [sued] over voting rules even before Protasiewicz was sworn in ... two sets of Democratic voters [sued over redistricting] within days of her taking office. A week later, [AG Kaul sought quick ruling on 1849 abortion law to speed it to Supreme Court.

* Ziegler downplayed the possibility of suing her colleagues but didn't rule it out. "I think legal action is not good for the court. Honestly, I'm sad that it's even come to the point where that might be discussed," saw Koschnick firing as "raw exercise of overreaching power."

* Justice Dallet attributed the liberals' action to Ziegler's ignoring requests to schedule a meeting on the new administrative group, "It is deeply inappropriate for the Chief Justice to continue to refuse to engage with her colleagues, but instead to publicly litigate these issues."

* Bradley noted 4-3 July ruling denying CEC for DEI class, "The new majority will reverse this court's order at its first opportunity."

* Senate Dem Leader Agard said GOP knows they will lose cases, "They can't stand it. They're mad. It sucks to lose elections, and I say that with all sincerity. It's not fun to lose, and they haven't had to lose that much."

* conservative ex-justice Wilcox: "The main thing that concerns me is the politicization of this court. Both sides. That's distressful to me because I tried as a justice when I was here to be ... evenhanded and fair-minded. And I don't think they're going to have that anymore."

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/08/27/wisconsin-supreme-court-liberal/>

- Ron Johnson calls on Janet Protasiewicz to recuse from maps cases ... would support lawmakers impeaching Protasiewicz if she did not recuse herself. ... "They have their constitutional duties and responsibilities as well, and that may be the next step," Johnson said. "But hopefully she'll do the right thing." ... former campaign spokesman for Protasiewicz did not immediately have a reaction to Johnson's comments. ... U.S. Rep. Mark Pocan, called Johnson's claim "ridiculous ... partisan

hackery ... a guy who has no credibility. He is a U.S. Senator, but he's also a joke by most standards." Reviews statements by Speaker Vos, Justice Bradley, Sen. Wanggaard at hearing on Judicial Commission appointees. Wanggaard said he had not spoken with Leader LeMahieu about scheduling a vote. LeMahieu did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/25/ron-johnson-says-protasiewicz-to-recuse-from-wisconsin-supreme-court-redistributing-maps-cases/70679384007/>

- Jacob Blake files new federal lawsuit against Kenosha, Ofc. Sheskey ... argue excessive force was used by Sheskey and Blake's Fourth Amendment rights [unreasonable search/seizure] were violated. ... retired Police Chief Daniel Miskinis and other officers failed to properly train and supervise officers, and as a result Blake's 14th Amendment rights [equal protection] were violated after he suffered lasting injuries. ... requesting payment for pain and suffering. Kenosha did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/08/25/jacob-blake-files-new-federal-lawsuit-against-kenosha/70682929007/>

- Jacob Blake files lawsuit against city of Kenosha, former chief and officers in aftermath of 2020 shooting

<https://kenoshanews.com/1566af22-42a8-11ee-8063-bfaf3a95fec4.html>

- Charge dismissed against volunteer pastor ... Alan Lee Delvecchio, 59, of Duluth, was facing one felony count of failure to maintain sex offender registry. [Douglas County] charge was dismissed Aug. 18 [does not say why]

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/charge-dismissed-against-volunteer-pastor>

ECONOMY [^top^](#)

- Sticker shock: Average new car payments north of \$700 per month; used car prices above \$29K with 10K of debt as consumers get smacked

<https://www.dailyunion.com/a5e27206-6569-5742-904b-cbe63a4f1c47.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- UWM work group calls for no merger between UWM-WashCo and MPTC ... Washington County Board [and GOP budget] recommended Moraine Park run the merged campus, effectively ending UWM's involvement. ... The UWM work group said a merger would be "infeasible" but also concluded "UWM at Washington County cannot continue as it is, "given enrollment trends." ... Fewer than one-fifth of UWM at Washington County students receive associate degrees ... Most attend with the hope of earning a four-year degree. Just 4% of surveyed students said they'd be more likely to attend a merged institution, while 45% said they would be less likely to attend it ... recommended fully integrating the campus with UWM over the next several years. WashCo Exec. Schoemann saw more task force-work group similarities. "It seems like everyone's moving in same direction even if we don't want to use the same exact words." MPTC did not respond.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/proposal-to-merger-uwm->

[at-washington-county-with-moraine-park-stalls/70678713007/](https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/)

- UW-Oshkosh sent these recent MBA grads their diplomas. Then it surprised them with a bill for another \$7,900. ... students' understanding was that because they applied for graduation and received diplomas, they had paid all bills related to the \$59,500 program, five graduates explained in a written letter [to Chancellor Leavitt] ... But a June 1 letter from university bursar Sarah Anderson informed students about a recently completed audit that found [thru a "coding error"] they had been undercharged for their final term. ... UWO doesn't have a policy linking graduation or receipt of a diploma to the end of student payments to the university. ... "My gut instinct is that most colleges would just eat the loss on a billing mistake, but UWO is in a challenging financial position," [UT prof.] Klechen said in an email. UWO's Breister said mistake affected only recent graduates of the executive MBA program. Recent grad Kuzik said he'd notified UWO of previous billing errors and got refund, never received a response from Leavitt letter, emails to controller Braatz, dean Braun also went unanswered or denied their meeting request, as did letters to System pres. ROTHman, Ed Sec. Cardona. Sment for Rothman cited Aug. 7 response, but Kuzik didn't get it. UWO agreed to extend repayment over six months
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/08/28/uwo-mistake-leaves-students-with-big-bills-months-after-graduation/70679903007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Environmental groups recruit people of color into overwhelmingly white conservation world ... More than 80% of National Park Service employees are white, according to service data. A 2022 survey of the 40 largest non-government environmental organizations and foundations by Green 2.0, an organization advocating for minority inclusion in the environmental sector, found 60% of staff and almost 70% of organization heads identified as white. Hispanics made up only about 13.6% of grad students and 12.8% of doctoral students in biology/nat res in 2021 [Blacks 9.5% and 6%, Native Americans less than 1% of both].

* Green Jobs Board/Brown Girl Green podcaster Drutman: "I don't think BIPOC are choosing not to be in the outdoors, they're just not given the same opportunity. Urbanization, racial segregation, all these histories have separated BIPOC from neighbors with more green spaces. It's become a white people's thing because of that."

* UWSP minority recruiter Alba: "(Minority) mentors and educators are unfamiliar with these opportunities."

* UW-Madison's Barajas landed an internship for people of color at Baraboo's Int'l Crane Foundation HQ, "Sometimes I'll hear about children's programming on different natural things. I'm thinking, what opportunities do you have for people who don't speak English?"

* Natural Resources Foundation of WI's Gaddameedi: "No one solution fits all. People of color are in the communities facing the worst impact. It's important that they have a voice."

* Amplify the Future's James provides college scholarships for Black and Latinx bird watchers, "When we're making decisions about the use of finite resources ... it requires a diversity of vision to answer these types of important questions."

<https://apnews.com/c7b2b268dfcbf5e46c347ab2294bb061>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Cities are embracing teen curfews, though they might not curb crime, Experts worry that curfews disproportionately target young people of color. ... In 1996, President Bill Clinton called on cities and towns to impose nightly curfews on teenagers. Today more than 400 towns, cities and counties have enacted youth curfew laws ... More than a dozen cities and counties have reinstated or enforced juvenile curfews this year, including Washington, D.C.; Memphis, Tennessee; New Smyrna Beach, Florida; Sea Isle City, New Jersey; and Fulton County, Georgia. Philadelphia and Chicago made their curfews permanent last year. Vicksburg, Mississippi, recently reinstated its curfew following a shooting in January that killed a 13-year-old and left two others injured.... But U.S. juvenile curfews are "ineffective at reducing crime and victimization," according to a review summarizing the findings of 12 studies that was published in 2016 by the Campbell Collaboration ... found a slight increase in crime during curfew hours and no effect on non-curfew hours. ... may also move crime from one area to another because "kids don't obey geographic boundaries." ... Black minors have been arrested for curfew and loitering charges at two or three times the rate of their white counterparts. ... "Treatments and interventions, and as little contact with police and courts as possible, are very important ingredients in trying to prevent juvenile crime," [prof] Carbone said.

<https://stateline.org/2023/08/28/cities-are-embracing-teen-curfews-though-they-might-not-curb-crime/>

MANUFACTURING [^top^](#)

- Growing amidst constant change will be theme of Next Generation Manufacturing Summit [Oct. 5] ... will be a half-day program with exhibitors, seminars, breakout sessions and a panel of local manufacturing leaders discussing trends and best practices. ... at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. ... sponsored by Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership (WMEP) and BMO.

<https://biztimes.com/growing-amidst-constant-change-will-be-theme-of-next-generation-manufacturing-summit/>

- Microsoft moving dirt in Mount Pleasant, selects lead builder for \$1B data center ... Chicago-based megabuilder Walsh Construction ... is starting the process of seeking subcontractors to prepare for the start of vertical construction of the data center's four buildings. ... The Microsoft project will create thousands of construction jobs during a time when many private industrial projects are stalling or stopping in response to rising interest rates, construction costs and other factors. ... gained [DNR] approvals in mid-July to fill some wetlands ... village approval for a site plan in late June.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/27/microsoft-data-center-walsh-construction.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Milwaukee renters face higher lead poisoning risks as city struggles to hold landlords accountable, 'We have to do something,' a Milwaukee Health Dept.'s Mannan says as the city rolls out a new approach to removing lead from older rentals ... Landlords sometimes refuse inspectors entry for fear they will find other code violations ... [mother of poisoned child's] landlord didn't fully address the home's lead

hazards. ... broke her lease and moved in with family and later lived at a shelter. ... Ogden and Company, Inc., sued her and garnished her mother's wages for years, since she had co-signed on the lease, she said. ... Branch has since found a safe home and become an advocate for parents facing lead hazards, even spotlighting the issue while meeting President Joe Biden. ... Milwaukee Common Council ... in July 2022, enacting an ordinance ... That included allowing the Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services, or DNS, to allow tenants to withhold rent when landlords fail to comply. But DNS received zero rent-withholding referrals during the ordinance's first year ... city health department issued just 26 citations to 13 companies or individual landlords for unaddressed lead problems from July 2022 to June 2023, with nine citations against four entities later dropped due to out-of-date inspections ... Not all landlords are the same, and some struggle to afford the average \$40,000-per-unit cost of abatement. ... [DHS'] Lead-Safe Homes program covers 100% of abatement costs to landlords ...has completed lead abatement in 332 homes statewide ... since its 2020 launch. [details of lead testing on Branch's ADHD-afflicted son.] ... Republican-controlled Legislature under former Gov. Scott Walker capped [inspection] fees as part of a series of laws that limited renter protections. [see Taylor column]

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/milwaukee-renters-face-high-lead-poisoning-risks/>

- Worried about lead as a Wisconsin tenant or property owner? Here's what to know.

<https://wisconsinwatch.org/2023/08/lead-hazard-wisconsin-tenants-property>

RACE RELATIONS [^top^](#)

- 'Tell 'em about the dream, Martin!': Memories from the crowd at MLK's March on Washington

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/nation/2023/08/23/march-on-washington-60th-anniversary-faces-in-the-crowd-share-stories/70233565007/>

RETAIL [^top^](#)

- Are Wisconsin businesses size inclusive? Customers ask for more room to maneuver, but hurdles are complex ... An estimated 34 million Americans faced weight discrimination in 2019 alone ... verbal stigma, denied access to medical treatment, financial inequality and struggles to use local resources like public buses or clothing stores. ... USAT-WI surveyed readers and talked to consumers and business owners about their experiences and struggles in addressing size inclusivity. Local and national experts also shared insights about the issue and what can be done to address it.

<https://www.postcrescent.com/story/money/2023/08/28/wisconsin-shoppers-talk-size-inclusivity-with-local-businesses/70406005007/>

SMALL BUSINESS [^top^](#)

- Fork Farms, RC Mowers among 5 Green Bay area companies named 'fastest growing' by Inc. magazine

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/money/companies/2023/08/18/five-companies-from-the-green-bay-area-made-the-inc-5000-list-of-2023/70601505007/>

- New Auburn transload company wins Business of the Year award

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/74d8292a-42aa-11ee-bd13-0be2e357f926.html>

- Calm and Collected Cannabis Co. offers legal cannabinoid products in Chippewa Falls

<https://lacrossetribune.com/d4d58714-4516-11ee-9abd-bb6dc64ba892.html>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

- Madison gaming industry is booming, panelists say ... at the annual Power Up Wisconsin Gaming and Esports Summit Friday at the Annex. ... local industry includes Raven Software, based in Middleton, a subsidiary of multibillion dollar publisher Activision ... Bethesda Softworks -- a publisher whose studio is known for series such as Elder Scrolls and Fallout ... Roundhouse, in Madison ... PUBG Corporation (developer of PUBG: Battlegrounds), Epic Games (developer and publisher of Fortnite), Respawn Entertainment (developer of Apex Legends), Filament Games and Lost Boys Interactive also have offices in Madison.

<https://captimes.com/fd10bdac-5400-54ee-8593-19e53a1b0359.html>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Mark Attanasio discusses future of Craig Counsell as Brewers manager; ballpark funding ... [Counsell] signed a three-year extension on Jan. 8, 2020, and since then has become Milwaukee's winningest manager529 winning percentage while becoming the senior skipper in the National League as well as the third-longest-tenured manager in all the major leagues. ... Attanasio: "It's up to Craig. We'd love to have him here, obviously, for a jillion reasons." ... [VP Schlesinger said stadium funding issue is in "middle innings." Attanasio: "I'll tell you one of the things a politician made a point of. Let's say you had a major airline that wanted to come in and have a hub here, or even let's say the center of the government in Madison. Would the state build an airport to have a major hub here? Of course they would." On moving the team: Attanasio: "Look, me, Debbie, our family, we very much want to stay. That's all I've considered at this point. We have to face the fact that while the ballpark looks beautiful -- I mean, it is beautiful -- the infrastructure is 20-plus years old. Even the scoreboard, which is great, the parts get obsolete so fast and the simple fact is the District is going to run out of money in the next couple of years. And so, we're trying to address the future of the ballpark before it runs out of money. And not in a Band-Aid kind of way. And so, whatever speculation, my goal is to be here. The politicians say 2050? I say great, until 2050." Downplays his chairmanship of MLB relocation committee.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/sports/mlb/brewers/2023/08/26/mark-attanasio-discusses-craig-counsell-with-brewers-ballpark-funding/70677148007/>

- Hudson's Randy Hohn completes bucket list bike trip across country

<https://www.hudsonstarobserver.com/8966612a-42a7-11ee-8b34-5bdf2c447ab1.html>

TRANSPORTATION [^top^](#)

- Debate heats up on proposal to tear down Interstate 794 ... Sen. Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville) released a letter Aug. 21 in which he pointed out any proposal to remove the section of freeway would need approval from the state Legislature. ... Ald. Jonathan Brostoff, a proponent of the teardown option, said Stroebel was wrong. ...

Some downtown stakeholders have raised similar concerns that removing I-794 could make commuting more difficult, or lead to congested local streets that would also [deter foot traffic] ... "Downtown employers aren't choosing downtown because of the highways," said [Rethink 794's] Jones ... "They choose downtowns because they know a vibrant, attractive, mixed use neighborhood is what the future of their workforce demands. This isn't 1960. The freeway-as-economic-development-tool has failed us and it's time to give up on the experiment. ... This isn't just a small loud group, it's a movement of people that are interested in seeing a better future for Milwaukee than the status-quo. Would the Deer District and Fiserv Forum be what it is if we kept the status-quo? Would the Third Ward be what it is today if people didn't envision it as a premier place to live and shop 30 years ago?"

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/25/debate-heats-up-on-proposal-to-tear-down-interstat.html>

- Portage municipal airport not closing -- yet

<https://wiscnews.com/1b13b76e-434b-11ee-ad07-eb65b8be06ff.html>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Potawatomi casino gambling revenue stays flat as tribe prepares to fight new competitors ... won at least \$415M from gamblers during the 12 month period that ended June 30 ... increased by just 1.7% ... lags that of other tribal [+4.9%] and Las Vegas [+10.5%] casinos. ... has allowed the tribe to pay its members dividends of about \$70,000 a year. "The Milwaukee casino market is maturing, but there is still room for future growth," said [Victor Strategies] Johnson ... "Tribal gaming is still growing. I expect the Potawatomi to continue to grow. ... Las Vegas is doing well. Regional casinos are having a harder time." ... tribe pays the city and county of Milwaukee 1.5% of its net win [after \$20M to state] ... \$5.9M+ to each government for the year that ended June 30. ... new competitors will soon be opening in Chicago's downtown; Waukegan, Illinois; and Beloit in coming months. ... Add to that the Menominee tribe's never-ending effort to place a casino in Kenosha. ... "I don't think anyone was anticipating the massive expansion of gaming in Illinois," said [Potawatomi AG] Crawford ... "Obviously it's something we're paying attention to. ... A good number of these entities make Potawatomi look like a small operation. We're kind of like a mom-and-pop operation compared with the big boys." Reviews new sports book, food/music venues at Potawatomi.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/business/2023/08/28/gamblers-lose-more-than-400-million-to-potawatomi-in-past-year/70663782007/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- WSJ editorial: Where's the GOP plan to prevent child care centers from closing? ... [Steffen-James] tax exemption on baby products ... is being reintroduced just as the governor seeks legislative action to address the looming end to federal subsidies for child care providers. But saving \$5 a month on \$100 in diapers, while helpful, isn't going to make or break a family budget. ... Vos has a point. The state can't backfill every fading federal relief program ... But what's the Republicans' alternative ... Saving \$5 on diapers? ... If Republican lawmakers ... won't even discuss it in special session, as the governor requested -- what's their counter proposal? Wisconsin is waiting.

<https://madison.com/d0b7ec44-4084-11ee-8348-47cf8fcdf88a.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Dave Zweifel: UW shortfall of the GOP's making

<https://captimes.com/244dc00f-9c6f-5fa5-a353-bc0ee08a850c.html>

- James Causey: Making family phone calls free for prisoners is a cheap tool for reducing recidivism, Evidence shows close family ties makes reentry easier for inmates, keeps their kids healthier and prisons safer. ... [ex-inmate Ross] estimates his parents spent between \$15-17K [over 20-yrs] to receive phone calls from him in prison. Wisconsin is one of a dozen states where bills have been introduced or are being drafted allowing for free or reduced calls in jails and prisons. ... While phone calls are essential, [Table of Saints] McMurray said she didn't think phone calls should be free. ... Currently, Wisconsin has some of the highest rates for calls from prisons and jails and is considering upping the fees it charges inmates for sending e-mails. ... survey shows Wisconsin has among the "highest costs of a 15-minute in-state call from a jail," at \$21.97. ... "They nickel and dime inmates every chance they get. It's not right because if you look at who the inmates are, they are already poor," [Ross] said. ... In 2021, Connecticut became the first state to make all prison phone calls free. Since then, California, Colorado, and Minnesota have followed. ... Over the years, I have taken dozens of phone calls from prisoners who wanted to talk to me about their cases or inform me about the abuse they deal with while incarcerated. ... "When you are locked up, people on the outside keep living," [ex-inmate Dixon] said. "They travel, have birthdays, go to parties, and sometimes you don't have anything going on when locked up. Those calls are all you need to keep going."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/columnists/2023/08/26/free-phone-calls-for-inmates/70682963007/>

- Sen. Lena Taylor: Lead Lateral Replacement Timeline Doesn't Add Up ... WI should receive \$370M+ [from Infrastructure law], with MWW requesting \$30M of that. Milwaukee Mayor Johnson said his original goal was to replace all lead service lines in the next 70 years, the new funding changes it to 20 years. VP Harris seemed to believe that we would have them replaced in 10 years. ... Milwaukee must do better. There needs to be a sense of urgency that shows up in our planning and ability to scale up to meet an aggressive repair schedule. We have to look at best practices around the country, or right in our own backyard (Madison) to see how to make meaningful progress. The health of our residents demands no less.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/lead-lateral-replacement>

- Rep. LaKeshia Myers' Summer Reading List #3: The 'Girl Power' Edition ... five books by authors I found worthwhile. Friedan, Betty. The Feminine Mystique. New York: Norton, 1963. ... Chisholm, Shirley, 1924- 2005. Unbought and Unbossed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1970. ... Schlafly, Phyllis. A Choice, Not an Echo. 1st ed. Alton, IL: Pere Marquette, 1963. ... Steinem, Gloria. Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1983. ... Abzug, Bella. Bella!: Ms. Abzug Goes to Washington. New York: Sunday Review Press, 1972.

<https://milwaukeecourieronline.com/index.php/2023/08/26/rep-myers-summer-reading>

- UW prof. Susan Webb Yackee and MGIC chair Curt S. Culver: Lunch at Culver's fitting place to find common ground in polarizing political climate, The promotion of civil discourse is one of the most urgent actions the La Follette School can take going forward ... As an educator and a businessman, we recognize that it is far easier to talk about issues with people who tend to agree with you. But, in school and in the workplace, there is immense value in debating and listening to people who -- quite frankly -- don't. Just like a ButterBurger, we'd like to think this is something nearly everyone in Wisconsin can agree on.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/opinion/2023/08/28/civil-discourse-priority-at-la-follette-school-in-ere-of-incivility/70682714007/>

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Aug 29, 2023

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POLITICO Playbook

BY RYAN LIZZA, RACHAEL BADE AND EUGENE DANIELS

Presented by  American
Petroleum
Institute

With help from Eli Okun and Garrett Ross



A 407-page tome about Biden world drops next week: “The Last Politician: Inside Joe Biden's White House and the Struggle for America's Future.” | Susan Walsh/AP Photo

IDALIA LATEST — From the National Hurricane Center’s [5 a.m. update](#): “IDALIA NOW A HURRICANE ... EXPECTED TO RAPIDLY INTENSIFY INTO AN EXTREMELY DANGEROUS MAJOR HURRICANE BEFORE LANDFALL ON WEDNESDAY.” [More from AP](#)

FIRST IN PLAYBOOK — The Senate Dem-affiliated Duty and Honor PAC is launching a new ad campaign supporting Sen. **JOE MANCHIN** (D-W.Va.) — by linking him to Trump! The six-figure digital buy, which will include Facebook, Google and YouTube placements, focuses on Manchin’s work with Trump on miners’ pensions and health insurance. [Watch one 30-second spot](#)

BIDEN AIDES BRACE FOR BOOK RELEASE — The first insider account of President **JOE BIDEN**’s first two years in office is scheduled to drop one week from today.

Atlantic staff writer FRANKLIN FOER originally set out to write an account of Biden’s first one hundred days in office, focusing on the Biden team’s response to the pandemic and the undoing of Trump’s major policies. But Foer kept reporting as the story of the American Rescue Plan, the Inflation Reduction Act, the Afghanistan withdrawal, Ukraine and ultimately the midterm elections unfolded.

Along the way he conducted nearly 300 interviews from November 2020 to February 2023. The result is his eagerly anticipated 407-page tome about Biden world: “**The Last Politician: Inside Joe Biden’s White House and the Struggle for America’s Future**” ([\\$30](#)).

In recent days Biden aides have been scrambling to secure a password-protected PDF of the book that has been sent to select journalists and reviewers, some of whom were required to sign nondisclosure agreements and promise not to share the contents with newsroom colleagues.

A major media rollout of the book is set to kick off this week. (In fact, we’ll be recording a conversation with Foer this afternoon for next week’s episode of the Playbook Deep Dive podcast.)

In the publishing world, “**The Last Politician**” is seen as a test of the market for political books about figures other than **DONALD TRUMP**. In Washington, the book will be a test for how a generally leak-proof White House grapples with the first detailed excavation of its successes and failures from the Inaugural through the midterms.

Minutes ago, the first excerpt of the Foer book was [posted at the Atlantic](#) and will appear across 13 pages in the magazine’s October issue. The piece — “[The Final Days](#)” — is a gripping history of America’s withdrawal from Afghanistan during August 2021, a month that marks one of the low points for a team that was elected for its competence. Foer’s account is notable both for his deep reporting as well as his shrewd insights into how Biden thinks, including the president’s unsentimental views on his decision to end America’s longest war.

A message from The American Petroleum Institute (API):

[U.S. Oil and Natural Gas = American Security](#): Oil and natural gas made, moved and improved in America is the foundation of our nation’s energy security – today and for decades to come. Sadly, some in Washington muddle efforts to strengthen new production through bad policies and negative rhetoric. Let’s be clear: America’s energy security benefits from consistent policy support for oil and natural gas over coming decades.

[The entire piece](#) is worth reading, but here are some key portions that caught our eye:

— ***On Biden’s self-confidence***: “From 12 years as the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee — and then eight years as the vice president — Biden had acquired a sense that he could scythe through conventional wisdom. He distrusted mandarins, even those he had hired for his staff. They were always muddying things with theories. One aide recalled that he would say, ‘You foreign-policy guys, you think this is all pretty complicated. But it’s just like family dynamics.’ Foreign affairs was sometimes painful, often futile, but really it was emotional intelligence applied to people with names that were difficult to pronounce. Diplomacy, in Biden’s view, was akin to persuading a pain-in-the-ass uncle to stop drinking so much.”

— **On Biden’s reaction to the news that Afghan president ASHRAF GHANI had fled the country:** “JAKE SULLIVAN relayed the news to Biden, who exploded in frustration: *Give me a break.*”

— **On Biden getting into the weeds of the evacuation:** “Throughout the day, [Ambassador JOHN] BASS would stop what he was doing and join videoconferences with Washington. He became a fixture in the Situation Room. Biden would pepper him with ideas for squeezing more evacuees through the gates. The president’s instinct was to throw himself into the intricacies of troubleshooting. *Why don’t we have them meet in parking lots? Can’t we leave the airport and pick them up?* Bass would kick around Biden’s proposed solutions with colleagues to determine their plausibility, which was usually low.”

— **On Biden’s attention to individual evacuees:** “Throughout late August, the president himself was fielding requests to help stranded Afghans, from friends and members of Congress. Biden became invested in individual cases. Three buses of women at the Kabul Serena Hotel kept running into logistical obstacles. He told Sullivan, ‘I want to know what happens to them. I want to know when they make it to the airport.’ When the president heard these stories, he would become engrossed in solving the practical challenge of getting people to the airport, mapping routes through the city.”

— **On Biden’s insistence that he made the right choice:** “Biden didn’t have time to voraciously consume the news, but he was well aware of the coverage, and it infuriated him. It did little to change his mind, though. ... Through the whole last decade of the Afghan War, he had detested the conventional wisdom of the foreign-policy elites. They were willing to stay forever, no matter the cost. After defying their delusional promises of progress for so long, he wasn’t going to back down now. In fact, everything he’d witnessed from his seat in the Situation Room confirmed his belief that exiting a war without hope was the best and only course.

“**So much of the commentary** felt overheated to him. He said to an aide: *Either the press is losing its mind, or I am.*”

Good Tuesday morning. Thanks for reading Playbook. Drop us a line with your reviews of Foer’s Biden book after you read it: [Rachael Bade](#), [Eugene Daniels](#), [Ryan Lizza](#).

A message from The American Petroleum Institute (API):

[Ensure Access to America's Oil and Natural Gas Resources](#): Did you know the Biden administration approved fewer than 2,900 permits for oil and natural gas energy development onshore last year – down from more than 4,900 permits in 2021? Washington must remove barriers to developing American energy to meet growing demand.

WE HAVE A DATE — There were several developments yesterday in the ongoing cases stemming from attempted 2020 election subversion, but none more significant than this: Judge **TANYA CHUTKAN** officially set Trump's federal trial in D.C. to start **March 4**. That is way closer to prosecutors' request (Jan. 2) than to Trump's attorneys' (2026). Still, pre-trial motions could potentially delay the trial further. March 4 also happens to be the start date Fulton County, Ga., DA **FANI WILLIS** had proposed at first for her Trump trial. [More from the WSJ](#)

The timing will place Trump's D.C. trial smack dab in the middle of the presidential primary season: The very next day is **Super Tuesday**, with more than a dozen states voting. The trial “could easily become the center of gravity” of the campaign, [NYT's Nate Cohn writes](#), either turbocharging Trump politically among his defenders or offering rivals a chance to pounce. Even more than Super Tuesday, the following two weeks — when Georgia and Florida vote, and delegate allotments become winner-take-all for the first time — could be especially decisive, [Steve Shepard writes](#).

MARK MEADOWS' big day in Georgia: The former White House chief of staff took the stand at a hearing to try to move his trial to federal court. Over four hours of testimony, Meadows argued that his actions were within the scope of his job — not as a private citizen — and should therefore be a federal, not state, matter, [The Atlanta Journal-Constitution's Bill Rankin and Tamar Hallerman report](#). The quasi-mini trial has not yielded an outcome yet, but if Meadows is successful, there could be implications for the rest of the racketeering defendants.

On the home front: [People's Linda Marx has a story](#) on **MELANIA TRUMP's**

reaction (or lack thereof) to her husband's indictments, which contains a pretty incredible quote from sources who know her: "She pays only so much attention to these issues." Though she supports Trump and shares his views on the trials, she's focusing more on **BARRON**.

On the Hill: Rep. **ANDREW CLYDE** (R-Ga.) said yesterday that he'll try to attach amendments to government appropriations bills that would bar funding for the prosecutions of major presidential candidates, [Roll Call's Aidan Quigley reports](#). Trump defenders in Congress are facing an uphill fight in seeking to defund the offices of Willis, Manhattan DA **ALVIN BRAGG** and special counsel **JACK SMITH**.

How it's playing: From Atlanta, WaPo's Emmanuel Felton, Fenit Nirappil and Camila DeChalus [have an insightful look](#) at what Trump's motorcade meant to the historic Black communities through which it passed on the way to his booking. Residents expressed variously satisfaction, outrage and a sense of disconnect.

BIG MIDWEST SWING, PART I — ["How Trump's Election Lies Left the Michigan G.O.P. Broken and Battered,"](#) by NYT's Nick Corasaniti: "Mr. Trump's election lies spread like wildfire in Michigan, breaking the state party into ardent believers and pragmatists wanting to move on. Bitter disputes, power struggles and contentious primaries followed, leaving the Michigan Republican Party a husk of itself."

BIG MIDWEST SWING, PART II — ["Forget about Ohio. It's Fool's Gold,"](#) by Kyle Kondik in POLITICO: "[R]egardless of what happens in that [abortion] ballot measure, the Trump realignment ended — at least for now — the state's defining role as a presidential bellwether."

BIDEN'S TUESDAY:

10 a.m.: The president will receive the President's Daily Brief.

2 p.m.: Biden will speak at an event in the East Room about lowering health care costs, with VP **KAMALA HARRIS** participating.

3:45 p.m.: Biden will hold a bilateral meeting with Costa Rican President **RODRIGO CHAVES ROBLES** in the Oval Office.

Press secretary **KARINE JEAN-PIERRE** will brief at 1 p.m.

THE HOUSE and **THE SENATE** are out.

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PHOTO OF THE DAY



A student poses for a photo with President Joe Biden as he and first lady Jill Biden visit Eliot-Hine Middle School in Washington, D.C., on Monday, Aug. 28. | Saul Loeb/AFP via Getty Images

2024 WATCH

THE EDUCATION PRIMARY — Sen. **TIM SCOTT** (R-S.C.) yesterday unveiled an education-focused policy proposal, a mixture of classic conservative ideals and new-wave parental rights focus, as [Fox News’ Paul Steinhauser and Andrew Murray scooped](#). It includes barring transgender girls from female sports, implementing school choice nationwide, giving parents greater ability to opt out of curricula, opposing teachers’ unions and forcing tech apps to have their country of origin labeled.

In the GOP primary broadly, the more typical Republican approach to education is clawing back some attention from the approach championed by Florida Gov. **RON DeSANTIS** and **VIVEK RAMASWAMY**, [NYT’s Trip Gabriel and Nicholas Nehamas report](#) from Rock Rapids, Iowa, with other GOP candidates “seeking to frame the 2024 campaign around topics beyond their opposition to ‘wokeness’ — generally understood as liberal views on race and gender — as they try to appeal to audiences wider than conservative activists.”

One candidate who still doesn’t sound like RONALD REAGAN:

Ramaswamy [posted on X](#) that the College Board should add a physical fitness section to the SAT, as a way to bolster physical and mental health and improve collegiate diversity post-affirmative action.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS FRANCIS SUAREZ? — After declaring that any candidate who didn’t make the first debate should drop out, and then not making the first debate, the Miami mayor has gone dark the past week, [NBC’s Alec Hernández and Alex Tabet report](#). No public events. No posts on social media. Just \$5,000 in ad spending since the debate. And the campaign isn’t responding to questions about whether it still exists.

POST-DEBATE DIGEST — [“Haley hauls \\$1 million in 72 hours after the first GOP presidential primary debate.”](#) by Fox News’ Paul Steinhauser in Indian Land, S.C. ... [“Pro-Burgum super PAC revs up ad spending as second debate looms.”](#) by NBC’s Ben Kamisar ... [“Drop Out, Asa.”](#) by the National Review editors

BATTLE FOR THE BALLOT — [“N.H. Republicans feud over bid to knock Trump off 2024 ballot,”](#) by Lisa Kashinsky: “**BRYANT ‘CORKY’ MESSNER**, an attorney who ran on Trump’s endorsement as Republicans’ 2020 U.S. Senate nominee, is questioning Trump’s eligibility for the ballot — and wants to see the courts address it. ... Yet any effort to keep Trump off the ballot will face a steep climb.”

HELLO, WILMINGTON! — [“Biden campaign opens its HQ in Delaware,”](#) by Axios’ Alex Thompson

MORE POLITICS

KEEP AN EYE ON THIS — An under-the-radar legal battle might result, if Republicans are successful, in a major change to get more big money flowing into politics, [Ally Mutnick and Zach Montellaro report this morning](#). Though Democrats and some legal experts are skeptical of the lawsuit’s chances, it “could end in [the GOP’s] **biggest victory since the *Citizens United* ruling in 2010.**” The NRSC and NRCC are seeking to end limits on coordination between candidates and campaign committees, which would obviate the need for both parties’ campaign committees to have separate independent expenditure arms and make it cheaper for them to buy TV ad time. The case looks potentially headed for the conservative 6th Circuit Court.

ON WISCONSIN — [“Tammy Baldwin said to ‘stay home’ in 2020. She’d just taken a personal trip with tax dollars,”](#) by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel’s Daniel Bice: “Just recently, [Sen. **TAMMY**] **BALDWIN**’s office reimbursed the federal government for the cost of this trip after being asked about it by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Baldwin campaign staffers said the trip had been erroneously marked as official travel.”

— [“A Wisconsin election official has bipartisan support. She may be driven out anyway,”](#) by Zach Montellaro: “The state Senate is set to hold a hearing Tuesday on **MEAGAN WOLFE**, the administrator of the Wisconsin Elections Commission, the first step in what is likely an attempt to remove her from her position.”

NOT HOLDING BACK — [“Pope says ‘backward’ U.S. conservatives have replaced faith with ideology,”](#) AP/Rome

CONGRESS

THE I WORD — Speaker **KEVIN McCARTHY** is serious about launching an impeachment inquiry into Biden, with plans to get it underway by the end of next month, [CNN's Melanie Zanona reports](#). He's even more avid about it privately than publicly — but he also knows that he doesn't have the votes from moderate members. So House GOP leadership is looking at the possibility they could forgo a floor vote to open the inquiry, which is not required by the Constitution or House rules.

Democrats are getting ready for it, too. The White House and the DNC issued new statements yesterday decrying the impeachment push as a partisan stunt that distracts from substantive policymaking, [The Messenger's Stephen Neukam and Amie Parnes report](#).

HUNTER GATHERING — House Judiciary Chair **JIM JORDAN** (R-Ohio), House Oversight Chair **JAMES COMER** (R-Ky.) and House Ways and Means Chair **JASON SMITH** (R-Mo.) yesterday demanded more information from DOJ about **DAVID WEISS'** appointment as special counsel in the **HUNTER BIDEN** probe, [The Plain Dealer's Sabrina Eaton scooped](#). Raising concerns about the handling of the prosecution, they requested a range of documents by Sept. 11. [The letter](#)

A message from The American Petroleum Institute (API):



Policies Matter: To increase energy supplies, our leaders must remove leasing bans and permit delays.

THE WHITE HOUSE

POTUS ON THE ROAD — [“Biden will visit Hanoi next month as he seeks to strengthen U.S.-Vietnam relations,”](#) by AP’s Aamer Madhani ... [“Biden will observe 9/11 in Alaska instead of the traditional NYC, Virginia or Pennsylvania events,”](#) by AP’s Darlene Superville: “[T]he president will stop in Alaska for a Sept. 11 observance at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage on his way back to Washington after a trip to Asia.”

JUDICIARY SQUARE

FOR YOUR RADAR — [“Inside Matt Schlapp’s Offer to Settle the Sexual](#)

Battery Lawsuit Against Him,” by The Daily Beast’s Roger Sollenberger: “The offer from [MATT] SCHLAPP was in the low six figures, according to [multiple] sources. But Schlapp’s accuser — Republican strategist **CARLTON HUFFMAN**, who filed the lawsuit against Schlapp and his wife, **MERCEDES SCHLAPP**, in January — turned it down and countered with a substantially higher sum. Schlapp did not accept the counterproposal ... In a statement to The Daily Beast on behalf of the Schlapps, their publicist **MARK CORALLO** denied that a settlement was offered.”

ON THE SUMMER CIRCUIT — “Justice Barrett says scrutiny welcomed and she’s developed a ‘thick skin,’” by WaPo’s Robert Barnes: Speaking at the Seventh Circuit Judicial Conference in Wisconsin, Justice **AMY CONEY BARRETT** said “public criticism kind of comes with the job” of being a judge, adding: “I’ve been at it for a couple of years now and I’ve acquired a thick skin, and I think that’s what public figures have to do; I think that’s what all judges have to do.” Barnes notes that her questioner, appeals court judge **DIANE SYKES**, “did not ask about the court’s recent decisions or about ethics controversies that have dogged the justices.”

POLICY CORNER

TODAY’S BIG ANNOUNCEMENT — The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is expected to unveil its long-awaited list of 10 drugs that will be first up for Medicare price negotiations, [USA Today’s Ken Alltucker previews](#). It’s the first big moment for a radical new approach, included in the Inflation Reduction Act, to have the government play an active role in negotiating prescription drug costs to try to get them lower for Americans. Popular and pricey medications for “arthritis, cancer, diabetes or heart disease” could be among the 10, experts tell USA Today, as the pharmaceutical industry wages a legal battle to stop the policy.

THE ROB MALLEY MYSTERY — “Leaked Document: Robert Malley’s Security Clearance Revoked Over Handling of Sensitive Info, Personal Conduct, and Use of Classified Networks,” by The Washington Free Beacon’s Adam Kredo

— **“An Iran mouthpiece’s ‘scoop’ draws Republican ire,”** by Nahal Toosi and Joe Gould: “Republican lawmakers are calling for the State Department to

probe how the Tehran Times, an Iranian state-run media outlet, obtained a purported memo informing U.S. Special Envoy for Iran Rob Malley that his security clearance was suspended.”

AMERICA AND THE WORLD

NEW OVERNIGHT — [“Top Chinese official tells the US commerce secretary he’s ready to improve cooperation,”](#) by AP’s Joe McDonald in Beijing: “The agreement Monday was the most substantial result to date out of a string of visits by American officials to Beijing over the last three months to revive relations that are at their lowest level in decades.”

STATE OF THE UNIONS — [“Biden, Lula to Call for New Worker Protections at U.N. Meeting,”](#) by Bloomberg’s Daniel Carvalho

VALLEY TALK

THE BRAVE NEW WORLD — [“Schumer to host Musk, Zuckerberg for AI forum,”](#) by Axios’ Maria Curi and Ashley Gold: “The closed-door forum, scheduled for Sept. 13, will feature a slew of heavy hitters, including X’s **ELON MUSK**, Meta’s **MARK ZUCKERBERG**, Google’s **SUNDAR PICHAI**, OpenAI’s **SAM ALTMAN**, Nvidia’s **JENSEN HUANG** and Microsoft co-founder **BILL GATES**. Microsoft CEO **SATYA NADELLA**, former Google CEO **ERIC SCHMIDT**, civil society groups and unions will also attend.”

SUBSCRIBE TO CALIFORNIA CLIMATE: Climate change isn’t just about the weather. It’s also about how we do business and create new policies, especially in California. So we have something cool for you: A brand-new California Climate newsletter. It’s not just climate or science chat, it’s your daily cheat sheet to understanding how the legislative landscape around climate change is shaking up industries across the Golden State. [Subscribe now to California Climate to keep up with the changes.](#)

Eric Schultz broke down [his work on “Succession.”](#)

Joshua Wright is facing [eight sexual misconduct allegations](#), which he denies.

IN MEMORIAM — “NW Ohio’s ‘Joe the Plumber’ dies of cancer,” by The Toledo Blade’s Luke Ramseth: “Samuel Joseph Wurzelbacher, a conservative activist and commentator from northwest Ohio who rose to prominence as ‘Joe the Plumber’ during the 2008 presidential campaign after he questioned Barack Obama as the then-candidate campaigned on his Springfield Township street, died on Sunday. He was 49. ... In 2012, he challenged U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D., Toledo) and lost by a wide margin.”

— [“Douglas Feaver, Washington Post editor who ran online operation, dies at 84,”](#) by WaPo’s Bart Barnes: “Mr. Feaver was a copy editor, an editor of Virginia news, assistant Metropolitan editor and a business desk editor. To the reporters under his supervision, he had a reputation as a ‘just the facts’ hard-news editor. As a reporter, he specialized in transportation issues.”

FIRST IN PLAYBOOK — Johnny Walsh is now chief of staff to the acting deputy secretary of DHS. He most recently was deputy assistant administrator for democracy, human rights and governance at USAID and is a State Department alum.

— **Mark Ranneberger** is now senior adviser to Small Business Administration Deputy Administrator Dilawar Syed. He most recently was senior adviser for business engagement at the State Department and is a John Hickenlooper and FWD.us alum.

TRANSITIONS — Matthew Continetti is now director of domestic policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute. He previously has been a senior fellow at AEI and is a Washington Free Beacon alum. ... **Billy Gribbin** is now comms director for Sen. Mike Lee (R-Utah). He most recently was comms director for Rep. Rich McCormick (R-Ga.), and is a Trump White House and Ted Cruz alum. ... **Brandon Weathersby** is joining American Bridge 21st Century as presidential comms director. He previously was comms director for the Milwaukee County executive, and is a Bloomberg 2020 alum.

WEEKEND WEDDING — Rudy Soto, acting director of the USDA Office of External and Intergovernmental Affairs, and **Rose Petoskey**, senior counselor to the assistant secretary for Indian affairs at the Interior Department, got married Saturday in Northport, Mich. Their wedding was officiated by **Bryan Newland**, assistant secretary for Indian affairs. The couple met in D.C. through the Native American Bar Association. [Pic by Allen Kent Photo](#) ... [Another pic](#) ... **SPOTTED: Daron Carreiro, Sean Gard, Bayly Hassell, Heather Sibbison, Alex Johnson, Delia Kashat, Noel Perez, Matthew Fletcher, Tracy Goodluck, Joaquin Gallegos, Stephanie Sfiridis, Julia Hnilicka, Maria Herrera Gallegos, Kenneth Corn, Michele Weaver and Xavier Barraza.**

WELCOME TO THE WORLD — Josh Siegel, an energy reporter at POLITICO, and **Florianne Siegel**, an ICU nurse at Inova Fairfax, welcomed Ezra James Siegel on Wednesday. He's their first child. [Pic](#) ... [Another pic](#)

BIRTHWEEK (was yesterday): White House's **Silas Woods**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Justice **Neil Gorsuch** ... OMB Director **Shalanda Young** ... Rep. **Don Davis** (D-N.C.) ... WSJ's **Paul Beckett** ... **Clayton Cox** of McGuireWoods Consulting ... **Garrett Arwa** of Bryson Gillette ... Georgetown's **Lacy Nelson** ... **Alison Schwartz** of Grow Strategic Solutions ... **Nancy Scola** ... Texas Tribune's **Sewell Chan** ... FGS Global's **Kyle Daly** ... **Charlie Spies** ... **Stacey Hughes** of the American Hospital Association ... IBM's **Ryan Hagemann** ... **Ed Wyatt** ... PhRMA's **Tom Wilbur** ... **Jerr Rosenbaum** of HLP&R Advocacy ... FTI Consulting's **Brian Kennedy** ... **Duncan Neasham** ... **Maurice Simpson Jr.** ... Nestle's **Molly Fogarty** ... **Paul Coussan** ... **Susan Markham** ... **Paige Ennis** ... former Treasury Secretaries **Robert Rubin** and **Jack Lew** ... POLITICO's **Mandeep Kaur, Morgan Connolly, Noura Arzaz** and **Maddie Bedrick** ... **Rich Cooper** ... former Rep. **Dave Reichert** (R-Wash.) ... National Nurses United's **Amirah Sequeira** ... **Sacha Zimmerman** ... Fannie Mae's **Anna English** ... former Sen. **David Pryor** (D-Ark.) ... **Adam Shapiro** ... former Guam Gov. **Eddie Baza Calvo** ... **Wesley Dietrich** ... **Uliana Pavlova** ... **Connie Milstein** ... USA Today's **Cristina Silva** ... **Matt Brush** of Rep. **Nikki Budzinski's** (D-Ill.) office

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*Playbook couldn't happen without our editor **Mike DeBonis**, deputy editor **Zack Stanton** and producers **Setota Hailemariam** and **Bethany Irvine**.*

Correction: Yesterday's Playbook misidentified the office Kari Lake ran for last year. She ran for governor of Arizona.

A message from The American Petroleum Institute (API):

Plan for Production: Geopolitical events remind us that American oil and natural gas are critical to U.S. energy security.

Today oil and natural gas supply 68% of America's energy. To continue meeting demand as population grows, America requires sound policy and planning – supported by Washington's acknowledgement that oil and natural gas are strategic assets that take years to develop. Decreasing reliance on foreign suppliers while increasing our self-sufficiency provides immediate economic benefits and American jobs in communities from coast to coast.

America needs:

- More access to federal onshore resources through increased leasing. The administration's record in onshore leasing runs counter to America's energy security needs.
- A new offshore leasing plan. To date the Biden administration has leased the fewest offshore acreage than any president in recent history.
- Permitting reforms to allow energy infrastructure to move forward in a timely manner.
- Regulatory policies that encourage U.S. oil and natural gas investment.

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From: [Borowski, Gregory](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#); [Piper, Rachel](#)
Cc: [Barnes, Mel - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: questions
Date: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 5:13:25 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-1470595877.png](#)

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Hi Britt:

Thank you for your note. I am including Rachel Piper here.

Happy to schedule something for later this week, but you should know up front: I view this as a legitimate line of inquiry as we try to determine if there is a story here and, based on the official response Dan shared, insinuations that our team is pursuing this for some prurient interest or somehow spreading the story around outside our newsroom are inaccurate and, frankly, disappointing.

Please send a few times on Thursday or Friday that would work for a call.

Thank you,

Greg

Greg Borowski

Executive editor

Editor, PolitiFact Wisconsin

MILWAUKEE · WISCONSIN
JOURNAL SENTINEL



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From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2023 6:12 PM
To: Borowski, Gregory <greg.borowski@jrn.com>
Cc: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: questions

Greg,

I hope you're well. Our office would welcome the opportunity to have an off-record conversation directly with you before you decide to proceed with this story. We are also happy to have Rachel join if you would like her to be part of this conversation as well.

I understand that one or both of you are/have been out of the office, so we are happy to find time when you return and have caught up. If you're willing and interested in having that conversation, please let us know when you might have availability next week and the following week, and we will try to coordinate with schedules on our end.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Date: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at 10:28 AM
To: Bice, Daniel <daniel.bice@jrn.com>, Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Aspenson, Eric <eric.aspenson@jrn.com>, Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: questions

Hi Dan,

Per your last request, our office already provided on-the-record responses to your questions. We will continue to refer you to those responses.

Thanks,
Maggie

From: Bice, Daniel <daniel.bice@jrn.com>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 3:04 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>; Gau, Maggie M - GOV <maggie.gau@wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Aspenson, Eric <eric.aspenson@jrn.com>
Subject: Re: questions

**CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization.
Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Thanks for the note.

I would point out, however, that my questions were addressed to Maggie Gau, the office's chief of staff. She did not answer my first question, which was, in short, is she in a romantic or sexual relationship with a staff member whom she supervises? If not, then there is no story. End of conversation. But if she is in such a relationship, has she granted promotions or pay raises to this staffer? When did she alert the governor to the fact that is in such a relationship with a subordinate.

If Maggie could answer these question(s), I would appreciate it. I would also ask that Gov. Evers provide us with any comment he has on the matter.

This is a simple story of accountability. Most businesses have policies banning supervisors from being in romantic or sexual relationships with staffers they supervise. The Journal Sentinel is asking if the Governor's Office is operating contrary to this widespread policy, one that is in force throughout the UW System and in both houses of the Legislature.

As for asking people about their personal relationships, this is something I've had to do on several occasions while pursuing various news stories. Among those I've asked are former Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele, former Gov. Tommy Thompson, Supreme Court Justice Rebecca Bradley, former Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist, former Assembly Speaker Mike Sheridan and former Insurance Commissioner Robert Haase. In some cases, I wrote stories, and in others, I did not, depending on the answers given to me.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing from Maggie .

Dan

Daniel Bice

Columnist/ No Quarter



Office:414-224-2135

Cell:414-313-6684

daniel.bice@jrn.com

@daniel.bice

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>

Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 7:45 PM

To: Bice, Daniel <daniel.bice@jrn.com>

Cc: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Aspenson, Eric <eric.aspenson@jrn.com>

Subject: re: questions

Dan,

Please see the below response, which you may attribute to me.

Journalists are not entitled to unfettered access to the intimate, personal details of a person's life just to satisfy their own personal curiosity.

We decline to comply with the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's* demands that we take the extraordinary and unprecedented step of answering questions that could disclose staff members' potential LGBTQ status and identity for publication in the state's newspaper of largest readership.

To do otherwise could not only affect the safety and well-being of our staff, but would set a dangerous, untenable precedent, enabling journalists to believe they are entitled answers to intrusive questions about employees' personal lives, even in situations where there is no journalistic value or legitimate public interest. It would also open the door to future, increasingly intrusive inquiries about individual employees' sexual orientation, gender identity, relationship status, health conditions, disabilities, religion, and ethnicity, among other personal information.

Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability. Moreover, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, by virtue of being a newspaper of record, has actual knowledge that anti-LGBTQ rhetoric, sentiment, and violence are on the rise and that publishing staff members' LGBTQ status and identity in your paper could directly cause and result in undue emotional and physical harm, including but not limited to harassment, stalking, targeting, and violence, among other concerning behavior, against members of our staff.

Where members of the public and members of the press and the public are entitled to certain information regarding personnel and staff for the important purpose of ensuring transparency and accountability in state government, broad swaths of personnel information, documents, and correspondence relating to state business must already be made available as required by law.

Wisconsin state law creates a presumption of public access in service of government openness, transparency, and accountability and, unlike the Wisconsin State Legislature, nearly every part of state business in the executive branch is required to be retained and made available to press and the public, including staff salaries, calendars and schedules, email and text communications, and most other documents. Moreover, as a note for your background regarding referenced policies that are applicable, for example, to other branches of government: we recommend a closer review of those policies, including provisions providing the broad flexibility to deviate from said policies altogether.

Among documents already available for press and public viewing includes the organizational chart for the office of the governor. For at least more than a decade, spanning over the tenures of at least four chiefs of staff, at least seven communications directors, and both Republican and Democratic administrations alike, the communications director has reported directly to the chief of staff, and that continues to be the case. Here are existing, publicly available links that include organizational charts for the office of the governor over the course of the last decade, beginning as early as Sept. 17, 2012, when agency budget requests under the Walker Administration were due to begin preparing the 2013-15 biennial budget: [2013-15](#), [2015-17](#), [2017-19](#), [2019-21](#), [2021-23](#), and [2023-25](#). For biennia preceding 2013-15, it appears organizational charts for agencies were not included in agency requests, but please let us know if you find you need additional historical records for the office of the governor preceding that time period.

Additionally, among documents that are likewise available for press and public viewing is the title, previous and current salary amounts, and position information of every state employee, including every person who works in the governor's office. Since running for governor in 2018, the governor has had five communications directors, three in the office of the governor:

- Sam Lau, campaign communications director, August 2018 – November 2018;
- Carrie Springer, transition communications director, November 2018 – January 7, 2019;
- Melissa Baldauff, communications director, January 7, 2019 – ~June 2020;
- Sarah Hoye, communications director, August 2020 – November 2020; and
- Britt Cudaback, communications director, November 8, 2020 – present.

The office of the governor is organized, structured, and managed for the purposes and benefit of the governor: meeting his needs and achieving his administration's priorities. To the extent senior staff is aware of any dating or romantic relationships between staff in our office, the governor is aware of them. Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation. Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office.

I was officially appointed to deputy communications director in the office of the governor, effective January 7, 2019, at \$62,000 annually. You will also note in the organizational chart(s) that the deputy communications director reports directly to the communications director, as is intuitive. I served as deputy communications director under all four of my predecessors and, during the entirety of my more than two years as deputy communications director, reported directly to the communications director in that role.

Of important note is that, despite expressing interest, I was passed over for a promotion from deputy communications director to communications director three different times—first during the post-election transition, again after the transition, and once again in the middle of the governor's first term.

I was promoted to communications director effective November 8, 2020. The decision to promote me from deputy communications director to communications director was the governor's decision and his decision alone. Notably, my starting salary when I was appointed as communications director in 2020 was \$100,006.40, over \$10,000 *LESS* than my two most recent predecessors when they began in the exact same role.

Any non-merit-based salary increases staff in the governor's office receive are through general wage adjustments to adjust for inflation. **Every state employee receives general wage adjustments as part of the state compensation plan, which is approved by the Wisconsin State Legislature.**

As it relates to merit-based pay increases staff in the governor's office may receive, the governor is aware of and signs off on any merit-based salary increases or promotions for members of senior staff in the governor's office. Importantly:

1. **I have received the exact same number of merit-based pay increases as other current senior staff members in the office of the governor.**
2. **Other than the chief of staff, every member of senior staff who has served since January 7, 2019 has received four merit-based pay increases during that time period.**
3. **Furthermore, my current compensation is entirely consistent with the compensation of my predecessors, and, in fact, is literally the exact same as the most recent person to hold this position before me:**
 - **Melissa Baldauff served as communications director at a salary of \$111,987.20 annually;**
 - **Sarah Hoye served as communications director at a salary of \$112,008 annually; and**
 - **I was reappointed as communications director, effective January 3, 2023, at a salary of \$112,008 annually.**
4. **I make commensurate salary to both of my predecessors while managing a larger team than any of my predecessors did.**
5. **My salary continues to be less than at least four other senior staff members despite the size of the team I manage.**

Beyond the above, I am personally aware that these inquiries, relating background information, and certain allegations have been shared and discussed with about ten or more individuals, many of whom are my professional colleagues, not only within the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel newsroom but beyond it. We kindly request that the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel does not share, discuss, or otherwise disclose this information or relevant inquiries any further beyond necessary editorial staff, most especially with individuals who do not work at the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, until and unless you conclude you plan to write this story.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers

p: [REDACTED]

e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

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**USA TODAY
NETWORK**

From: [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)
To: [Henney, Cara - GOV](#)
Subject: On Wisconsin Politics: Assembly Republicans introduce \$2.9 billion tax cut plan
Date: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 7:01:38 AM

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On Wisconsin Politics

Wed Aug 30 2023

Assembly Republicans introduce \$2.9 billion tax cut plan



The proposal would shield retiree income from taxes and target a cut for filers in the state's broad third bracket.

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Supreme Court feud escalates as Ziegler vows to post court director job

It's the latest development in a saga that has divided the state's high court since liberal Justice Janet Protasiewicz was sworn in on Aug. 3.

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Jill Biden will visit Madison to highlight cancer screenings

Her visit follows Joe Biden's own trip to Wisconsin and the Republican presidential



debate in Milwaukee, highlighting Wisconsin's key role in 2024.

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Bice: Baldwin pays back government for cost of personal trip during 2020 COVID surge

Baldwin's office recently reimbursed the federal government for the 2020 trip after being asked about it by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

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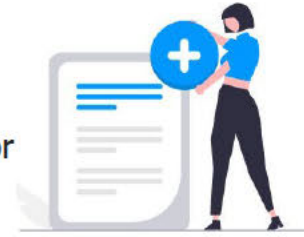
Gilbert: Debate gave Republicans a view of a post-Trump GOP

The Republican debate in Milwaukee served as a clarifying glimpse in to the GOP and its presidential field.

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From: [Bice, Daniel](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: questions
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 11:27:54 AM

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How many employees are there in the Governor's Office? The Blue Book says 37, but I think that is dated.

Thanks.

Dan

Daniel Bice
Columnist/ No Quarter



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daniel.bice@jrn.com
[@daniel.bice](#)

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 18, 2023 7:45 PM
To: Bice, Daniel <daniel.bice@jrn.com>
Cc: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>; Aspenson, Eric <eric.aspenson@jrn.com>
Subject: re: questions

Dan,

Please see the below response, which you may attribute to me.

Journalists are not entitled to unfettered access to the intimate, personal details of a person's life just to satisfy their own personal curiosity.

We decline to comply with the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's* demands that we take the extraordinary and unprecedented step of answering questions that could disclose staff members' potential LGBTQ status and identity for publication in the state's newspaper of largest readership.

To do otherwise could not only affect the safety and well-being of our staff, but would set a dangerous, untenable precedent, enabling journalists to believe they are entitled answers to intrusive questions about employees' personal lives, even in situations where there is no journalistic value or legitimate public interest. It would also open the door to future, increasingly

intrusive inquiries about individual employees' sexual orientation, gender identity, relationship status, health conditions, disabilities, religion, and ethnicity, among other personal information.

Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability. Moreover, the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, by virtue of being a newspaper of record, has actual knowledge that anti-LGBTQ rhetoric, sentiment, and violence are on the rise and that publishing staff members' LGBTQ status and identity in your paper could directly cause and result in undue emotional and physical harm, including but not limited to harassment, stalking, targeting, and violence, among other concerning behavior, against members of our staff.

Where members of the public and members of the press and the public are entitled to certain information regarding personnel and staff for the important purpose of ensuring transparency and accountability in state government, broad swaths of personnel information, documents, and correspondence relating to state business must already be made available as required by law. Wisconsin state law creates a presumption of public access in service of government openness, transparency, and accountability and, unlike the Wisconsin State Legislature, nearly every part of state business in the executive branch is required to be retained and made available to press and the public, including staff salaries, calendars and schedules, email and text communications, and most other documents. Moreover, as a note for your background regarding referenced policies that are applicable, for example, to other branches of government: we recommend a closer review of those policies, including provisions providing the broad flexibility to deviate from said policies altogether.

Among documents already available for press and public viewing includes the organizational chart for the office of the governor. For at least more than a decade, spanning over the tenures of at least four chiefs of staff, at least seven communications directors, and both Republican and Democratic administrations alike, the communications director has reported directly to the chief of staff, and that continues to be the case. Here are existing, publicly available links that include organizational charts for the office of the governor over the course of the last decade, beginning as early as Sept. 17, 2012, when agency budget requests under the Walker Administration were due to begin preparing the 2013-15 biennial budget: [2013-15](#), [2015-17](#), [2017-19](#), [2019-21](#), [2021-23](#), and [2023-25](#). For biennia preceding 2013-15, it appears organizational charts for agencies were not included in agency requests, but please let us know if you find you need additional historical records for the office of the governor preceding that time period.

Additionally, among documents that are likewise available for press and public viewing is the title, previous and current salary amounts, and position information of every state employee, including every person who works in the governor's office. Since running for governor in 2018, the governor has had five communications directors, three in the office of the governor:

- Sam Lau, campaign communications director, August 2018 – November 2018;
- Carrie Springer, transition communications director, November 2018 – January 7, 2019;
- Melissa Baldauff, communications director, January 7, 2019 – ~June 2020;
- Sarah Hoye, communications director, August 2020 – November 2020; and
- Britt Cudaback, communications director, November 8, 2020 – present.

The office of the governor is organized, structured, and managed for the purposes and benefit of the governor: meeting his needs and achieving his administration's priorities. To the extent senior staff is aware of any dating or romantic relationships between staff in our office, the governor is aware of them. Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation. Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office.

I was officially appointed to deputy communications director in the office of the governor, effective January 7, 2019, at \$62,000 annually. You will also note in the organizational chart(s) that the deputy communications director reports directly to the communications director, as is intuitive. I served as deputy communications director under all four of my predecessors and, during the entirety of my more than two years as deputy communications director, reported directly to the communications director in that role.

Of important note is that, despite expressing interest, I was passed over for a promotion from deputy communications director to communications director three different times—first during the post-election transition, again after the transition, and once again in the middle of the governor's first term.

I was promoted to communications director effective November 8, 2020. The decision to promote me from deputy communications director to communications director was the governor's decision and his decision alone. Notably, my starting salary when I was appointed as communications director in 2020 was \$100,006.40, over \$10,000 LESS than my two most recent predecessors when they began in the exact same role.

Any non-merit-based salary increases staff in the governor's office receive are through general wage adjustments to adjust for inflation. **Every state employee receives general wage adjustments as part of the state compensation plan, which is approved by the Wisconsin State Legislature.**

As it relates to merit-based pay increases staff in the governor's office may receive, the governor is aware of and signs off on any merit-based salary increases or promotions for members of senior staff in the governor's office. Importantly:

1. **I have received the exact same number of merit-based pay increases as other current senior staff members in the office of the governor.**
2. **Other than the chief of staff, every member of senior staff who has served since January 7, 2019 has received four merit-based pay increases during that time period.**
3. **Furthermore, my current compensation is entirely consistent with the compensation of my predecessors, and, in fact, is literally the exact same as the most recent person to hold this position before me:**
 - **Melissa Baldauff served as communications director at a salary of \$111,987.20 annually;**
 - **Sarah Hoye served as communications director at a salary of \$112,008**

annually; and

- **I was reappointed as communications director, effective January 3, 2023, at a salary of \$112,008 annually.**
4. **I make commensurate salary to both of my predecessors while managing a larger team than any of my predecessors did.**
 5. **My salary continues to be less than at least four other senior staff members despite the size of the team I manage.**

Beyond the above, I am personally aware that these inquiries, relating background information, and certain allegations have been shared and discussed with about ten or more individuals, many of whom are my professional colleagues, not only within the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel newsroom but beyond it. We kindly request that the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel does not share, discuss, or otherwise disclose this information or relevant inquiries any further beyond necessary editorial staff, most especially with individuals who do not work at the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, until and unless you conclude you plan to write this story.

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Bice, Daniel](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Subject: Column
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 2:05:07 PM

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It's posted. Your name and gender are not disclosed.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bice, Daniel](#)
To: [Cudaback, Britt G - GOV](#)
Subject: Re: Updates
Date: Thursday, August 31, 2023 2:53:31 PM

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My editors have decided that they don't want me to insert the quote because they believe that nothing I wrote is about the "intimate, personal details of a person's life just to satisfy their own personal curiosity." I made the case that this situation is worthy of public discussion.

You are free to post that statement on social media or elsewhere.

Thanks for the proposed revisions. I deleted the MyVote reference and said Evers was the one who promote you. I did write that the statement says you were passed over three times for a promotion and made \$10K less than your predecessors when you became comms director.

Let me know if there is anything else you dispute.

I might post the audio of the interview with the governor. But I need to review it to make sure your name did not come up.

Dan

Daniel Bice
Columnist/ No Quarter



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From: Bice, Daniel <daniel.bice@jrn.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 2:39 PM
To: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Re: Updates

I made the first three changes and republished. My editors will decide on whether we use the quote. I'll get back to you in the next 10 minutes.

Dan

Daniel Bice
Columnist/ No Quarter



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Cell:414-313-6684
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@daniel.bice

From: Cudaback, Britt G - GOV <britt.cudaback1@wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2023 2:28 PM
To: Bice, Daniel <daniel.bice@jrn.com>
Cc: Barnes, Mel - GOV <mel.barnes@wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Updates

Please update your story to accurately reflect:

1. I receive the literal same compensation as my immediate predecessor since you failed to include that important context;
2. The governor and the governor alone decided to promote me to communications director, as we already indicated to you, so please include this, as well;
3. We'd ask you to remove your disclosure of how someone might find another person's address using MyVote as doing so is not only not the appropriate use of that website but could well endanger other people well beyond our office, including survivors of domestic violence; and
4. We'd also ask you to include the following from our original statement:
 - **Journalists are not entitled to unfettered access to the intimate, personal details of a person's life just to satisfy their own personal curiosity.**

--

Britt Cudaback
Communications Director
Office of Governor Tony Evers
p: [REDACTED]
e: Britt.Cudaback1@wisconsin.gov

From: [Daily Briefing by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)
To: [GOV Press](#)
Subject: The deal with Waukesha getting Lake Michigan water
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 7:02:49 AM

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The Daily Briefing

YOUR MORNING NEWS ROUNDUP

Fri Sep 1 2023



JR Radcliffe | Trending sports reporter

@jrradcliffe

I'm JR Radcliffe and this is the Daily Briefing newsletter by the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. [Sign up here to get it sent to your inbox each morning.](#)

Welcome to Labor Day weekend; we hope you didn't put away those air-conditioner window units just yet. Today isn't so bad, with a high of 83 and

sunny skies, but the next few days will be 90s galore. [Expect a heat wave that will threaten September temperature records.](#)



Dan Duchniak, general manager at Waukesha Water Utility, seen Aug. 10 at the Waukesha Water Utility, located at 2010 East Broadway.

Ebony Cox / Milwaukee Journal Se, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Lake Michigan water is heading to Waukesha, and it's quite the to-do

When Waukesha residents turn on their faucets in mid-September, [Lake Michigan water will come out](#), the result of a long, sometimes arduous process that remains controversial.

The city of Waukesha was the first community in the country located entirely outside the Great Lakes basin to get a water diversion approved under the Great Lakes Compact, and it got that approval seven years ago. It required the approval from all eight Great Lakes states as well as Ontario and Quebec.

Waukesha's old water supply came from a deep aquifer that extends from southeastern Wisconsin to northwestern Illinois, which has developed a gradually increasing concentration of naturally occurring radium.

So why the controversy? Well, it's going to dramatically increase water bills for residents in Waukesha, and some environmentalists believe there were alternatives. [Here's the fascinating full rundown from Caitlin Looby.](#)



Wisconsin Badgers head coach Luke Fickell stretches with his players during fall training camp at Camp Randall Stadium in Madison.

Mike De Sisti / Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Are we still thinking about football? Yes. Yes we are.

I know, I know, you heard a lot about the University of Wisconsin football team yesterday, but it's hard to hide our excitement about the Saturday opener, so here's a few more for you.

- Lori Nickel writes about the expectations heaped on a newcomer, [transfer quarterback Tanner Mordecai](#).
- Can new head coach Luke Fickell find big success in his first season at Wisconsin? [Jeff Potrykus says history suggests optimism](#).
- Former Badgers running back and Super Bowl hero James White [will be an analyst at the Big Ten Network this year](#).
- Only tangentially related, but did you see what Nebraska volleyball did Wednesday night, drawing 92,000 fans to a match at the school's football stadium? [Wisconsin volleyball should do that too!](#) It's ranked [No. 1 in the nation, after all](#).



Bicyclists enjoy the winding road up Highway 42 in Door County.
Destination Door County

Don't miss these

- Daniel Bice writes about a relationship between Gov. Tony Evers' chief of staff and a subordinate, [a situation that raises ethical concerns](#).
- [Fiserv Forum is 5 years old already](#).
- In-state travelers know about that ridiculous curvy highway in Door County. [Here's the history behind it](#).
- Wondering how we got to a place where some legislators are talking about impeaching new Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz? [Here's how we got here](#).
- Oh, look, [another new ride coming to Six Flags Great America](#) just across the border? (Clicks link). ... I cannot stress this enough: "No."
- One takeaway from last week's debate in Milwaukee: [a brief segment that highlighted how young conservatives are thinking about climate change](#).

- You know you want to see a [time-lapse video of Wednesday's supermoon](#).
- A connection between a new film about former Milwaukeean Golda Meir and ... [bird conservation?](#)
- [The Globe East music club will be remembered in an all-day reunion](#) festival at the Miramar Theatre on Saturday.
- The story behind [new Milwaukee Brewers celebrations](#).
- How do all these new solar farms in Wisconsin get power to my house? [Karl Ebert explains](#).

JR Radcliffe can be reached at (262) 361-9141

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TOP STORIES

Waukesha will start diverting water from Lake Michigan. What to know.



The diversion of Lake Michigan water to the city of Waukesha was a decades-long, controversial project. Here's what it means for the future.

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Recent history suggests Luke Fickell will win big in Year 1 at UW

Bret Bielema, Gary Andersen and Paul Chryst were a combined 31-8 in their first seasons as UW head coach. How will Luke Fickell fare?

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Ever wonder how solar farms get electricity to your home? Here's the answer.

Solar farms collect heat energy from the



sun. Here's how that becomes the electricity that powers our lives.

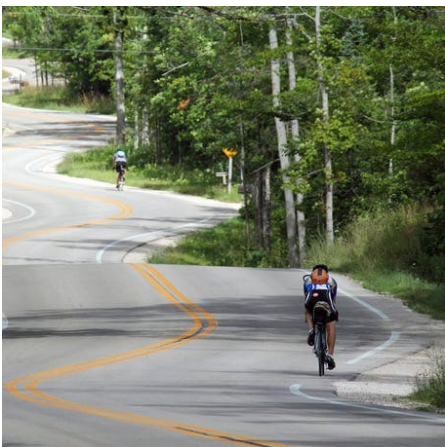
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Nebraska volleyball filled a football stadium. These Big Ten programs should try it next

Nebraska's volleyball team drew 90,000-plus fans to a game Wednesday. Here are other Big Ten programs that should try it next.

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The story behind Door County's famous curvy road

You know that scenic road in Door County with all the curves, what's up with that?

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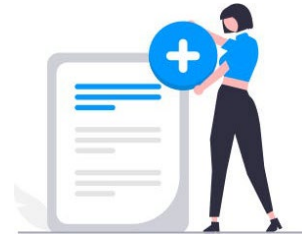
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From: WisPolitics.com
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#)
Subject: FRI News Summary: LAB finds WEDC performance slipping; First Lady Biden promotes cancer screening, public education in Madison
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 10:11:53 AM

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FRI News Summary -- 1 Sept. 2023

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

Access the mobile version of the News Summary:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/fri-news-summary-lab-finds-wedc-performance-slipping-first-lady-biden-promotes-cancer-screening-public-education-in-madison/>

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TOP STORIES

Subscribers: WisPolitics is moving our office this week. To help ease the move, the News Summary will be our last products of the week. Regular product delivery will resume Tuesday. Thank you for subscribing and have a happy holiday weekend.

LAB finds WEDC performance slipping

... Auditors found that the WEDC's governing board failed to post minutes of board meetings ... failed to update their policies to reflect state laws that require the agency to award tax credits to businesses for wages paid only in Wisconsin enterprise zones ... awarded five grants totaling \$50,000 to ineligible recipients. Two grants totaling \$20,000 went to UW System even though the money was supposed to go to small businesses ... policies prohibited government entities from being awarded grants ... didn't require eight grant recipients to repay \$64,300 in grants [after contracts expired] ... closed about 29,000 economic development awards totaling \$992M from FY2011-12 through FY2021-22, including 338 tax credit

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and loan awards [with fewer than 70% of required jobs created] ... federal pandemic relief funds accounted for 60%+ of the WEDC's \$106.5M total revenue in FY2021-22. WEDC has struggled since its creation on a variety of fronts. Evers 2018 campaign vowed to dissolve it but reversed when elected. LAB's 2021 audit found administrative improvements. * WEDC CEO Hughes responded in a 'thank you' letter noting Sikich's independent audit found no internal deficiencies in financial reporting, touted 10th successive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada, acknowledged 5 grants that "may need to be recaptured," planned 3rd-party evaluation of its business tax credit program, promised timely meeting minutes and an implementation plan for LAB recommendations by Dec. 6. By Richmond, AP

<https://apnews.com/01da1b302e90360c2f5118083927e8e4>

[First Lady] Biden promotes cancer screenings, public education in Madison visit

... Sen. Tammy Baldwin joined Biden for the day, including an event with teacher's unions at a Verona, Wis., elementary school ... Earlier in the day, Biden promoted the White House's cancer prevention initiative, Cancer Moonshot. She met with Black community leaders at Black Women's Wellness in Madison. ... Baldwin said she would work in Washington to increase funding for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program ... visits are expected to ramp up in 2024, when Wisconsin will be a key state to any candidate's path to the White House. By van Wagendonk, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/first-lady-jill-biden-promotes-cancer-screenings-public-education-madison-visit>

New liberal Supreme Court justice hasn't heard a case but GOP may impeach

... after Protasiewicz said during her winning campaign [which got \$10M from DPW] that the maps are "rigged," "unfair" and should be reviewed. ... And they have the votes to do it [64 in Assembly, 22 in Senate]. Republicans worry that the legislative districts they drew 12 years ago, which are widely viewed as among the most gerrymandered in the country, will be undone in one of the court's first actions under liberal control [facing 2 Dem suits]. Assembly GOP could impeach her, which would bar her from court proceedings until Senate hearing on removing her; but by delaying a hearing, the Senate GOP could prevent Evers from appointing a

replacement during the redistricting trials. 1853 was only judicial impeachment, but was not convicted. Impeachment talk mixes with redistricting suits, which Supremes have yet to decide on accepting, while CJ Ziegler feuds with liberal majority ahead of their first case together Sep. 11.

* Speaker Vos, legislative GOP asked to intervene in the redistricting lawsuits, arguing that Protasiewicz must recuse herself because she has prejudged the cases. "When you're saying that one side has rigged maps, you have made a decision that maps in her opinion are biased, which is the point of the whole case," Vos said. "She shouldn't have said what she did, but she did. And now she has to own it," argued GOP is simply trying to ensure an unbiased court, still studying impeachment option, "I want to do legal research and see if this is unprecedented. I'm not saying it's definitely happening. But we have to take a look at it."

* Law Forward's Mandell, part of plaintiff coalition: "Those who unconstitutionally locked themselves into control over the legislature are apoplectic that they cannot gerrymander the court. They're trying, again, to undo the will of Wisconsin voters and preserve their illegitimate power at all costs."

* Senate Leader LeMahieu did not respond, but has doubted the process, "To impeach someone, they would need to do something very serious. We are not looking to start the impeachment process as a regular occurring event in Wisconsin."

* MU Law prof. Oldfather called it "super hard to predict. ... There's so much uncharted territory that's involved in this. It's unclear what the standards are," noted challenges to impeachment standards could come in state or federal court, mixed with political calculations, "It's a mess, is what it is." By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/0215233d279092e7236c992957bbe935>

8/31/2023 COVID data summary from WHA

... 1,790,777 confirmed cases, 14,606 confirmed deaths ...
275 more cases, 334 more negative tests since Wednesday, 1 death this week ... 119 are currently hospitalized, 2 more, 14 in ICU, 2 less - than Wednesday, 26.2% ICU beds available ...
[7-day avg. daily cases: 160 - 197 a week ago. 7-day avg. positivity - 14.4%, 72 counties have "low" level]

<https://www.wha.org/Covid-19Update>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE ^{^top^}

- First lady Jill Biden tours Exact Sciences to highlight early cancer detection ... landed ... early Thursday afternoon and first took an hourlong tour of an Exact Sciences laboratory. ... joined by [CEO Conroy, CLO Hooker, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, ex-guv/board member Doyle, and U.S. Sen. Baldwin] ... Biden and Baldwin later attended a listening session at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... joined Gov. Tony Evers at a back-to-school educator appreciation event with [NEA, AFT]at Glacier Edge Elementary School in Verona ... ended her day in Madison at a fundraiser for Baldwin

<https://madison.com/2ae17bfc-4843-11ee-9d6b-47935b73c2f3.html>

- Jill Biden visits Madison, a crucial Wisconsin Democratic stronghold with the 2024 election looming ... "Cancer touches us all, and it changes everyone it touches," Biden said, referencing Beau Biden's death from brain cancer. "Joe and I knew that we had to find purpose to deal with the grief that we felt after his death. So this is very personal to us." ... [joined Evers for teacher appreciation event] "You have a friend in the White House. Two, in fact," Biden told the union members. "I always knew Joe would be an education president. And he's delivered on his promises, from addressing the mental health and academic needs of our students to signing the bipartisan gun safety bill."

Baldwin called Evers the "one of the most pro-union, pro-education governors in Wisconsin history." "Let's get you reelected," Evers said of Baldwin. ... Biden appeared at a fundraiser for Baldwin Thursday evening. Baldwin has raised \$5.4M in 1H23. Republican contenders have been slow to announce campaigns for her seat. ... "Republicans are looking for the most extreme candidate to challenge her," Evers said Thursday night. ... Biden referenced Wisconsin's 1849 law that effectively banned abortion after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. ... key issue in April's Wisconsin Supreme Court race, which saw high Democratic turnout. "Wisconsin Republicans, like their national counterparts, want to drag us back to a past that we thought was long over. But we won't let them," Biden said. Reviews potential Baldwin challengers and decliners.

* RPW chair Schimming: "Jill Biden's visit to Madison shows who is top of mind, not only for the Biden administration, but for Tammy Baldwin -- who is beholden to the teachers' unions." .

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/jill-biden-visits-madison-a-key-democratic-stronghold-in-wisconsin/70713015007/>

- Biden, Baldwin come to Madison to promote expanding cancer screening ... at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... Biden and Baldwin heard from several organizations about the work they're doing to expand access to cancer screenings, address health disparities, educate people about cancer and create spaces for cancer survivors.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/first-lady-jill-biden-tammy-baldwin>

- Jill Biden touts teachers, unions in visit to Verona school ... NEA President Becky Pringle and AFT President Randi Weingarten both spoke at the event as well, thanking the educators for their work and building excitement as the school year approaches. Baldwin thanked both of those leaders for their efforts on behalf of

teachers. Teacher Hong, Verona Supt. Clardy comment.

<https://captimes.com/d3ce27fe-f846-5fbb-b66c-afd7b36d5258.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Bice: Evers says it's nobody's business if supervisors in his office date subordinates ... [unlike UW System, Legislature, most corporations in "MeToo" era] Evers acknowledged that his office doesn't restrict supervisors from engaging in consensual romantic relationships with the staffers they oversee. ... said he keeps a close eye on what is going on in his ... 37 employees. "It's a small group of people, and I monitor their performance on a regular basis," Evers said. "One of my jobs as governor is to monitor the performance of my staff, and I believe they are doing a good job." But a handful of Democrats have ... express[ed] their concerns that Maggie Gau, Evers' powerful chief of staff, is -- from all appearances -- in a longtime romantic relationship with another senior employee whom she directly supervises. ... believe no one can raise concerns to Gau about her partner. Asked about this, the governor said, "That's not accurate. It's as simple as that. No way." ... two staffers have lived together for at least a couple of years, according to state records. ... are very private individuals but that their relationship is a "poorly kept secret." ... [direct question yielded statement from Evers' office:] "Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability." [staffer was hired in 2019 at \$62K, promoted in 2020 to position under Gau at \$100K, now makes \$112K] ... did not make clear what Gau's role was in promoting the staffer. ... "Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation," it continued. "Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office." ... Gau was asked specifically via email ... She responded: "Per your last request, our office already provided on-the-record responses to your questions. We will continue to refer you to those responses." Reviews preponderance of formal HR policies, excerpts UW System, Assembly, Senate policies. Recalls Mayor Norquist-Figueroa fiasco. Attys. Goodbaum, Heins and Ploor comment.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/evers-wont-discuss-governors-office-supervisor-subordinate-relationships/70725490007/>

- Assembly committee holds hearing on GOP tax cut proposals ... [\$2.9B] AB-386, would cut the income tax rate on the state's second-highest tax bracket to 4.4% from its current 5.3% on incomes ranging from \$27,630 (for a single filer) to \$405,550 (for joint filers). ... "We are in a unique situation here in Wisconsin with a multibillion dollar surplus," said [Assembly sponsor] Steffen ... testifying before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, "and is our belief as authors that we return that surplus to people." ... "If you're listening to the people that you represent, I don't think this is a one party or another party issue," [Senate sponsor] Cabral Guevara said, "This is across the board," with taxpayers "asking for their hard work to be appreciated and their funds to be returned." ... [IA, IL, MS, PA] have similar laws in place to exempt retiree income from income taxes ... "I think we've done the due diligence to make sure that we don't turn into Kansas because if you remember when

they did their tax adjustments, they overshot and had to go back in and backpedal. I just want to make sure that that's not happened.," [chair] Macco said [noting 2012 KS tax cut had to be rescinded in 2017] ... [LFB] analysts testified that without any tax revenue growth, the cut would leave the state with a structural deficit of \$2.3B, but that projected increases in revenue ... could make up that difference. There was no opposition testimony at the hearing, nor at the following hearing on AJR-66, a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a supermajority of the Legislature to approve any future tax rate increases. ... committee is scheduled to vote on both measures on Wednesday, Sept. 6, Macco said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/assembly-committee-holds-hearing>

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sen. Ron Johnson says CDC pressured social media to censor his COVID vaccine post ... In a letter he sent earlier this week to Dr. Mandy Cohen, CDC director, he called for critical documents and materials about the efforts to suppress vaccine information from the public through social media. ... cited his own social media post on the platform now known as X, which was labeled as "misleading" when the social media site was called Twitter.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/sen-ron-johnson-says-cdc-pressured-social-media-ce/>

- No rematch for Congress: Democrat Brad Pfaff will seek second state Senate term

<https://lacrossetribune.com/4de4c8ce-4745-11ee-a23c-737e2750467a.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Zepnick Enters Race To Replace Borkowski, Three candidates now seeking to replace outgoing alderman. ... Zepnick served in the Wisconsin State Assembly as a Democrat from 2003 to 2019. He was upset in a 2018 primary by Marisabel Cabrera. ... [as a state rep in 2016], Zepnick ran in a spring election to oust Robert Donovan, but finished third. He ran in a 2019 special election to replace Terry Witkowski. ... finished sixth in a seven-way primary ... lost by 17 votes to Juan Miguel Martinez in a spring 2022 race for an open seat on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/31/city-hall-zepnick-enters-race-to-replace>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Protasiewicz is under pressure to step away from a case. What to know about impeachment and recusal ... [defines recusal, state and federal standards, WI Code of Judicial Conduct's 5 standards] In short, if a judge's impartiality can be reasonably questioned, recusal can come into play. ... [WI] Supreme Court adopted rules in 2010 that a judge "shall not be required" to recuse based solely on an endorsement or campaign contribution. ... a unique provision, [UW Law prof.] Yablon said, noting ... [some states set] a recusal standard at a particular financial threshold. ... up to the individual to determine whether they will recuse ... state Supreme Court ruled in 2011 ... "A majority of this court does not have the power to disqualify a judicial peer from performing the constitutional functions of a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice on a case-by-case basis," the 4-3 decision said. ... Impeachment can be used to remove "civil officers of the state," although state law does not define "civil officers." ... or corrupt conduct in office or for committing a crime. ... Proceedings start in the state

Assembly, where a simple majority must vote to impeach before the state Senate can ... conduct a trial ... If two-thirds of the senators present vote to convict, the official is removed from office. There are no criminal sentences or penalties involved. ... official cannot perform the duties of their office without being acquitted by the Senate. ... [if Senate takes no action] could potentially sideline Protasiewicz indefinitely and create a 3-3 split on the court between conservatives and liberals. Reviews Protasiewicz's campaign statements about "rigged" "unfair" maps, recusal.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/01/what-to-know-about-impeachment-and-judicial-recusal-in-wisconsin/70728762007/>

- Dem groups file response to Republican attempt to force Protasiewicz off redistricting cases. Excerpts ... "Neither Petitioners nor their counsel are alleged to have made any sizable contribution, and certainly not one that 'had a significant and disproportionate influence in placing the judge on the case.'" ... "Respondents next argue that Justice Protasiewicz's comments on the campaign trail require recusal. But there is no recognized basis to require recusal based on campaign remarks."

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/dem-groups-file-response-to-republican-attempt>

CULTURE [^top^](#)

- Anti-abortion 'abolitionists' take slavery rhetoric to the next level ... [Abolish Human Abortion's] Hunter has frequently taken to Facebook, YouTube and other video platforms to imply or directly state that groups like Operation Save America, Students for Life of America, Live Action and others don't always advocate from an exclusively "abolitionist" standpoint and are not as committed to ending abortion as he is. ... "pro-life" groups ... generally oppose criminal penalties for the pregnant person. ... Gabriel Rensch, a member of the extremist Christ Church in Moscow, Idaho, also compared abortion to slavery, saying if churches in America had taken a stand against slavery, the Civil War would never have happened. ... Rensch said. "We need to end abortion, which is awful -- way worse than slavery, by the way. The slave trade had four, five million slaves max in America? And 600,000 people died. How much has abortion killed?" ... Historians say a little more than 300,000 slaves were brought to the United States. [CDC] reported about 1.3M abortions per year between 1980 and 1997, after which the numbers dropped to less than 650K/yr since 2013. Academics, advocates comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/anti-abortion-abolitionists-take-slavery>

DEMOGRAPHICS [^top^](#)

- Racial gaps in unemployment and wages are shrinking in Wisconsin ... COWS, finds that while overall median hourly wages in Wisconsin didn't keep pace with inflation in 2022, wages for Black and brown workers rose faster ... From 2019 to 2022, the median wage for Black men rose almost 14% to \$21.04, and the median for Hispanic men rose nearly 8% to \$18.84. Gains for white women nearly matched inflation (with real wages rising 0.5% to \$20.90), while Black women's real wages rose just over 4% to \$17 and Hispanic women's pay rose more than 16% to \$18.75. ... White workers in Wisconsin still have the highest wages (\$25.01 for white men and \$20.90 for white women), but workers of color, who disproportionately work in low-wage jobs, were the only ones whose pay rose enough to substantially outpace inflation. Details, COWS' Dresser comments.

<https://captimes.com/1519ea57-623a-5861-9508-7872b41e1dfe.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Evers on hand as Bristol School kicks off academic year ... visited the K-8 school [Thu. morning] as part of a tour of several districts ... "There were a lot of big smiles and surprised faces in reaction to the dramatic changes," District Administrator Jack Musha said. "Kids and parents are excited about it."

<https://kenoshanews.com/d74eca00-4813-11ee-80f0-737cb10c46e6.html>

- GBSD needs to reduce staff, but it's still hiring. Here's why ... still needs to fill 34 full-time classroom and specialty teaching positions, along with 120 support staff openings. Last school year, over 200 certified staff members resigned or retired from the district ... preliminary budget presented in June [found] district needs to reduce its staff by about 1,000 full-time equivalent employees to match enrollment. ... district plans to downsize staff through attrition,

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2023/09/01/heres-why-green-bay-schools-is-hiring-despite-needing-to-downsize/70718550007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Wisconsin might not be ready for 'freakish' heat, author Goodell warns ... "Heat is predatory. It goes after people who have weaker hearts, who have poor circulatory systems," he said. "It's really easy to say, 'Oh yeah, let's just get everybody air conditioning and it'll be fine.' But that's not the way the real world is going to work." ... sometimes catches flak for being too optimistic. It would take political will and resident engagement, but there's a way to build a better world, he said. "These heat waves we're seeing (are) really driving home to millions of people that climate change is not a far-off, distant event," he said. "It's really happening fast. It's happening now. Our lives are at stake. We can make changes to do things differently."

<https://www.wpr.org/central-time-wisconsin-heat-will-kill-you-first-jeff-goodell-author>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- FBI updates photo of UW bomber wanted for 53 years ... FBI on Thursday released age-processed photographs of [now-75-y/o Leo Burt,] who has thus far evaded law enforcement and been referred to as "Wisconsin's state ghost." ... [reviews crime, accomplice trials] ... FBI continues to offer \$150,000 for information leading to Burt's arrest. ... Madison attorney Lester Pines, 73, was a UW student at the time of the bombing. ... was part of a team that defended one of the bombers. "If the FBI is correct, Leo Burt's visage has changed much worse than mine has," Pines said ... "I guess that Leo has not taken good care of himself, if he's even still alive."

<https://apnews.com/4d8aeae3ee200ac46d789d6b1d73f15c>

- 27 inmates charged in barricade of Milwaukee County Jail library ... charged with obstructing an officer, as a party to a crime, and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors. ... After nearly two hours, correctional officers "gained entry to the library and subdued the occupants," the sheriff's office said. One officer was taken to the hospital for an injury suffered in the process, and three other officers were treated on site. ... [Milwaukee Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression blamed] conditions inside the jail and said the sheriff's office was not being transparent about

the incident. ... called attention to the several recent deaths inside the jail.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2023/09/01/milwaukee-county-jail-inmates-charged-in-library-barricade/70736650007/>

- Sheriff's department, DA find Oneida zoning violated parliamentary procedure, But no consequences; DA says no open meetings violation ... Pfeifer said the committee did not run afoul of the state's open meetings law when it adjourned the August 2 hearing until the following week and reconvened a week later, but doing so as a regular meeting and not as a continuation of the public hearing. [see Editorials]
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/sheriffs-department-da-find-oneida-zoning-violated-parliamentary-procedure/>

- Jeremy Kopp named next chief of Wausau Fire Department

<https://www.wausaudailyherald.com/story/news/local/2023/08/31/jeremy-kopp-named-next-chief-of-wausau-fire-department/70730236007/>

- Both Ashland County prosecutors [Walker-appointed Meany, Kressel] retiring ... It will be up to Evers to appoint an attorney to Meany's job until the seat is up for election in November of 2024. "The governor has opened applications and they are due Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.," Evers Communications Director Britt Cudaback said.
<https://www.apg-wi.com/bf9e1428-4760-11ee-97be-c733d76c2883.html>

- Deputy in fatal [Aug. 15] Mellen shooting named [21-year vet Janecek]. ... victim was a 44-year-old man named Jay Claremboux, who had been threatening two women at the home with a knife. ... Sheriff Brian Zupke has refused to answer any questions about the incident and referred all questions to the DOJ, which also is refusing to answer questions

<https://www.apg-wi.com/52c8b66e-4747-11ee-9678-e7fcf3e3182a.html>

MANAGEMENT [^top^](#)

- Glendale manufacturer agrees to add directors sought by billionaire investor Gabelli ... Gabelli's firm GAMCO Investors, which holds nearly 18% of Strattec stock, this summer filed notices for nominating Bruce Lisman ... and F. Jack Liebau Jr. ... CEO Frank Krejci says he welcomes the nominees and believes his intentions and those of Gabelli are aligned. ... Koss, who is chairman and CEO of Milwaukee-based Koss Corp., notified Strattec he will not stand for re-election at Strattec's annual meeting. Koss, 69, has served as a Strattec director since 1995.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/michael-koss-to-retire-from-strattec-board.html>

MICHIGAN [^top^](#)

- Marijuana saga escalates: Federal and state lawsuits filed over license controversy: by Rize and The Fire Station

<https://www.ehextra.com/8859c244-47b7-11ee-907b-b39f4289571d.html>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- Halfway to play: Children's Museum of Rock County passes midpoint of fundraising goal: \$4.7M of \$8M goal

<https://www.gazettextra.com/96f547a0-4853-11ee-98f7-f7b464017dcd.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- As opioid overdose deaths plateau, WI funds Narcan vending machines ... [DHS] recorded 1,410 fatal opioid overdoses last year, according to provisional data, compared with a record 1,427 in 2021 ... More than 90% of last year's opioid overdose deaths involved fentanyl or other synthetic opioids, similar to previous years, said [DHS] Krupski ... Fewer than 100 ... known to involve xylazine, a tranquilizer seen increasing in some states ... Madison Street Medicine and Monona-based Tellurian Behavioral Health are among the agencies getting money for vending machines to dispense free fentanyl test strips and Narcan ... a more private way of getting the materials than having to talk to workers at an agency, he said. ... [DHS announced federal grants Thursday ... Twenty-six health departments and other agencies around the state were previously awarded a total of \$2M for vending machines ... from opioid settlement ... awarding \$300K to the Marshfield Clinic to help rural communities respond to overdoses and nearly \$800K to the Family Health Center of Marshfield and the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin to prevent and address neonatal exposure to opioids. [see Editorials]

<https://madison.com/8c1ce11a-4819-11ee-873f-53521775a988.html>

- Rural Wisconsin towns get \$1 million to combat overdose crisis

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/rural-wisconsin-towns-get-1-million-to-combat>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

-WI biz leaders form consortium seeking regional tech hub designation, funding

<https://biztimes.com/wisconsin-business-leaders-form-consortium-seeking-regional>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS [^top^](#)

- Projects funded with federal dollars driving growth for Waukesha-based utility construction company ... Five Star Energy Services, based in Waukesha, has been completing those projects with local workers. ... is a utility construction company working in the fiber optic, water, gas, and power utility space. Since its founding in 2019, the company has grown from 45 employees to 370.

<https://biztimes.com/projects-funded-with-federal-dollars-driving-growth-for-waukesha-based-utility-construction-company/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Waukesha County leaders voice support for American Family Field funding ... [Exec.] Farrow said [at CEO Roundtable] that if he wasn't in support of the state providing funding to American Family Field, his late mother, Margaret Farrow, would probably come down and strike him with lightning. ... [Visit Brookfield's] Justman said the Brewers are absolutely critical for hotels in Brookfield. ... [Cushman & Wakefield's] Hoffman said the challenge is the exponential increases in valuation for [MLB] teams. [Attanasio's susceptibility to biz deals] ... "We should really push to resolve this now and not let a suitor emerge," Hoffman said. ... [ProHealth Care's] Bacon said that keeping the Brewers is essential in order to attract younger talent to the region.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/waukesha-county-leaders-voice-support-amfam-field.html>

- Seeing 'Red' after Taylor Swift debacle, lawmakers weigh concert ticket rules, More than a dozen states considered bills following the Eras Tour problems. ... [MN Rep. Moller] preregistered for tickets, but never received a code to buy them. And on the day sales went live online, she sat by as friends with codes got bumped out of the ticket queue for no apparent reason. Then Ticketmaster's website crashed. ... convinced her that the concert ticket industry warrants more government oversight. ... introduced a bill this year that would force ticket sellers to disclose the full cost of tickets, including fees, up front to buyers in her state. It also would ban speculative ticketing -- a practice in which resale companies sell tickets they don't yet own. ... Lawmakers of both parties across the country introduced new bills this year to regulate concert and live event ticket purchasing. ... Bills in several states backed by StubHub aim to protect so-called transferability of tickets -- that is, the customers' right to pass on or resell tickets they purchase. ... has tracked nearly 70 ticketing bills proposed across 25 states. ... Ticketmaster cited bots as a major cause of the Eras Tour fiasco. Bots are banned by federal law, though that regulation only has been enforced once since 2016 ... regulators need cooperation from the industry and access to ticketing software to monitor for bots, [StubHub's] Dooley said.
<https://stateline.org/2023/09/01/seeing-red-after-taylor-swift-debacle-lawmakers-weigh-concert-ticket-rules/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: From bad to worse in Oneida County: From buffoonery to cocoonery in the DA's office ... Oneida [DA Pfeifer] completely flubbed her analysis of our complaint about the zoning committee's actions in a public hearing related to Kirk Bangstad's conditional use permit application. ... said the committee did not break the open meetings law when it failed to resume and properly post an August 9 public hearing on the CUP application, and instead noticed and held an illegal regular meeting instead. Nothing to see there, she concluded. ... [lengthy analysis] She needs immediate training in the open government laws, and a promise to do much better in the future.

She could start right now by righting this wrong and holding the county accountable.
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/lakeland-times-our-view/>

- ECLT editorial: Overdose deaths can be reduced ... It's probably impossible to prevent every single overdose. Accidents happen, even with medication that's being used for appropriate reasons and with the full intent of following instructions. But reducing the number of deaths is an eminently achievable goal. The tools are available. The question is whether we'll use them.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/ea1f0a46-481d-11ee-afc1-4b3bb3b8fa76.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- UW-Madison College Dem chair Grace Florence: GOP candidates lose youth voters on climate response ... Fossil fuels are what got us into this climate crisis, and clean energy is what's going to get us out. ... Republican presidential candidates need to wake up and realize how far afield they are from the rest of the country on this issue. This simply shouldn't be a political issue.

<https://captimes.com/7a828dd3-8390-514c-8667-6a99da95b459.html>

- Scott Walker: For young people, climate change is real ... So many young people have been sold a bill of goods on climate since they were young. We have to find ways to let them know that they've been told a lie.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/for-young-people-climate-change-is-real/>

- Tech Council President Tom Still: Climate change heats up interest in nuclear energy

<https://wisconsintechcouncil.com/insidewis-climate-change-heats-up-interest-in-nuclear-energy/>

- Dave Zweifel: Vos and Fitzgerald, the Laurel and Hardy of Wisconsin politics ... It occurred to me this week that Laurel and Hardy's travails could serve as a metaphor for the machinations surrounding the state Legislature that gerrymandering has saddled us with. Only Laurel and Hardy were funny; these guys are far from it.

https://captimes.com/opinion/dave-zweifel/opinion-vos-and-fitzgerald-the-laurel-and-hardy-of-wisconsin-politics/article_87b19bb0-126a-5616-ae42-1460bad624fc.html

- Mike Nichols: Let's talk real facts about pot in Wisconsin: The vast majority of Wisconsinites have an opinion about whether pot should be legalized or not -- but based on what?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/lets-talk-real-facts-about-pot-in-wisconsin/>

- Bruce Murphy: State's top CEOs got rich in 2022: Top pay: \$43 million for Harley's CEO. Top pay in U.S.: Google exec's \$225 million!

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/30/murphys-law-states-top-ceos-got-rich-in-2022/>

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Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 10:11:59 AM

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TOP STORIES

Subscribers: WisPolitics is moving our office this week. To help ease the move, the News Summary will be our last products of the week. Regular product delivery will resume Tuesday. Thank you for subscribing and have a happy holiday weekend.

LAB finds WEDC performance slipping

... Auditors found that the WEDC's governing board failed to post minutes of board meetings ... failed to update their policies to reflect state laws that require the agency to award tax credits to businesses for wages paid only in Wisconsin enterprise zones ... awarded five grants totaling \$50,000 to ineligible recipients. Two grants totaling \$20,000 went to UW System even though the money was supposed to go to small businesses ... policies prohibited government entities from being awarded grants ... didn't require eight grant recipients to repay \$64,300 in grants [after contracts expired] ... closed about 29,000 economic development awards totaling \$992M from FY2011-12 through FY2021-22, including 338 tax credit

- [Law and order](#)

- [Management](#)

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and loan awards [with fewer than 70% of required jobs created] ... federal pandemic relief funds accounted for 60%+ of the WEDC's \$106.5M total revenue in FY2021-22. WEDC has struggled since its creation on a variety of fronts. Evers 2018 campaign vowed to dissolve it but reversed when elected. LAB's 2021 audit found administrative improvements. * WEDC CEO Hughes responded in a 'thank you' letter noting Sikich's independent audit found no internal deficiencies in financial reporting, touted 10th successive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada, acknowledged 5 grants that "may need to be recaptured," planned 3rd-party evaluation of its business tax credit program, promised timely meeting minutes and an implementation plan for LAB recommendations by Dec. 6. By Richmond, AP

<https://apnews.com/01da1b302e90360c2f5118083927e8e4>

[First Lady] Biden promotes cancer screenings, public education in Madison visit

... Sen. Tammy Baldwin joined Biden for the day, including an event with teacher's unions at a Verona, Wis., elementary school ... Earlier in the day, Biden promoted the White House's cancer prevention initiative, Cancer Moonshot. She met with Black community leaders at Black Women's Wellness in Madison. ... Baldwin said she would work in Washington to increase funding for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program ... visits are expected to ramp up in 2024, when Wisconsin will be a key state to any candidate's path to the White House. By van Wagendonk, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/first-lady-jill-biden-promotes-cancer-screenings-public-education-madison-visit>

New liberal Supreme Court justice hasn't heard a case but GOP may impeach

... after Protasiewicz said during her winning campaign [which got \$10M from DPW] that the maps are "rigged," "unfair" and should be reviewed. ... And they have the votes to do it [64 in Assembly, 22 in Senate]. Republicans worry that the legislative districts they drew 12 years ago, which are widely viewed as among the most gerrymandered in the country, will be undone in one of the court's first actions under liberal control [facing 2 Dem suits]. Assembly GOP could impeach her, which would bar her from court proceedings until Senate hearing on removing her; but by delaying a hearing, the Senate GOP could prevent Evers from appointing a

replacement during the redistricting trials. 1853 was only judicial impeachment, but was not convicted. Impeachment talk mixes with redistricting suits, which Supremes have yet to decide on accepting, while CJ Ziegler feuds with liberal majority ahead of their first case together Sep. 11.

* Speaker Vos, legislative GOP asked to intervene in the redistricting lawsuits, arguing that Protasiewicz must recuse herself because she has prejudged the cases. "When you're saying that one side has rigged maps, you have made a decision that maps in her opinion are biased, which is the point of the whole case," Vos said. "She shouldn't have said what she did, but she did. And now she has to own it," argued GOP is simply trying to ensure an unbiased court, still studying impeachment option, "I want to do legal research and see if this is unprecedented. I'm not saying it's definitely happening. But we have to take a look at it."

* Law Forward's Mandell, part of plaintiff coalition: "Those who unconstitutionally locked themselves into control over the legislature are apoplectic that they cannot gerrymander the court. They're trying, again, to undo the will of Wisconsin voters and preserve their illegitimate power at all costs."

* Senate Leader LeMahieu did not respond, but has doubted the process, "To impeach someone, they would need to do something very serious. We are not looking to start the impeachment process as a regular occurring event in Wisconsin."

* MU Law prof. Oldfather called it "super hard to predict. ... There's so much uncharted territory that's involved in this. It's unclear what the standards are," noted challenges to impeachment standards could come in state or federal court, mixed with political calculations, "It's a mess, is what it is." By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/0215233d279092e7236c992957bbe935>

8/31/2023 COVID data summary from WHA

... 1,790,777 confirmed cases, 14,606 confirmed deaths ... 275 more cases, 334 more negative tests since Wednesday, 1 death this week ... 119 are currently hospitalized, 2 more, 14 in ICU, 2 less - than Wednesday, 26.2% ICU beds available ... [7-day avg. daily cases: 160 - 197 a week ago. 7-day avg. positivity - 14.4%, 72 counties have "low" level]

<https://www.wha.org/Covid-19Update>

STORY TOPICS
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WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- First lady Jill Biden tours Exact Sciences to highlight early cancer detection ... landed ... early Thursday afternoon and first took an hourlong tour of an Exact Sciences laboratory. ... joined by [CEO Conroy, CLO Hooker, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, ex-guv/board member Doyle, and U.S. Sen. Baldwin] ... Biden and Baldwin later attended a listening session at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... joined Gov. Tony Evers at a back-to-school educator appreciation event with [NEA, AFT]at Glacier Edge Elementary School in Verona ... ended her day in Madison at a fundraiser for Baldwin

<https://madison.com/2ae17bfc-4843-11ee-9d6b-47935b73c2f3.html>

- Jill Biden visits Madison, a crucial Wisconsin Democratic stronghold with the 2024 election looming ... "Cancer touches us all, and it changes everyone it touches," Biden said, referencing Beau Biden's death from brain cancer. "Joe and I knew that we had to find purpose to deal with the grief that we felt after his death. So this is very personal to us." ... [joined Evers for teacher appreciation event] "You have a friend in the White House. Two, in fact," Biden told the union members. "I always knew Joe would be an education president. And he's delivered on his promises, from addressing the mental health and academic needs of our students to signing the bipartisan gun safety bill."

Baldwin called Evers the "one of the most pro-union, pro-education governors in Wisconsin history." "Let's get you reelected," Evers said of Baldwin. ... Biden appeared at a fundraiser for Baldwin Thursday evening. Baldwin has raised \$5.4M in 1H23. Republican contenders have been slow to announce campaigns for her seat. ... "Republicans are looking for the most extreme candidate to challenge her," Evers said Thursday night. ... Biden referenced Wisconsin's 1849 law that effectively banned abortion after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. ... key issue in April's Wisconsin Supreme Court race, which saw high Democratic turnout. "Wisconsin Republicans, like their national counterparts, want to drag us back to a past that we thought was long over. But we won't let them," Biden said. Reviews potential Baldwin challengers and decliners.

* RPW chair Schimming: "Jill Biden's visit to Madison shows who is top of mind, not only for the Biden administration, but for Tammy Baldwin -- who is beholden to the teachers' unions." .

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/jill-biden-visits-madison-a-key-democratic-stronghold-in-wisconsin/70713015007/>

- Biden, Baldwin come to Madison to promote expanding cancer screening ... at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... Biden and Baldwin heard from several organizations about the work they're doing to expand access to cancer screenings, address health disparities, educate people about cancer and create spaces for cancer survivors.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/first-lady-jill-biden-tammy-baldwin>

- Jill Biden touts teachers, unions in visit to Verona school ... NEA President Becky Pringle and AFT President Randi Weingarten both spoke at the event as well, thanking the educators for their work and building excitement as the school year approaches. Baldwin thanked both of those leaders for their efforts on behalf of

teachers. Teacher Hong, Verona Supt. Clardy comment.

<https://captimes.com/d3ce27fe-f846-5fbb-b66c-afd7b36d5258.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Bice: Evers says it's nobody's business if supervisors in his office date subordinates ... [unlike UW System, Legislature, most corporations in "MeToo" era] Evers acknowledged that his office doesn't restrict supervisors from engaging in consensual romantic relationships with the staffers they oversee. ... said he keeps a close eye on what is going on in his ... 37 employees. "It's a small group of people, and I monitor their performance on a regular basis," Evers said. "One of my jobs as governor is to monitor the performance of my staff, and I believe they are doing a good job." But a handful of Democrats have ... express[ed] their concerns that Maggie Gau, Evers' powerful chief of staff, is -- from all appearances -- in a longtime romantic relationship with another senior employee whom she directly supervises. ... believe no one can raise concerns to Gau about her partner. Asked about this, the governor said, "That's not accurate. It's as simple as that. No way." ... two staffers have lived together for at least a couple of years, according to state records. ... are very private individuals but that their relationship is a "poorly kept secret." ... [direct question yielded statement from Evers' office:] "Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability." [staffer was hired in 2019 at \$62K, promoted in 2020 to position under Gau at \$100K, now makes \$112K] ... did not make clear what Gau's role was in promoting the staffer. ... "Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation," it continued. "Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office." ... Gau was asked specifically via email ... She responded: "Per your last request, our office already provided on-the-record responses to your questions. We will continue to refer you to those responses." Reviews preponderance of formal HR policies, excerpts UW System, Assembly, Senate policies. Recalls Mayor Norquist-Figueroa fiasco. Attys. Goodbaum, Heins and Ploor comment.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/evers-wont-discuss-governors-office-supervisor-subordinate-relationships/70725490007/>

- Assembly committee holds hearing on GOP tax cut proposals ... [\$2.9B] AB-386, would cut the income tax rate on the state's second-highest tax bracket to 4.4% from its current 5.3% on incomes ranging from \$27,630 (for a single filer) to \$405,550 (for joint filers). ... "We are in a unique situation here in Wisconsin with a multibillion dollar surplus," said [Assembly sponsor] Steffen ... testifying before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, "and is our belief as authors that we return that surplus to people." ... "If you're listening to the people that you represent, I don't think this is a one party or another party issue," [Senate sponsor] Cabral Guevara said, "This is across the board," with taxpayers "asking for their hard work to be appreciated and their funds to be returned." ... [IA, IL, MS, PA] have similar laws in place to exempt retiree income from income taxes ... "I think we've done the due diligence to make sure that we don't turn into Kansas because if you remember when

they did their tax adjustments, they overshot and had to go back in and backpedal. I just want to make sure that that's not happened.," [chair] Macco said [noting 2012 KS tax cut had to be rescinded in 2017] ... [LFB] analysts testified that without any tax revenue growth, the cut would leave the state with a structural deficit of \$2.3B, but that projected increases in revenue ... could make up that difference. There was no opposition testimony at the hearing, nor at the following hearing on AJR-66, a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a supermajority of the Legislature to approve any future tax rate increases. ... committee is scheduled to vote on both measures on Wednesday, Sept. 6, Macco said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/assembly-committee-holds-hearing>

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sen. Ron Johnson says CDC pressured social media to censor his COVID vaccine post ... In a letter he sent earlier this week to Dr. Mandy Cohen, CDC director, he called for critical documents and materials about the efforts to suppress vaccine information from the public through social media. ... cited his own social media post on the platform now known as X, which was labeled as "misleading" when the social media site was called Twitter.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/sen-ron-johnson-says-cdc-pressured-social-media-ce/>

- No rematch for Congress: Democrat Brad Pfaff will seek second state Senate term

<https://lacrossetribune.com/4de4c8ce-4745-11ee-a23c-737e2750467a.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Zepnick Enters Race To Replace Borkowski, Three candidates now seeking to replace outgoing alderman. ... Zepnick served in the Wisconsin State Assembly as a Democrat from 2003 to 2019. He was upset in a 2018 primary by Marisabel Cabrera. ... [as a state rep in 2016], Zepnick ran in a spring election to oust Robert Donovan, but finished third. He ran in a 2019 special election to replace Terry Witkowski. ... finished sixth in a seven-way primary ... lost by 17 votes to Juan Miguel Martinez in a spring 2022 race for an open seat on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/31/city-hall-zepnick-enters-race-to-replace>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Protasiewicz is under pressure to step away from a case. What to know about impeachment and recusal ... [defines recusal, state and federal standards, WI Code of Judicial Conduct's 5 standards] In short, if a judge's impartiality can be reasonably questioned, recusal can come into play. ... [WI] Supreme Court adopted rules in 2010 that a judge "shall not be required" to recuse based solely on an endorsement or campaign contribution. ... a unique provision, [UW Law prof.] Yablon said, noting ... [some states set] a recusal standard at a particular financial threshold. ... up to the individual to determine whether they will recuse ... state Supreme Court ruled in 2011 ... "A majority of this court does not have the power to disqualify a judicial peer from performing the constitutional functions of a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice on a case-by-case basis," the 4-3 decision said. ... Impeachment can be used to remove "civil officers of the state," although state law does not define "civil officers." ... or corrupt conduct in office or for committing a crime. ... Proceedings start in the state

Assembly, where a simple majority must vote to impeach before the state Senate can ... conduct a trial ... If two-thirds of the senators present vote to convict, the official is removed from office. There are no criminal sentences or penalties involved. ... official cannot perform the duties of their office without being acquitted by the Senate. ... [if Senate takes no action] could potentially sideline Protasiewicz indefinitely and create a 3-3 split on the court between conservatives and liberals. Reviews Protasiewicz's campaign statements about "rigged" "unfair" maps, recusal.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/01/what-to-know-about-impeachment-and-judicial-recusal-in-wisconsin/70728762007/>

- Dem groups file response to Republican attempt to force Protasiewicz off redistricting cases. Excerpts ... "Neither Petitioners nor their counsel are alleged to have made any sizable contribution, and certainly not one that 'had a significant and disproportionate influence in placing the judge on the case.'" ... "Respondents next argue that Justice Protasiewicz's comments on the campaign trail require recusal. But there is no recognized basis to require recusal based on campaign remarks."

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/dem-groups-file-response-to-republican-attempt>

CULTURE [^top^](#)

- Anti-abortion 'abolitionists' take slavery rhetoric to the next level ... [Abolish Human Abortion's] Hunter has frequently taken to Facebook, YouTube and other video platforms to imply or directly state that groups like Operation Save America, Students for Life of America, Live Action and others don't always advocate from an exclusively "abolitionist" standpoint and are not as committed to ending abortion as he is. ... "pro-life" groups ... generally oppose criminal penalties for the pregnant person. ... Gabriel Rensch, a member of the extremist Christ Church in Moscow, Idaho, also compared abortion to slavery, saying if churches in America had taken a stand against slavery, the Civil War would never have happened. ... Rensch said. "We need to end abortion, which is awful -- way worse than slavery, by the way. The slave trade had four, five million slaves max in America? And 600,000 people died. How much has abortion killed?" ... Historians say a little more than 300,000 slaves were brought to the United States. [CDC] reported about 1.3M abortions per year between 1980 and 1997, after which the numbers dropped to less than 650K/yr since 2013. Academics, advocates comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/anti-abortion-abolitionists-take-slavery>

DEMOGRAPHICS [^top^](#)

- Racial gaps in unemployment and wages are shrinking in Wisconsin ... COWS, finds that while overall median hourly wages in Wisconsin didn't keep pace with inflation in 2022, wages for Black and brown workers rose faster ... From 2019 to 2022, the median wage for Black men rose almost 14% to \$21.04, and the median for Hispanic men rose nearly 8% to \$18.84. Gains for white women nearly matched inflation (with real wages rising 0.5% to \$20.90), while Black women's real wages rose just over 4% to \$17 and Hispanic women's pay rose more than 16% to \$18.75. ... White workers in Wisconsin still have the highest wages (\$25.01 for white men and \$20.90 for white women), but workers of color, who disproportionately work in low-wage jobs, were the only ones whose pay rose enough to substantially outpace inflation. Details, COWS' Dresser comments.

<https://captimes.com/1519ea57-623a-5861-9508-7872b41e1dfe.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Evers on hand as Bristol School kicks off academic year ... visited the K-8 school [Thu. morning] as part of a tour of several districts ... "There were a lot of big smiles and surprised faces in reaction to the dramatic changes," District Administrator Jack Musha said. "Kids and parents are excited about it."

<https://kenoshanews.com/d74eca00-4813-11ee-80f0-737cb10c46e6.html>

- GBSD needs to reduce staff, but it's still hiring. Here's why ... still needs to fill 34 full-time classroom and specialty teaching positions, along with 120 support staff openings. Last school year, over 200 certified staff members resigned or retired from the district ... preliminary budget presented in June [found] district needs to reduce its staff by about 1,000 full-time equivalent employees to match enrollment. ... district plans to downsize staff through attrition,

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2023/09/01/heres-why-green-bay-schools-is-hiring-despite-needing-to-downsize/70718550007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Wisconsin might not be ready for 'freakish' heat, author Goodell warns ... "Heat is predatory. It goes after people who have weaker hearts, who have poor circulatory systems," he said. "It's really easy to say, 'Oh yeah, let's just get everybody air conditioning and it'll be fine.' But that's not the way the real world is going to work." ... sometimes catches flak for being too optimistic. It would take political will and resident engagement, but there's a way to build a better world, he said. "These heat waves we're seeing (are) really driving home to millions of people that climate change is not a far-off, distant event," he said. "It's really happening fast. It's happening now. Our lives are at stake. We can make changes to do things differently."

<https://www.wpr.org/central-time-wisconsin-heat-will-kill-you-first-jeff-goodell-author>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- FBI updates photo of UW bomber wanted for 53 years ... FBI on Thursday released age-processed photographs of [now-75-y/o Leo Burt,] who has thus far evaded law enforcement and been referred to as "Wisconsin's state ghost." ... [reviews crime, accomplice trials] ... FBI continues to offer \$150,000 for information leading to Burt's arrest. ... Madison attorney Lester Pines, 73, was a UW student at the time of the bombing. ... was part of a team that defended one of the bombers. "If the FBI is correct, Leo Burt's visage has changed much worse than mine has," Pines said ... "I guess that Leo has not taken good care of himself, if he's even still alive."

<https://apnews.com/4d8aeae3ee200ac46d789d6b1d73f15c>

- 27 inmates charged in barricade of Milwaukee County Jail library ... charged with obstructing an officer, as a party to a crime, and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors. ... After nearly two hours, correctional officers "gained entry to the library and subdued the occupants," the sheriff's office said. One officer was taken to the hospital for an injury suffered in the process, and three other officers were treated on site. ... [Milwaukee Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression blamed] conditions inside the jail and said the sheriff's office was not being transparent about

the incident. ... called attention to the several recent deaths inside the jail.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2023/09/01/milwaukee-county-jail-inmates-charged-in-library-barricade/70736650007/>

- Sheriff's department, DA find Oneida zoning violated parliamentary procedure, But no consequences; DA says no open meetings violation ... Pfeifer said the committee did not run afoul of the state's open meetings law when it adjourned the August 2 hearing until the following week and reconvened a week later, but doing so as a regular meeting and not as a continuation of the public hearing. [see Editorials] <https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/sheriffs-department-da-find-oneida-zoning-violated-parliamentary-procedure/>

- Jeremy Kopp named next chief of Wausau Fire Department

<https://www.wausaudailyherald.com/story/news/local/2023/08/31/jeremy-kopp-named-next-chief-of-wausau-fire-department/70730236007/>

- Both Ashland County prosecutors [Walker-appointed Meany, Kressel] retiring ... It will be up to Evers to appoint an attorney to Meany's job until the seat is up for election in November of 2024. "The governor has opened applications and they are due Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.," Evers Communications Director Britt Cudaback said. <https://www.apg-wi.com/bf9e1428-4760-11ee-97be-c733d76c2883.html>

- Deputy in fatal [Aug. 15] Mellen shooting named [21-year vet Janecek]. ... victim was a 44-year-old man named Jay Claremboux, who had been threatening two women at the home with a knife. ... Sheriff Brian Zupke has refused to answer any questions about the incident and referred all questions to the DOJ, which also is refusing to answer questions

<https://www.apg-wi.com/52c8b66e-4747-11ee-9678-e7fcf3e3182a.html>

MANAGEMENT [^top^](#)

- Glendale manufacturer agrees to add directors sought by billionaire investor Gabelli ... Gabelli's firm GAMCO Investors, which holds nearly 18% of Strattec stock, this summer filed notices for nominating Bruce Lisman ... and F. Jack Liebau Jr. ... CEO Frank Krejci says he welcomes the nominees and believes his intentions and those of Gabelli are aligned. ... Koss, who is chairman and CEO of Milwaukee-based Koss Corp., notified Strattec he will not stand for re-election at Strattec's annual meeting. Koss, 69, has served as a Strattec director since 1995.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/michael-koss-to-retire-from-strattec-board.html>

MICHIGAN [^top^](#)

- Marijuana saga escalates: Federal and state lawsuits filed over license controversy: by Rize and The Fire Station

<https://www.ehextra.com/8859c244-47b7-11ee-907b-b39f4289571d.html>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- Halfway to play: Children's Museum of Rock County passes midpoint of fundraising goal: \$4.7M of \$8M goal

<https://www.gazettextra.com/96f547a0-4853-11ee-98f7-f7b464017dcd.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- As opioid overdose deaths plateau, WI funds Narcan vending machines ... [DHS] recorded 1,410 fatal opioid overdoses last year, according to provisional data, compared with a record 1,427 in 2021 ... More than 90% of last year's opioid overdose deaths involved fentanyl or other synthetic opioids, similar to previous years, said [DHS] Krupski ... Fewer than 100 ... known to involve xylazine, a tranquilizer seen increasing in some states ... Madison Street Medicine and Monona-based Tellurian Behavioral Health are among the agencies getting money for vending machines to dispense free fentanyl test strips and Narcan ... a more private way of getting the materials than having to talk to workers at an agency, he said. ... [DHS announced federal grants Thursday ... Twenty-six health departments and other agencies around the state were previously awarded a total of \$2M for vending machines ... from opioid settlement ... awarding \$300K to the Marshfield Clinic to help rural communities respond to overdoses and nearly \$800K to the Family Health Center of Marshfield and the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin to prevent and address neonatal exposure to opioids. [see Editorials]

<https://madison.com/8c1ce11a-4819-11ee-873f-53521775a988.html>

- Rural Wisconsin towns get \$1 million to combat overdose crisis

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/rural-wisconsin-towns-get-1-million-to-combat>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

-WI biz leaders form consortium seeking regional tech hub designation, funding

<https://biztimes.com/wisconsin-business-leaders-form-consortium-seeking-regional>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS [^top^](#)

- Projects funded with federal dollars driving growth for Waukesha-based utility construction company ... Five Star Energy Services, based in Waukesha, has been completing those projects with local workers. ... is a utility construction company working in the fiber optic, water, gas, and power utility space. Since its founding in 2019, the company has grown from 45 employees to 370.

<https://biztimes.com/projects-funded-with-federal-dollars-driving-growth-for-waukesha-based-utility-construction-company/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Waukesha County leaders voice support for American Family Field funding ... [Exec.] Farrow said [at CEO Roundtable] that if he wasn't in support of the state providing funding to American Family Field, his late mother, Margaret Farrow, would probably come down and strike him with lightning. ... [Visit Brookfield's] Justman said the Brewers are absolutely critical for hotels in Brookfield. ... [Cushman & Wakefield's] Hoffman said the challenge is the exponential increases in valuation for [MLB] teams. [Attanasio's susceptibility to biz deals] ... "We should really push to resolve this now and not let a suitor emerge," Hoffman said. ... [ProHealth Care's] Bacon said that keeping the Brewers is essential in order to attract younger talent to the region.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/waukesha-county-leaders-voice-support-amfam-field.html>

- Seeing 'Red' after Taylor Swift debacle, lawmakers weigh concert ticket rules, More than a dozen states considered bills following the Eras Tour problems. ... [MN Rep. Moller] preregistered for tickets, but never received a code to buy them. And on the day sales went live online, she sat by as friends with codes got bumped out of the ticket queue for no apparent reason. Then Ticketmaster's website crashed. ... convinced her that the concert ticket industry warrants more government oversight. ... introduced a bill this year that would force ticket sellers to disclose the full cost of tickets, including fees, up front to buyers in her state. It also would ban speculative ticketing -- a practice in which resale companies sell tickets they don't yet own. ... Lawmakers of both parties across the country introduced new bills this year to regulate concert and live event ticket purchasing. ... Bills in several states backed by StubHub aim to protect so-called transferability of tickets -- that is, the customers' right to pass on or resell tickets they purchase. ... has tracked nearly 70 ticketing bills proposed across 25 states. ... Ticketmaster cited bots as a major cause of the Eras Tour fiasco. Bots are banned by federal law, though that regulation only has been enforced once since 2016 ... regulators need cooperation from the industry and access to ticketing software to monitor for bots, [StubHub's] Dooley said.
<https://stateline.org/2023/09/01/seeing-red-after-taylor-swift-debacle-lawmakers-weigh-concert-ticket-rules/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: From bad to worse in Oneida County: From buffoonery to cocoonery in the DA's office ... Oneida [DA Pfeifer] completely flubbed her analysis of our complaint about the zoning committee's actions in a public hearing related to Kirk Bangstad's conditional use permit application. ... said the committee did not break the open meetings law when it failed to resume and properly post an August 9 public hearing on the CUP application, and instead noticed and held an illegal regular meeting instead. Nothing to see there, she concluded. ... [lengthy analysis] She needs immediate training in the open government laws, and a promise to do much better in the future.

She could start right now by righting this wrong and holding the county accountable.
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/lakeland-times-our-view/>

- ECLT editorial: Overdose deaths can be reduced ... It's probably impossible to prevent every single overdose. Accidents happen, even with medication that's being used for appropriate reasons and with the full intent of following instructions. But reducing the number of deaths is an eminently achievable goal. The tools are available. The question is whether we'll use them.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/ea1f0a46-481d-11ee-afc1-4b3bb3b8fa76.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- UW-Madison College Dem chair Grace Florence: GOP candidates lose youth voters on climate response ... Fossil fuels are what got us into this climate crisis, and clean energy is what's going to get us out. ... Republican presidential candidates need to wake up and realize how far afield they are from the rest of the country on this issue. This simply shouldn't be a political issue.

<https://captimes.com/7a828dd3-8390-514c-8667-6a99da95b459.html>

- Scott Walker: For young people, climate change is real ... So many young people have been sold a bill of goods on climate since they were young. We have to find ways to let them know that they've been told a lie.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/for-young-people-climate-change-is-real/>

- Tech Council President Tom Still: Climate change heats up interest in nuclear energy

<https://wisconsintechcouncil.com/insidewis-climate-change-heats-up-interest-in-nuclear-energy/>

- Dave Zweifel: Vos and Fitzgerald, the Laurel and Hardy of Wisconsin politics ... It occurred to me this week that Laurel and Hardy's travails could serve as a metaphor for the machinations surrounding the state Legislature that gerrymandering has saddled us with. Only Laurel and Hardy were funny; these guys are far from it.

https://captimes.com/opinion/dave-zweifel/opinion-vos-and-fitzgerald-the-laurel-and-hardy-of-wisconsin-politics/article_87b19bb0-126a-5616-ae42-1460bad624fc.html

- Mike Nichols: Let's talk real facts about pot in Wisconsin: The vast majority of Wisconsinites have an opinion about whether pot should be legalized or not -- but based on what?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/lets-talk-real-facts-about-pot-in-wisconsin/>

- Bruce Murphy: State's top CEOs got rich in 2022: Top pay: \$43 million for Harley's CEO. Top pay in U.S.: Google exec's \$225 million!

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/30/murphys-law-states-top-ceos-got-rich-in-2022/>

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FRI News Summary -- 1 Sept. 2023

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<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/fri-news-summary-lab-finds-wedc-performance-slipping-first-lady-biden-promotes-cancer-screening-public-education-in-madison/>

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TOP STORIES

Subscribers: WisPolitics is moving our office this week. To help ease the move, the News Summary will be our last products of the week. Regular product delivery will resume Tuesday. Thank you for subscribing and have a happy holiday weekend.

LAB finds WEDC performance slipping

... Auditors found that the WEDC's governing board failed to post minutes of board meetings ... failed to update their policies to reflect state laws that require the agency to award tax credits to businesses for wages paid only in Wisconsin enterprise zones ... awarded five grants totaling \$50,000 to ineligible recipients. Two grants totaling \$20,000 went to UW System even though the money was supposed to go to small businesses ... policies prohibited government entities from being awarded grants ... didn't require eight grant recipients to repay \$64,300 in grants [after contracts expired] ... closed about 29,000 economic development awards totaling \$992M from FY2011-12 through FY2021-22, including 338 tax credit

- [Law and order](#)

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and loan awards [with fewer than 70% of required jobs created] ... federal pandemic relief funds accounted for 60%+ of the WEDC's \$106.5M total revenue in FY2021-22. WEDC has struggled since its creation on a variety of fronts. Evers 2018 campaign vowed to dissolve it but reversed when elected. LAB's 2021 audit found administrative improvements. * WEDC CEO Hughes responded in a 'thank you' letter noting Sikich's independent audit found no internal deficiencies in financial reporting, touted 10th successive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada, acknowledged 5 grants that "may need to be recaptured," planned 3rd-party evaluation of its business tax credit program, promised timely meeting minutes and an implementation plan for LAB recommendations by Dec. 6. By Richmond, AP

<https://apnews.com/01da1b302e90360c2f5118083927e8e4>

[First Lady] Biden promotes cancer screenings, public education in Madison visit

... Sen. Tammy Baldwin joined Biden for the day, including an event with teacher's unions at a Verona, Wis., elementary school ... Earlier in the day, Biden promoted the White House's cancer prevention initiative, Cancer Moonshot. She met with Black community leaders at Black Women's Wellness in Madison. ... Baldwin said she would work in Washington to increase funding for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program ... visits are expected to ramp up in 2024, when Wisconsin will be a key state to any candidate's path to the White House. By van Wagtendonk, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/first-lady-jill-biden-promotes-cancer-screenings-public-education-madison-visit>

New liberal Supreme Court justice hasn't heard a case but GOP may impeach

... after Protasiewicz said during her winning campaign [which got \$10M from DPW] that the maps are "rigged," "unfair" and should be reviewed. ... And they have the votes to do it [64 in Assembly, 22 in Senate]. Republicans worry that the legislative districts they drew 12 years ago, which are widely viewed as among the most gerrymandered in the country, will be undone in one of the court's first actions under liberal control [facing 2 Dem suits]. Assembly GOP could impeach her, which would bar her from court proceedings until Senate hearing on removing her; but by delaying a hearing, the Senate GOP could prevent Evers from appointing a

replacement during the redistricting trials. 1853 was only judicial impeachment, but was not convicted. Impeachment talk mixes with redistricting suits, which Supremes have yet to decide on accepting, while CJ Ziegler feuds with liberal majority ahead of their first case together Sep. 11.

* Speaker Vos, legislative GOP asked to intervene in the redistricting lawsuits, arguing that Protasiewicz must recuse herself because she has prejudged the cases. "When you're saying that one side has rigged maps, you have made a decision that maps in her opinion are biased, which is the point of the whole case," Vos said. "She shouldn't have said what she did, but she did. And now she has to own it," argued GOP is simply trying to ensure an unbiased court, still studying impeachment option, "I want to do legal research and see if this is unprecedented. I'm not saying it's definitely happening. But we have to take a look at it."

* Law Forward's Mandell, part of plaintiff coalition: "Those who unconstitutionally locked themselves into control over the legislature are apoplectic that they cannot gerrymander the court. They're trying, again, to undo the will of Wisconsin voters and preserve their illegitimate power at all costs."

* Senate Leader LeMahieu did not respond, but has doubted the process, "To impeach someone, they would need to do something very serious. We are not looking to start the impeachment process as a regular occurring event in Wisconsin."

* MU Law prof. Oldfather called it "super hard to predict. ... There's so much uncharted territory that's involved in this. It's unclear what the standards are," noted challenges to impeachment standards could come in state or federal court, mixed with political calculations, "It's a mess, is what it is." By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/0215233d279092e7236c992957bbe935>

8/31/2023 COVID data summary from WHA

... 1,790,777 confirmed cases, 14,606 confirmed deaths ... 275 more cases, 334 more negative tests since Wednesday, 1 death this week ... 119 are currently hospitalized, 2 more, 14 in ICU, 2 less - than Wednesday, 26.2% ICU beds available ... [7-day avg. daily cases: 160 - 197 a week ago. 7-day avg. positivity - 14.4%, 72 counties have "low" level]

<https://www.wha.org/Covid-19Update>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE ^{^top^}

- First lady Jill Biden tours Exact Sciences to highlight early cancer detection ... landed ... early Thursday afternoon and first took an hourlong tour of an Exact Sciences laboratory. ... joined by [CEO Conroy, CLO Hooker, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, ex-guv/board member Doyle, and U.S. Sen. Baldwin] ... Biden and Baldwin later attended a listening session at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... joined Gov. Tony Evers at a back-to-school educator appreciation event with [NEA, AFT]at Glacier Edge Elementary School in Verona ... ended her day in Madison at a fundraiser for Baldwin

<https://madison.com/2ae17bfc-4843-11ee-9d6b-47935b73c2f3.html>

- Jill Biden visits Madison, a crucial Wisconsin Democratic stronghold with the 2024 election looming ... "Cancer touches us all, and it changes everyone it touches," Biden said, referencing Beau Biden's death from brain cancer. "Joe and I knew that we had to find purpose to deal with the grief that we felt after his death. So this is very personal to us." ... [joined Evers for teacher appreciation event] "You have a friend in the White House. Two, in fact," Biden told the union members. "I always knew Joe would be an education president. And he's delivered on his promises, from addressing the mental health and academic needs of our students to signing the bipartisan gun safety bill."

Baldwin called Evers the "one of the most pro-union, pro-education governors in Wisconsin history." "Let's get you reelected," Evers said of Baldwin. ... Biden appeared at a fundraiser for Baldwin Thursday evening. Baldwin has raised \$5.4M in 1H23. Republican contenders have been slow to announce campaigns for her seat. ... "Republicans are looking for the most extreme candidate to challenge her," Evers said Thursday night. ... Biden referenced Wisconsin's 1849 law that effectively banned abortion after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. ... key issue in April's Wisconsin Supreme Court race, which saw high Democratic turnout. "Wisconsin Republicans, like their national counterparts, want to drag us back to a past that we thought was long over. But we won't let them," Biden said. Reviews potential Baldwin challengers and decliners.

* RPW chair Schimming: "Jill Biden's visit to Madison shows who is top of mind, not only for the Biden administration, but for Tammy Baldwin -- who is beholden to the teachers' unions." .

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/jill-biden-visits-madison-a-key-democratic-stronghold-in-wisconsin/70713015007/>

- Biden, Baldwin come to Madison to promote expanding cancer screening ... at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... Biden and Baldwin heard from several organizations about the work they're doing to expand access to cancer screenings, address health disparities, educate people about cancer and create spaces for cancer survivors.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/first-lady-jill-biden-tammy-baldwin>

- Jill Biden touts teachers, unions in visit to Verona school ... NEA President Becky Pringle and AFT President Randi Weingarten both spoke at the event as well, thanking the educators for their work and building excitement as the school year approaches. Baldwin thanked both of those leaders for their efforts on behalf of

teachers. Teacher Hong, Verona Supt. Clardy comment.

<https://captimes.com/d3ce27fe-f846-5fbb-b66c-afd7b36d5258.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Bice: Evers says it's nobody's business if supervisors in his office date subordinates ... [unlike UW System, Legislature, most corporations in "MeToo" era] Evers acknowledged that his office doesn't restrict supervisors from engaging in consensual romantic relationships with the staffers they oversee. ... said he keeps a close eye on what is going on in his ... 37 employees. "It's a small group of people, and I monitor their performance on a regular basis," Evers said. "One of my jobs as governor is to monitor the performance of my staff, and I believe they are doing a good job." But a handful of Democrats have ... express[ed] their concerns that Maggie Gau, Evers' powerful chief of staff, is -- from all appearances -- in a longtime romantic relationship with another senior employee whom she directly supervises. ... believe no one can raise concerns to Gau about her partner. Asked about this, the governor said, "That's not accurate. It's as simple as that. No way." ... two staffers have lived together for at least a couple of years, according to state records. ... are very private individuals but that their relationship is a "poorly kept secret." ... [direct question yielded statement from Evers' office:] "Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability." [staffer was hired in 2019 at \$62K, promoted in 2020 to position under Gau at \$100K, now makes \$112K] ... did not make clear what Gau's role was in promoting the staffer. ... "Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation," it continued. "Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office." ... Gau was asked specifically via email ... She responded: "Per your last request, our office already provided on-the-record responses to your questions. We will continue to refer you to those responses." Reviews preponderance of formal HR policies, excerpts UW System, Assembly, Senate policies. Recalls Mayor Norquist-Figueroa fiasco. Attys. Goodbaum, Heins and Ploor comment.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/evers-wont-discuss-governors-office-supervisor-subordinate-relationships/70725490007/>

- Assembly committee holds hearing on GOP tax cut proposals ... [\$2.9B] AB-386, would cut the income tax rate on the state's second-highest tax bracket to 4.4% from its current 5.3% on incomes ranging from \$27,630 (for a single filer) to \$405,550 (for joint filers). ... "We are in a unique situation here in Wisconsin with a multibillion dollar surplus," said [Assembly sponsor] Steffen ... testifying before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, "and is our belief as authors that we return that surplus to people." ... "If you're listening to the people that you represent, I don't think this is a one party or another party issue," [Senate sponsor] Cabral Guevara said, "This is across the board," with taxpayers "asking for their hard work to be appreciated and their funds to be returned." ... [IA, IL, MS, PA] have similar laws in place to exempt retiree income from income taxes ... "I think we've done the due diligence to make sure that we don't turn into Kansas because if you remember when

they did their tax adjustments, they overshot and had to go back in and backpedal. I just want to make sure that that's not happened.," [chair] Macco said [noting 2012 KS tax cut had to be rescinded in 2017] ... [LFB] analysts testified that without any tax revenue growth, the cut would leave the state with a structural deficit of \$2.3B, but that projected increases in revenue ... could make up that difference. There was no opposition testimony at the hearing, nor at the following hearing on AJR-66, a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a supermajority of the Legislature to approve any future tax rate increases. ... committee is scheduled to vote on both measures on Wednesday, Sept. 6, Macco said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/assembly-committee-holds-hearing>

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sen. Ron Johnson says CDC pressured social media to censor his COVID vaccine post ... In a letter he sent earlier this week to Dr. Mandy Cohen, CDC director, he called for critical documents and materials about the efforts to suppress vaccine information from the public through social media. ... cited his own social media post on the platform now known as X, which was labeled as "misleading" when the social media site was called Twitter.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/sen-ron-johnson-says-cdc-pressured-social-media-ce/>

- No rematch for Congress: Democrat Brad Pfaff will seek second state Senate term

<https://lacrossetribune.com/4de4c8ce-4745-11ee-a23c-737e2750467a.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Zepnick Enters Race To Replace Borkowski, Three candidates now seeking to replace outgoing alderman. ... Zepnick served in the Wisconsin State Assembly as a Democrat from 2003 to 2019. He was upset in a 2018 primary by Marisabel Cabrera. ... [as a state rep in 2016], Zepnick ran in a spring election to oust Robert Donovan, but finished third. He ran in a 2019 special election to replace Terry Witkowski. ... finished sixth in a seven-way primary ... lost by 17 votes to Juan Miguel Martinez in a spring 2022 race for an open seat on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/31/city-hall-zepnick-enters-race-to-replace>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Protasiewicz is under pressure to step away from a case. What to know about impeachment and recusal ... [defines recusal, state and federal standards, WI Code of Judicial Conduct's 5 standards] In short, if a judge's impartiality can be reasonably questioned, recusal can come into play. ... [WI] Supreme Court adopted rules in 2010 that a judge "shall not be required" to recuse based solely on an endorsement or campaign contribution. ... a unique provision, [UW Law prof.] Yablon said, noting ... [some states set] a recusal standard at a particular financial threshold. ... up to the individual to determine whether they will recuse ... state Supreme Court ruled in 2011 ... "A majority of this court does not have the power to disqualify a judicial peer from performing the constitutional functions of a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice on a case-by-case basis," the 4-3 decision said. ... Impeachment can be used to remove "civil officers of the state," although state law does not define "civil officers." ... or corrupt conduct in office or for committing a crime. ... Proceedings start in the state

Assembly, where a simple majority must vote to impeach before the state Senate can ... conduct a trial ... If two-thirds of the senators present vote to convict, the official is removed from office. There are no criminal sentences or penalties involved. ... official cannot perform the duties of their office without being acquitted by the Senate. ... [if Senate takes no action] could potentially sideline Protasiewicz indefinitely and create a 3-3 split on the court between conservatives and liberals. Reviews Protasiewicz's campaign statements about "rigged" "unfair" maps, recusal.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/01/what-to-know-about-impeachment-and-judicial-recusal-in-wisconsin/70728762007/>

- Dem groups file response to Republican attempt to force Protasiewicz off redistricting cases. Excerpts ... "Neither Petitioners nor their counsel are alleged to have made any sizable contribution, and certainly not one that 'had a significant and disproportionate influence in placing the judge on the case.'" ... "Respondents next argue that Justice Protasiewicz's comments on the campaign trail require recusal. But there is no recognized basis to require recusal based on campaign remarks."

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/dem-groups-file-response-to-republican-attempt>

CULTURE [^top^](#)

- Anti-abortion 'abolitionists' take slavery rhetoric to the next level ... [Abolish Human Abortion's] Hunter has frequently taken to Facebook, YouTube and other video platforms to imply or directly state that groups like Operation Save America, Students for Life of America, Live Action and others don't always advocate from an exclusively "abolitionist" standpoint and are not as committed to ending abortion as he is. ... "pro-life" groups ... generally oppose criminal penalties for the pregnant person. ... Gabriel Rensch, a member of the extremist Christ Church in Moscow, Idaho, also compared abortion to slavery, saying if churches in America had taken a stand against slavery, the Civil War would never have happened. ... Rensch said. "We need to end abortion, which is awful -- way worse than slavery, by the way. The slave trade had four, five million slaves max in America? And 600,000 people died. How much has abortion killed?" ... Historians say a little more than 300,000 slaves were brought to the United States. [CDC] reported about 1.3M abortions per year between 1980 and 1997, after which the numbers dropped to less than 650K/yr since 2013. Academics, advocates comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/anti-abortion-abolitionists-take-slavery>

DEMOGRAPHICS [^top^](#)

- Racial gaps in unemployment and wages are shrinking in Wisconsin ... COWS, finds that while overall median hourly wages in Wisconsin didn't keep pace with inflation in 2022, wages for Black and brown workers rose faster ... From 2019 to 2022, the median wage for Black men rose almost 14% to \$21.04, and the median for Hispanic men rose nearly 8% to \$18.84. Gains for white women nearly matched inflation (with real wages rising 0.5% to \$20.90), while Black women's real wages rose just over 4% to \$17 and Hispanic women's pay rose more than 16% to \$18.75. ... White workers in Wisconsin still have the highest wages (\$25.01 for white men and \$20.90 for white women), but workers of color, who disproportionately work in low-wage jobs, were the only ones whose pay rose enough to substantially outpace inflation. Details, COWS' Dresser comments.

<https://captimes.com/1519ea57-623a-5861-9508-7872b41e1dfe.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Evers on hand as Bristol School kicks off academic year ... visited the K-8 school [Thu. morning] as part of a tour of several districts ... "There were a lot of big smiles and surprised faces in reaction to the dramatic changes," District Administrator Jack Musha said. "Kids and parents are excited about it."

<https://kenoshanews.com/d74eca00-4813-11ee-80f0-737cb10c46e6.html>

- GBSD needs to reduce staff, but it's still hiring. Here's why ... still needs to fill 34 full-time classroom and specialty teaching positions, along with 120 support staff openings. Last school year, over 200 certified staff members resigned or retired from the district ... preliminary budget presented in June [found] district needs to reduce its staff by about 1,000 full-time equivalent employees to match enrollment. ... district plans to downsize staff through attrition,

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2023/09/01/heres-why-green-bay-schools-is-hiring-despite-needing-to-downsize/70718550007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Wisconsin might not be ready for 'freakish' heat, author Goodell warns ... "Heat is predatory. It goes after people who have weaker hearts, who have poor circulatory systems," he said. "It's really easy to say, 'Oh yeah, let's just get everybody air conditioning and it'll be fine.' But that's not the way the real world is going to work." ... sometimes catches flak for being too optimistic. It would take political will and resident engagement, but there's a way to build a better world, he said. "These heat waves we're seeing (are) really driving home to millions of people that climate change is not a far-off, distant event," he said. "It's really happening fast. It's happening now. Our lives are at stake. We can make changes to do things differently."

<https://www.wpr.org/central-time-wisconsin-heat-will-kill-you-first-jeff-goodell-author>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- FBI updates photo of UW bomber wanted for 53 years ... FBI on Thursday released age-processed photographs of [now-75-y/o Leo Burt,] who has thus far evaded law enforcement and been referred to as "Wisconsin's state ghost." ... [reviews crime, accomplice trials] ... FBI continues to offer \$150,000 for information leading to Burt's arrest. ... Madison attorney Lester Pines, 73, was a UW student at the time of the bombing. ... was part of a team that defended one of the bombers. "If the FBI is correct, Leo Burt's visage has changed much worse than mine has," Pines said ... "I guess that Leo has not taken good care of himself, if he's even still alive."

<https://apnews.com/4d8aeae3ee200ac46d789d6b1d73f15c>

- 27 inmates charged in barricade of Milwaukee County Jail library ... charged with obstructing an officer, as a party to a crime, and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors. ... After nearly two hours, correctional officers "gained entry to the library and subdued the occupants," the sheriff's office said. One officer was taken to the hospital for an injury suffered in the process, and three other officers were treated on site. ... [Milwaukee Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression blamed] conditions inside the jail and said the sheriff's office was not being transparent about

the incident. ... called attention to the several recent deaths inside the jail.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2023/09/01/milwaukee-county-jail-inmates-charged-in-library-barricade/70736650007/>

- Sheriff's department, DA find Oneida zoning violated parliamentary procedure, But no consequences; DA says no open meetings violation ... Pfeifer said the committee did not run afoul of the state's open meetings law when it adjourned the August 2 hearing until the following week and reconvened a week later, but doing so as a regular meeting and not as a continuation of the public hearing. [see Editorials]
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/sheriffs-department-da-find-oneida-zoning-violated-parliamentary-procedure/>

- Jeremy Kopp named next chief of Wausau Fire Department

<https://www.wausaudailyherald.com/story/news/local/2023/08/31/jeremy-kopp-named-next-chief-of-wausau-fire-department/70730236007/>

- Both Ashland County prosecutors [Walker-appointed Meany, Kressel] retiring ... It will be up to Evers to appoint an attorney to Meany's job until the seat is up for election in November of 2024. "The governor has opened applications and they are due Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.," Evers Communications Director Britt Cudaback said.
<https://www.apg-wi.com/bf9e1428-4760-11ee-97be-c733d76c2883.html>

- Deputy in fatal [Aug. 15] Mellen shooting named [21-year vet Janecek]. ... victim was a 44-year-old man named Jay Claremboux, who had been threatening two women at the home with a knife. ... Sheriff Brian Zupke has refused to answer any questions about the incident and referred all questions to the DOJ, which also is refusing to answer questions

<https://www.apg-wi.com/52c8b66e-4747-11ee-9678-e7fcf3e3182a.html>

MANAGEMENT [^top^](#)

- Glendale manufacturer agrees to add directors sought by billionaire investor Gabelli ... Gabelli's firm GAMCO Investors, which holds nearly 18% of Strattec stock, this summer filed notices for nominating Bruce Lisman ... and F. Jack Liebau Jr. ... CEO Frank Krejci says he welcomes the nominees and believes his intentions and those of Gabelli are aligned. ... Koss, who is chairman and CEO of Milwaukee-based Koss Corp., notified Strattec he will not stand for re-election at Strattec's annual meeting. Koss, 69, has served as a Strattec director since 1995.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/michael-koss-to-retire-from-strattec-board.html>

MICHIGAN [^top^](#)

- Marijuana saga escalates: Federal and state lawsuits filed over license controversy: by Rize and The Fire Station

<https://www.ehextra.com/8859c244-47b7-11ee-907b-b39f4289571d.html>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- Halfway to play: Children's Museum of Rock County passes midpoint of fundraising goal: \$4.7M of \$8M goal

<https://www.gazettextra.com/96f547a0-4853-11ee-98f7-f7b464017dcd.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- As opioid overdose deaths plateau, WI funds Narcan vending machines ... [DHS] recorded 1,410 fatal opioid overdoses last year, according to provisional data, compared with a record 1,427 in 2021 ... More than 90% of last year's opioid overdose deaths involved fentanyl or other synthetic opioids, similar to previous years, said [DHS] Krupski ... Fewer than 100 ... known to involve xylazine, a tranquilizer seen increasing in some states ... Madison Street Medicine and Monona-based Tellurian Behavioral Health are among the agencies getting money for vending machines to dispense free fentanyl test strips and Narcan ... a more private way of getting the materials than having to talk to workers at an agency, he said. ... [DHS announced federal grants Thursday ... Twenty-six health departments and other agencies around the state were previously awarded a total of \$2M for vending machines ... from opioid settlement ... awarding \$300K to the Marshfield Clinic to help rural communities respond to overdoses and nearly \$800K to the Family Health Center of Marshfield and the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin to prevent and address neonatal exposure to opioids. [see Editorials]

<https://madison.com/8c1ce11a-4819-11ee-873f-53521775a988.html>

- Rural Wisconsin towns get \$1 million to combat overdose crisis

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/rural-wisconsin-towns-get-1-million-to-combat>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

-WI biz leaders form consortium seeking regional tech hub designation, funding

<https://biztimes.com/wisconsin-business-leaders-form-consortium-seeking-regional>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS [^top^](#)

- Projects funded with federal dollars driving growth for Waukesha-based utility construction company ... Five Star Energy Services, based in Waukesha, has been completing those projects with local workers. ... is a utility construction company working in the fiber optic, water, gas, and power utility space. Since its founding in 2019, the company has grown from 45 employees to 370.

<https://biztimes.com/projects-funded-with-federal-dollars-driving-growth-for-waukesha-based-utility-construction-company/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Waukesha County leaders voice support for American Family Field funding ... [Exec.] Farrow said [at CEO Roundtable] that if he wasn't in support of the state providing funding to American Family Field, his late mother, Margaret Farrow, would probably come down and strike him with lightning. ... [Visit Brookfield's] Justman said the Brewers are absolutely critical for hotels in Brookfield. ... [Cushman & Wakefield's] Hoffman said the challenge is the exponential increases in valuation for [MLB] teams. [Attanasio's susceptibility to biz deals] ... "We should really push to resolve this now and not let a suitor emerge," Hoffman said. ... [ProHealth Care's] Bacon said that keeping the Brewers is essential in order to attract younger talent to the region.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/waukesha-county-leaders-voice-support-amfam-field.html>

- Seeing 'Red' after Taylor Swift debacle, lawmakers weigh concert ticket rules, More than a dozen states considered bills following the Eras Tour problems. ... [MN Rep. Moller] preregistered for tickets, but never received a code to buy them. And on the day sales went live online, she sat by as friends with codes got bumped out of the ticket queue for no apparent reason. Then Ticketmaster's website crashed. ... convinced her that the concert ticket industry warrants more government oversight. ... introduced a bill this year that would force ticket sellers to disclose the full cost of tickets, including fees, up front to buyers in her state. It also would ban speculative ticketing -- a practice in which resale companies sell tickets they don't yet own. ... Lawmakers of both parties across the country introduced new bills this year to regulate concert and live event ticket purchasing. ... Bills in several states backed by StubHub aim to protect so-called transferability of tickets -- that is, the customers' right to pass on or resell tickets they purchase. ... has tracked nearly 70 ticketing bills proposed across 25 states. ... Ticketmaster cited bots as a major cause of the Eras Tour fiasco. Bots are banned by federal law, though that regulation only has been enforced once since 2016 ... regulators need cooperation from the industry and access to ticketing software to monitor for bots, [StubHub's] Dooley said.
<https://stateline.org/2023/09/01/seeing-red-after-taylor-swift-debacle-lawmakers-weigh-concert-ticket-rules/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: From bad to worse in Oneida County: From buffoonery to cocoonery in the DA's office ... Oneida [DA Pfeifer] completely flubbed her analysis of our complaint about the zoning committee's actions in a public hearing related to Kirk Bangstad's conditional use permit application. ... said the committee did not break the open meetings law when it failed to resume and properly post an August 9 public hearing on the CUP application, and instead noticed and held an illegal regular meeting instead. Nothing to see there, she concluded. ... [lengthy analysis] She needs immediate training in the open government laws, and a promise to do much better in the future.

She could start right now by righting this wrong and holding the county accountable.
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/lakeland-times-our-view/>

- ECLT editorial: Overdose deaths can be reduced ... It's probably impossible to prevent every single overdose. Accidents happen, even with medication that's being used for appropriate reasons and with the full intent of following instructions. But reducing the number of deaths is an eminently achievable goal. The tools are available. The question is whether we'll use them.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/ea1f0a46-481d-11ee-afc1-4b3bb3b8fa76.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- UW-Madison College Dem chair Grace Florence: GOP candidates lose youth voters on climate response ... Fossil fuels are what got us into this climate crisis, and clean energy is what's going to get us out. ... Republican presidential candidates need to wake up and realize how far afield they are from the rest of the country on this issue. This simply shouldn't be a political issue.

<https://captimes.com/7a828dd3-8390-514c-8667-6a99da95b459.html>

- Scott Walker: For young people, climate change is real ... So many young people have been sold a bill of goods on climate since they were young. We have to find ways to let them know that they've been told a lie.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/for-young-people-climate-change-is-real/>

- Tech Council President Tom Still: Climate change heats up interest in nuclear energy

<https://wisconsintechcouncil.com/insidewis-climate-change-heats-up-interest-in-nuclear-energy/>

- Dave Zweifel: Vos and Fitzgerald, the Laurel and Hardy of Wisconsin politics ... It occurred to me this week that Laurel and Hardy's travails could serve as a metaphor for the machinations surrounding the state Legislature that gerrymandering has saddled us with. Only Laurel and Hardy were funny; these guys are far from it.

https://captimes.com/opinion/dave-zweifel/opinion-vos-and-fitzgerald-the-laurel-and-hardy-of-wisconsin-politics/article_87b19bb0-126a-5616-ae42-1460bad624fc.html

- Mike Nichols: Let's talk real facts about pot in Wisconsin: The vast majority of Wisconsinites have an opinion about whether pot should be legalized or not -- but based on what?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/lets-talk-real-facts-about-pot-in-wisconsin/>

- Bruce Murphy: State's top CEOs got rich in 2022: Top pay: \$43 million for Harley's CEO. Top pay in U.S.: Google exec's \$225 million!

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/30/murphys-law-states-top-ceos-got-rich-in-2022/>

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Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 10:12:04 AM

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STORY TOPICS

- [White house](#)
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TOP STORIES

Subscribers: WisPolitics is moving our office this week. To help ease the move, the News Summary will be our last products of the week. Regular product delivery will resume Tuesday. Thank you for subscribing and have a happy holiday weekend.

LAB finds WEDC performance slipping

... Auditors found that the WEDC's governing board failed to post minutes of board meetings ... failed to update their policies to reflect state laws that require the agency to award tax credits to businesses for wages paid only in Wisconsin enterprise zones ... awarded five grants totaling \$50,000 to ineligible recipients. Two grants totaling \$20,000 went to UW System even though the money was supposed to go to small businesses ... policies prohibited government entities from being awarded grants ... didn't require eight grant recipients to repay \$64,300 in grants [after contracts expired] ... closed about 29,000 economic development awards totaling \$992M from FY2011-12 through FY2021-22, including 338 tax credit

- [Law and order](#)

- [Management](#)

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and loan awards [with fewer than 70% of required jobs created] ... federal pandemic relief funds accounted for 60%+ of the WEDC's \$106.5M total revenue in FY2021-22. WEDC has struggled since its creation on a variety of fronts. Evers 2018 campaign vowed to dissolve it but reversed when elected. LAB's 2021 audit found administrative improvements. * WEDC CEO Hughes responded in a 'thank you' letter noting Sikich's independent audit found no internal deficiencies in financial reporting, touted 10th successive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada, acknowledged 5 grants that "may need to be recaptured," planned 3rd-party evaluation of its business tax credit program, promised timely meeting minutes and an implementation plan for LAB recommendations by Dec. 6. By Richmond, AP

<https://apnews.com/01da1b302e90360c2f5118083927e8e4>

[First Lady] Biden promotes cancer screenings, public education in Madison visit

... Sen. Tammy Baldwin joined Biden for the day, including an event with teacher's unions at a Verona, Wis., elementary school ... Earlier in the day, Biden promoted the White House's cancer prevention initiative, Cancer Moonshot. She met with Black community leaders at Black Women's Wellness in Madison. ... Baldwin said she would work in Washington to increase funding for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program ... visits are expected to ramp up in 2024, when Wisconsin will be a key state to any candidate's path to the White House. By van Wagendonk, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/first-lady-jill-biden-promotes-cancer-screenings-public-education-madison-visit>

New liberal Supreme Court justice hasn't heard a case but GOP may impeach

... after Protasiewicz said during her winning campaign [which got \$10M from DPW] that the maps are "rigged," "unfair" and should be reviewed. ... And they have the votes to do it [64 in Assembly, 22 in Senate]. Republicans worry that the legislative districts they drew 12 years ago, which are widely viewed as among the most gerrymandered in the country, will be undone in one of the court's first actions under liberal control [facing 2 Dem suits]. Assembly GOP could impeach her, which would bar her from court proceedings until Senate hearing on removing her; but by delaying a hearing, the Senate GOP could prevent Evers from appointing a

replacement during the redistricting trials. 1853 was only judicial impeachment, but was not convicted. Impeachment talk mixes with redistricting suits, which Supremes have yet to decide on accepting, while CJ Ziegler feuds with liberal majority ahead of their first case together Sep. 11.

* Speaker Vos, legislative GOP asked to intervene in the redistricting lawsuits, arguing that Protasiewicz must recuse herself because she has prejudged the cases. "When you're saying that one side has rigged maps, you have made a decision that maps in her opinion are biased, which is the point of the whole case," Vos said. "She shouldn't have said what she did, but she did. And now she has to own it," argued GOP is simply trying to ensure an unbiased court, still studying impeachment option, "I want to do legal research and see if this is unprecedented. I'm not saying it's definitely happening. But we have to take a look at it."

* Law Forward's Mandell, part of plaintiff coalition: "Those who unconstitutionally locked themselves into control over the legislature are apoplectic that they cannot gerrymander the court. They're trying, again, to undo the will of Wisconsin voters and preserve their illegitimate power at all costs."

* Senate Leader LeMahieu did not respond, but has doubted the process, "To impeach someone, they would need to do something very serious. We are not looking to start the impeachment process as a regular occurring event in Wisconsin."

* MU Law prof. Oldfather called it "super hard to predict. ... There's so much uncharted territory that's involved in this. It's unclear what the standards are," noted challenges to impeachment standards could come in state or federal court, mixed with political calculations, "It's a mess, is what it is." By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/0215233d279092e7236c992957bbe935>

8/31/2023 COVID data summary from WHA

... 1,790,777 confirmed cases, 14,606 confirmed deaths ... 275 more cases, 334 more negative tests since Wednesday, 1 death this week ... 119 are currently hospitalized, 2 more, 14 in ICU, 2 less - than Wednesday, 26.2% ICU beds available ... [7-day avg. daily cases: 160 - 197 a week ago. 7-day avg. positivity - 14.4%, 72 counties have "low" level]

<https://www.wha.org/Covid-19Update>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE ^{^top^}

- First lady Jill Biden tours Exact Sciences to highlight early cancer detection ... landed ... early Thursday afternoon and first took an hourlong tour of an Exact Sciences laboratory. ... joined by [CEO Conroy, CLO Hooker, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, ex-guv/board member Doyle, and U.S. Sen. Baldwin] ... Biden and Baldwin later attended a listening session at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... joined Gov. Tony Evers at a back-to-school educator appreciation event with [NEA, AFT]at Glacier Edge Elementary School in Verona ... ended her day in Madison at a fundraiser for Baldwin

<https://madison.com/2ae17bfc-4843-11ee-9d6b-47935b73c2f3.html>

- Jill Biden visits Madison, a crucial Wisconsin Democratic stronghold with the 2024 election looming ... "Cancer touches us all, and it changes everyone it touches," Biden said, referencing Beau Biden's death from brain cancer. "Joe and I knew that we had to find purpose to deal with the grief that we felt after his death. So this is very personal to us." ... [joined Evers for teacher appreciation event] "You have a friend in the White House. Two, in fact," Biden told the union members. "I always knew Joe would be an education president. And he's delivered on his promises, from addressing the mental health and academic needs of our students to signing the bipartisan gun safety bill."

Baldwin called Evers the "one of the most pro-union, pro-education governors in Wisconsin history." "Let's get you reelected," Evers said of Baldwin. ... Biden appeared at a fundraiser for Baldwin Thursday evening. Baldwin has raised \$5.4M in 1H23. Republican contenders have been slow to announce campaigns for her seat. ... "Republicans are looking for the most extreme candidate to challenge her," Evers said Thursday night. ... Biden referenced Wisconsin's 1849 law that effectively banned abortion after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. ... key issue in April's Wisconsin Supreme Court race, which saw high Democratic turnout. "Wisconsin Republicans, like their national counterparts, want to drag us back to a past that we thought was long over. But we won't let them," Biden said. Reviews potential Baldwin challengers and decliners.

* RPW chair Schimming: "Jill Biden's visit to Madison shows who is top of mind, not only for the Biden administration, but for Tammy Baldwin -- who is beholden to the teachers' unions." .

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/jill-biden-visits-madison-a-key-democratic-stronghold-in-wisconsin/70713015007/>

- Biden, Baldwin come to Madison to promote expanding cancer screening ... at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... Biden and Baldwin heard from several organizations about the work they're doing to expand access to cancer screenings, address health disparities, educate people about cancer and create spaces for cancer survivors.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/first-lady-jill-biden-tammy-baldwin>

- Jill Biden touts teachers, unions in visit to Verona school ... NEA President Becky Pringle and AFT President Randi Weingarten both spoke at the event as well, thanking the educators for their work and building excitement as the school year approaches. Baldwin thanked both of those leaders for their efforts on behalf of

teachers. Teacher Hong, Verona Supt. Clardy comment.

<https://captimes.com/d3ce27fe-f846-5fbb-b66c-afd7b36d5258.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Bice: Evers says it's nobody's business if supervisors in his office date subordinates ... [unlike UW System, Legislature, most corporations in "MeToo" era] Evers acknowledged that his office doesn't restrict supervisors from engaging in consensual romantic relationships with the staffers they oversee. ... said he keeps a close eye on what is going on in his ... 37 employees. "It's a small group of people, and I monitor their performance on a regular basis," Evers said. "One of my jobs as governor is to monitor the performance of my staff, and I believe they are doing a good job." But a handful of Democrats have ... express[ed] their concerns that Maggie Gau, Evers' powerful chief of staff, is -- from all appearances -- in a longtime romantic relationship with another senior employee whom she directly supervises. ... believe no one can raise concerns to Gau about her partner. Asked about this, the governor said, "That's not accurate. It's as simple as that. No way." ... two staffers have lived together for at least a couple of years, according to state records. ... are very private individuals but that their relationship is a "poorly kept secret." ... [direct question yielded statement from Evers' office:] "Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability." [staffer was hired in 2019 at \$62K, promoted in 2020 to position under Gau at \$100K, now makes \$112K] ... did not make clear what Gau's role was in promoting the staffer. ... "Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation," it continued. "Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office." ... Gau was asked specifically via email ... She responded: "Per your last request, our office already provided on-the-record responses to your questions. We will continue to refer you to those responses." Reviews preponderance of formal HR policies, excerpts UW System, Assembly, Senate policies. Recalls Mayor Norquist-Figueroa fiasco. Attys. Goodbaum, Heins and Ploor comment.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/evers-wont-discuss-governors-office-supervisor-subordinate-relationships/70725490007/>

- Assembly committee holds hearing on GOP tax cut proposals ... [\$2.9B] AB-386, would cut the income tax rate on the state's second-highest tax bracket to 4.4% from its current 5.3% on incomes ranging from \$27,630 (for a single filer) to \$405,550 (for joint filers). ... "We are in a unique situation here in Wisconsin with a multibillion dollar surplus," said [Assembly sponsor] Steffen ... testifying before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, "and is our belief as authors that we return that surplus to people." ... "If you're listening to the people that you represent, I don't think this is a one party or another party issue," [Senate sponsor] Cabral Guevara said, "This is across the board," with taxpayers "asking for their hard work to be appreciated and their funds to be returned." ... [IA, IL, MS, PA] have similar laws in place to exempt retiree income from income taxes ... "I think we've done the due diligence to make sure that we don't turn into Kansas because if you remember when

they did their tax adjustments, they overshot and had to go back in and backpedal. I just want to make sure that that's not happened.," [chair] Macco said [noting 2012 KS tax cut had to be rescinded in 2017] ... [LFB] analysts testified that without any tax revenue growth, the cut would leave the state with a structural deficit of \$2.3B, but that projected increases in revenue ... could make up that difference. There was no opposition testimony at the hearing, nor at the following hearing on AJR-66, a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a supermajority of the Legislature to approve any future tax rate increases. ... committee is scheduled to vote on both measures on Wednesday, Sept. 6, Macco said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/assembly-committee-holds-hearing>

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sen. Ron Johnson says CDC pressured social media to censor his COVID vaccine post ... In a letter he sent earlier this week to Dr. Mandy Cohen, CDC director, he called for critical documents and materials about the efforts to suppress vaccine information from the public through social media. ... cited his own social media post on the platform now known as X, which was labeled as "misleading" when the social media site was called Twitter.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/sen-ron-johnson-says-cdc-pressured-social-media-ce/>

- No rematch for Congress: Democrat Brad Pfaff will seek second state Senate term

<https://lacrossetribune.com/4de4c8ce-4745-11ee-a23c-737e2750467a.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Zepnick Enters Race To Replace Borkowski, Three candidates now seeking to replace outgoing alderman. ... Zepnick served in the Wisconsin State Assembly as a Democrat from 2003 to 2019. He was upset in a 2018 primary by Marisabel Cabrera. ... [as a state rep in 2016], Zepnick ran in a spring election to oust Robert Donovan, but finished third. He ran in a 2019 special election to replace Terry Witkowski. ... finished sixth in a seven-way primary ... lost by 17 votes to Juan Miguel Martinez in a spring 2022 race for an open seat on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/31/city-hall-zepnick-enters-race-to-replace>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Protasiewicz is under pressure to step away from a case. What to know about impeachment and recusal ... [defines recusal, state and federal standards, WI Code of Judicial Conduct's 5 standards] In short, if a judge's impartiality can be reasonably questioned, recusal can come into play. ... [WI] Supreme Court adopted rules in 2010 that a judge "shall not be required" to recuse based solely on an endorsement or campaign contribution. ... a unique provision, [UW Law prof.] Yablon said, noting ... [some states set] a recusal standard at a particular financial threshold. ... up to the individual to determine whether they will recuse ... state Supreme Court ruled in 2011 ... "A majority of this court does not have the power to disqualify a judicial peer from performing the constitutional functions of a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice on a case-by-case basis," the 4-3 decision said. ... Impeachment can be used to remove "civil officers of the state," although state law does not define "civil officers." ... or corrupt conduct in office or for committing a crime. ... Proceedings start in the state

Assembly, where a simple majority must vote to impeach before the state Senate can ... conduct a trial ... If two-thirds of the senators present vote to convict, the official is removed from office. There are no criminal sentences or penalties involved. ... official cannot perform the duties of their office without being acquitted by the Senate. ... [if Senate takes no action] could potentially sideline Protasiewicz indefinitely and create a 3-3 split on the court between conservatives and liberals. Reviews Protasiewicz's campaign statements about "rigged" "unfair" maps, recusal.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/01/what-to-know-about-impeachment-and-judicial-recusal-in-wisconsin/70728762007/>

- Dem groups file response to Republican attempt to force Protasiewicz off redistricting cases. Excerpts ... "Neither Petitioners nor their counsel are alleged to have made any sizable contribution, and certainly not one that 'had a significant and disproportionate influence in placing the judge on the case.'" ... "Respondents next argue that Justice Protasiewicz's comments on the campaign trail require recusal. But there is no recognized basis to require recusal based on campaign remarks."

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/dem-groups-file-response-to-republican-attempt>

CULTURE [^top^](#)

- Anti-abortion 'abolitionists' take slavery rhetoric to the next level ... [Abolish Human Abortion's] Hunter has frequently taken to Facebook, YouTube and other video platforms to imply or directly state that groups like Operation Save America, Students for Life of America, Live Action and others don't always advocate from an exclusively "abolitionist" standpoint and are not as committed to ending abortion as he is. ... "pro-life" groups ... generally oppose criminal penalties for the pregnant person. ... Gabriel Rensch, a member of the extremist Christ Church in Moscow, Idaho, also compared abortion to slavery, saying if churches in America had taken a stand against slavery, the Civil War would never have happened. ... Rensch said. "We need to end abortion, which is awful -- way worse than slavery, by the way. The slave trade had four, five million slaves max in America? And 600,000 people died. How much has abortion killed?" ... Historians say a little more than 300,000 slaves were brought to the United States. [CDC] reported about 1.3M abortions per year between 1980 and 1997, after which the numbers dropped to less than 650K/yr since 2013. Academics, advocates comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/anti-abortion-abolitionists-take-slavery>

DEMOGRAPHICS [^top^](#)

- Racial gaps in unemployment and wages are shrinking in Wisconsin ... COWS, finds that while overall median hourly wages in Wisconsin didn't keep pace with inflation in 2022, wages for Black and brown workers rose faster ... From 2019 to 2022, the median wage for Black men rose almost 14% to \$21.04, and the median for Hispanic men rose nearly 8% to \$18.84. Gains for white women nearly matched inflation (with real wages rising 0.5% to \$20.90), while Black women's real wages rose just over 4% to \$17 and Hispanic women's pay rose more than 16% to \$18.75. ... White workers in Wisconsin still have the highest wages (\$25.01 for white men and \$20.90 for white women), but workers of color, who disproportionately work in low-wage jobs, were the only ones whose pay rose enough to substantially outpace inflation. Details, COWS' Dresser comments.

<https://captimes.com/1519ea57-623a-5861-9508-7872b41e1dfe.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Evers on hand as Bristol School kicks off academic year ... visited the K-8 school [Thu. morning] as part of a tour of several districts ... "There were a lot of big smiles and surprised faces in reaction to the dramatic changes," District Administrator Jack Musha said. "Kids and parents are excited about it."

<https://kenoshanews.com/d74eca00-4813-11ee-80f0-737cb10c46e6.html>

- GBSD needs to reduce staff, but it's still hiring. Here's why ... still needs to fill 34 full-time classroom and specialty teaching positions, along with 120 support staff openings. Last school year, over 200 certified staff members resigned or retired from the district ... preliminary budget presented in June [found] district needs to reduce its staff by about 1,000 full-time equivalent employees to match enrollment. ... district plans to downsize staff through attrition,

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2023/09/01/heres-why-green-bay-schools-is-hiring-despite-needing-to-downsize/70718550007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Wisconsin might not be ready for 'freakish' heat, author Goodell warns ... "Heat is predatory. It goes after people who have weaker hearts, who have poor circulatory systems," he said. "It's really easy to say, 'Oh yeah, let's just get everybody air conditioning and it'll be fine.' But that's not the way the real world is going to work." ... sometimes catches flak for being too optimistic. It would take political will and resident engagement, but there's a way to build a better world, he said. "These heat waves we're seeing (are) really driving home to millions of people that climate change is not a far-off, distant event," he said. "It's really happening fast. It's happening now. Our lives are at stake. We can make changes to do things differently."

<https://www.wpr.org/central-time-wisconsin-heat-will-kill-you-first-jeff-goodell-author>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- FBI updates photo of UW bomber wanted for 53 years ... FBI on Thursday released age-processed photographs of [now-75-y/o Leo Burt,] who has thus far evaded law enforcement and been referred to as "Wisconsin's state ghost." ... [reviews crime, accomplice trials] ... FBI continues to offer \$150,000 for information leading to Burt's arrest. ... Madison attorney Lester Pines, 73, was a UW student at the time of the bombing. ... was part of a team that defended one of the bombers. "If the FBI is correct, Leo Burt's visage has changed much worse than mine has," Pines said ... "I guess that Leo has not taken good care of himself, if he's even still alive."

<https://apnews.com/4d8aeae3ee200ac46d789d6b1d73f15c>

- 27 inmates charged in barricade of Milwaukee County Jail library ... charged with obstructing an officer, as a party to a crime, and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors. ... After nearly two hours, correctional officers "gained entry to the library and subdued the occupants," the sheriff's office said. One officer was taken to the hospital for an injury suffered in the process, and three other officers were treated on site. ... [Milwaukee Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression blamed] conditions inside the jail and said the sheriff's office was not being transparent about

the incident. ... called attention to the several recent deaths inside the jail.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2023/09/01/milwaukee-county-jail-inmates-charged-in-library-barricade/70736650007/>

- Sheriff's department, DA find Oneida zoning violated parliamentary procedure, But no consequences; DA says no open meetings violation ... Pfeifer said the committee did not run afoul of the state's open meetings law when it adjourned the August 2 hearing until the following week and reconvened a week later, but doing so as a regular meeting and not as a continuation of the public hearing. [see Editorials]
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/sheriffs-department-da-find-oneida-zoning-violated-parliamentary-procedure/>

- Jeremy Kopp named next chief of Wausau Fire Department

<https://www.wausaudailyherald.com/story/news/local/2023/08/31/jeremy-kopp-named-next-chief-of-wausau-fire-department/70730236007/>

- Both Ashland County prosecutors [Walker-appointed Meany, Kressel] retiring ... It will be up to Evers to appoint an attorney to Meany's job until the seat is up for election in November of 2024. "The governor has opened applications and they are due Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.," Evers Communications Director Britt Cudaback said.
<https://www.apg-wi.com/bf9e1428-4760-11ee-97be-c733d76c2883.html>

- Deputy in fatal [Aug. 15] Mellen shooting named [21-year vet Janecek]. ... victim was a 44-year-old man named Jay Claremboux, who had been threatening two women at the home with a knife. ... Sheriff Brian Zupke has refused to answer any questions about the incident and referred all questions to the DOJ, which also is refusing to answer questions

<https://www.apg-wi.com/52c8b66e-4747-11ee-9678-e7fcf3e3182a.html>

MANAGEMENT [^top^](#)

- Glendale manufacturer agrees to add directors sought by billionaire investor Gabelli ... Gabelli's firm GAMCO Investors, which holds nearly 18% of Strattec stock, this summer filed notices for nominating Bruce Lisman ... and F. Jack Liebau Jr. ... CEO Frank Krejci says he welcomes the nominees and believes his intentions and those of Gabelli are aligned. ... Koss, who is chairman and CEO of Milwaukee-based Koss Corp., notified Strattec he will not stand for re-election at Strattec's annual meeting. Koss, 69, has served as a Strattec director since 1995.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/michael-koss-to- retire-from-strattec-board.html>

MICHIGAN [^top^](#)

- Marijuana saga escalates: Federal and state lawsuits filed over license controversy: by Rize and The Fire Station

<https://www.ehextra.com/8859c244-47b7-11ee-907b-b39f4289571d.html>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- Halfway to play: Children's Museum of Rock County passes midpoint of fundraising goal: \$4.7M of \$8M goal

<https://www.gazettextra.com/96f547a0-4853-11ee-98f7-f7b464017dcd.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- As opioid overdose deaths plateau, WI funds Narcan vending machines ... [DHS] recorded 1,410 fatal opioid overdoses last year, according to provisional data, compared with a record 1,427 in 2021 ... More than 90% of last year's opioid overdose deaths involved fentanyl or other synthetic opioids, similar to previous years, said [DHS] Krupski ... Fewer than 100 ... known to involve xylazine, a tranquilizer seen increasing in some states ... Madison Street Medicine and Monona-based Tellurian Behavioral Health are among the agencies getting money for vending machines to dispense free fentanyl test strips and Narcan ... a more private way of getting the materials than having to talk to workers at an agency, he said. ... [DHS announced federal grants Thursday ... Twenty-six health departments and other agencies around the state were previously awarded a total of \$2M for vending machines ... from opioid settlement ... awarding \$300K to the Marshfield Clinic to help rural communities respond to overdoses and nearly \$800K to the Family Health Center of Marshfield and the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin to prevent and address neonatal exposure to opioids. [see Editorials]

<https://madison.com/8c1ce11a-4819-11ee-873f-53521775a988.html>

- Rural Wisconsin towns get \$1 million to combat overdose crisis

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/rural-wisconsin-towns-get-1-million-to-combat>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

-WI biz leaders form consortium seeking regional tech hub designation, funding

<https://biztimes.com/wisconsin-business-leaders-form-consortium-seeking-regional>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS [^top^](#)

- Projects funded with federal dollars driving growth for Waukesha-based utility construction company ... Five Star Energy Services, based in Waukesha, has been completing those projects with local workers. ... is a utility construction company working in the fiber optic, water, gas, and power utility space. Since its founding in 2019, the company has grown from 45 employees to 370.

<https://biztimes.com/projects-funded-with-federal-dollars-driving-growth-for-waukesha-based-utility-construction-company/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Waukesha County leaders voice support for American Family Field funding ... [Exec.] Farrow said [at CEO Roundtable] that if he wasn't in support of the state providing funding to American Family Field, his late mother, Margaret Farrow, would probably come down and strike him with lightning. ... [Visit Brookfield's] Justman said the Brewers are absolutely critical for hotels in Brookfield. ... [Cushman & Wakefield's] Hoffman said the challenge is the exponential increases in valuation for [MLB] teams. [Attanasio's susceptibility to biz deals] ... "We should really push to resolve this now and not let a suitor emerge," Hoffman said. ... [ProHealth Care's] Bacon said that keeping the Brewers is essential in order to attract younger talent to the region.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/waukesha-county-leaders-voice-support-amfam-field.html>

- Seeing 'Red' after Taylor Swift debacle, lawmakers weigh concert ticket rules, More than a dozen states considered bills following the Eras Tour problems. ... [MN Rep. Moller] preregistered for tickets, but never received a code to buy them. And on the day sales went live online, she sat by as friends with codes got bumped out of the ticket queue for no apparent reason. Then Ticketmaster's website crashed. ... convinced her that the concert ticket industry warrants more government oversight. ... introduced a bill this year that would force ticket sellers to disclose the full cost of tickets, including fees, up front to buyers in her state. It also would ban speculative ticketing -- a practice in which resale companies sell tickets they don't yet own. ... Lawmakers of both parties across the country introduced new bills this year to regulate concert and live event ticket purchasing. ... Bills in several states backed by StubHub aim to protect so-called transferability of tickets -- that is, the customers' right to pass on or resell tickets they purchase. ... has tracked nearly 70 ticketing bills proposed across 25 states. ... Ticketmaster cited bots as a major cause of the Eras Tour fiasco. Bots are banned by federal law, though that regulation only has been enforced once since 2016 ... regulators need cooperation from the industry and access to ticketing software to monitor for bots, [StubHub's] Dooley said.
<https://stateline.org/2023/09/01/seeing-red-after-taylor-swift-debacle-lawmakers-weigh-concert-ticket-rules/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: From bad to worse in Oneida County: From buffoonery to cocoonery in the DA's office ... Oneida [DA Pfeifer] completely flubbed her analysis of our complaint about the zoning committee's actions in a public hearing related to Kirk Bangstad's conditional use permit application. ... said the committee did not break the open meetings law when it failed to resume and properly post an August 9 public hearing on the CUP application, and instead noticed and held an illegal regular meeting instead. Nothing to see there, she concluded. ... [lengthy analysis] She needs immediate training in the open government laws, and a promise to do much better in the future.

She could start right now by righting this wrong and holding the county accountable.
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/lakeland-times-our-view/>

- ECLT editorial: Overdose deaths can be reduced ... It's probably impossible to prevent every single overdose. Accidents happen, even with medication that's being used for appropriate reasons and with the full intent of following instructions. But reducing the number of deaths is an eminently achievable goal. The tools are available. The question is whether we'll use them.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/ea1f0a46-481d-11ee-afc1-4b3bb3b8fa76.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- UW-Madison College Dem chair Grace Florence: GOP candidates lose youth voters on climate response ... Fossil fuels are what got us into this climate crisis, and clean energy is what's going to get us out. ... Republican presidential candidates need to wake up and realize how far afield they are from the rest of the country on this issue. This simply shouldn't be a political issue.

<https://captimes.com/7a828dd3-8390-514c-8667-6a99da95b459.html>

- Scott Walker: For young people, climate change is real ... So many young people have been sold a bill of goods on climate since they were young. We have to find ways to let them know that they've been told a lie.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/for-young-people-climate-change-is-real/>

- Tech Council President Tom Still: Climate change heats up interest in nuclear energy

<https://wisconsintechcouncil.com/insidewis-climate-change-heats-up-interest-in-nuclear-energy/>

- Dave Zweifel: Vos and Fitzgerald, the Laurel and Hardy of Wisconsin politics ... It occurred to me this week that Laurel and Hardy's travails could serve as a metaphor for the machinations surrounding the state Legislature that gerrymandering has saddled us with. Only Laurel and Hardy were funny; these guys are far from it.

https://captimes.com/opinion/dave-zweifel/opinion-vos-and-fitzgerald-the-laurel-and-hardy-of-wisconsin-politics/article_87b19bb0-126a-5616-ae42-1460bad624fc.html

- Mike Nichols: Let's talk real facts about pot in Wisconsin: The vast majority of Wisconsinites have an opinion about whether pot should be legalized or not -- but based on what?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/lets-talk-real-facts-about-pot-in-wisconsin/>

- Bruce Murphy: State's top CEOs got rich in 2022: Top pay: \$43 million for Harley's CEO. Top pay in U.S.: Google exec's \$225 million!

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/30/murphys-law-states-top-ceos-got-rich-in-2022/>

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Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 10:12:06 AM

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STORY TOPICS

- [White house](#)
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TOP STORIES

Subscribers: WisPolitics is moving our office this week. To help ease the move, the News Summary will be our last products of the week. Regular product delivery will resume Tuesday. Thank you for subscribing and have a happy holiday weekend.

LAB finds WEDC performance slipping

... Auditors found that the WEDC's governing board failed to post minutes of board meetings ... failed to update their policies to reflect state laws that require the agency to award tax credits to businesses for wages paid only in Wisconsin enterprise zones ... awarded five grants totaling \$50,000 to ineligible recipients. Two grants totaling \$20,000 went to UW System even though the money was supposed to go to small businesses ... policies prohibited government entities from being awarded grants ... didn't require eight grant recipients to repay \$64,300 in grants [after contracts expired] ... closed about 29,000 economic development awards totaling \$992M from FY2011-12 through FY2021-22, including 338 tax credit

- [Law and order](#)

- [Management](#)

- [Michigan](#)

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and loan awards [with fewer than 70% of required jobs created] ... federal pandemic relief funds accounted for 60%+ of the WEDC's \$106.5M total revenue in FY2021-22. WEDC has struggled since its creation on a variety of fronts. Evers 2018 campaign vowed to dissolve it but reversed when elected. LAB's 2021 audit found administrative improvements. * WEDC CEO Hughes responded in a 'thank you' letter noting Sikich's independent audit found no internal deficiencies in financial reporting, touted 10th successive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada, acknowledged 5 grants that "may need to be recaptured," planned 3rd-party evaluation of its business tax credit program, promised timely meeting minutes and an implementation plan for LAB recommendations by Dec. 6. By Richmond, AP

<https://apnews.com/01da1b302e90360c2f5118083927e8e4>

[First Lady] Biden promotes cancer screenings, public education in Madison visit

... Sen. Tammy Baldwin joined Biden for the day, including an event with teacher's unions at a Verona, Wis., elementary school ... Earlier in the day, Biden promoted the White House's cancer prevention initiative, Cancer Moonshot. She met with Black community leaders at Black Women's Wellness in Madison. ... Baldwin said she would work in Washington to increase funding for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program ... visits are expected to ramp up in 2024, when Wisconsin will be a key state to any candidate's path to the White House. By van Wagendonk, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/first-lady-jill-biden-promotes-cancer-screenings-public-education-madison-visit>

New liberal Supreme Court justice hasn't heard a case but GOP may impeach

... after Protasiewicz said during her winning campaign [which got \$10M from DPW] that the maps are "rigged," "unfair" and should be reviewed. ... And they have the votes to do it [64 in Assembly, 22 in Senate]. Republicans worry that the legislative districts they drew 12 years ago, which are widely viewed as among the most gerrymandered in the country, will be undone in one of the court's first actions under liberal control [facing 2 Dem suits]. Assembly GOP could impeach her, which would bar her from court proceedings until Senate hearing on removing her; but by delaying a hearing, the Senate GOP could prevent Evers from appointing a

replacement during the redistricting trials. 1853 was only judicial impeachment, but was not convicted. Impeachment talk mixes with redistricting suits, which Supremes have yet to decide on accepting, while CJ Ziegler feuds with liberal majority ahead of their first case together Sep. 11.

* Speaker Vos, legislative GOP asked to intervene in the redistricting lawsuits, arguing that Protasiewicz must recuse herself because she has prejudged the cases. "When you're saying that one side has rigged maps, you have made a decision that maps in her opinion are biased, which is the point of the whole case," Vos said. "She shouldn't have said what she did, but she did. And now she has to own it," argued GOP is simply trying to ensure an unbiased court, still studying impeachment option, "I want to do legal research and see if this is unprecedented. I'm not saying it's definitely happening. But we have to take a look at it."

* Law Forward's Mandell, part of plaintiff coalition: "Those who unconstitutionally locked themselves into control over the legislature are apoplectic that they cannot gerrymander the court. They're trying, again, to undo the will of Wisconsin voters and preserve their illegitimate power at all costs."

* Senate Leader LeMahieu did not respond, but has doubted the process, "To impeach someone, they would need to do something very serious. We are not looking to start the impeachment process as a regular occurring event in Wisconsin."

* MU Law prof. Oldfather called it "super hard to predict. ... There's so much uncharted territory that's involved in this. It's unclear what the standards are," noted challenges to impeachment standards could come in state or federal court, mixed with political calculations, "It's a mess, is what it is." By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/0215233d279092e7236c992957bbe935>

8/31/2023 COVID data summary from WHA

... 1,790,777 confirmed cases, 14,606 confirmed deaths ... 275 more cases, 334 more negative tests since Wednesday, 1 death this week ... 119 are currently hospitalized, 2 more, 14 in ICU, 2 less - than Wednesday, 26.2% ICU beds available ... [7-day avg. daily cases: 160 - 197 a week ago. 7-day avg. positivity - 14.4%, 72 counties have "low" level]

<https://www.wha.org/Covid-19Update>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE ^{^top^}

- First lady Jill Biden tours Exact Sciences to highlight early cancer detection ... landed ... early Thursday afternoon and first took an hourlong tour of an Exact Sciences laboratory. ... joined by [CEO Conroy, CLO Hooker, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, ex-guv/board member Doyle, and U.S. Sen. Baldwin] ... Biden and Baldwin later attended a listening session at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... joined Gov. Tony Evers at a back-to-school educator appreciation event with [NEA, AFT]at Glacier Edge Elementary School in Verona ... ended her day in Madison at a fundraiser for Baldwin

<https://madison.com/2ae17bfc-4843-11ee-9d6b-47935b73c2f3.html>

- Jill Biden visits Madison, a crucial Wisconsin Democratic stronghold with the 2024 election looming ... "Cancer touches us all, and it changes everyone it touches," Biden said, referencing Beau Biden's death from brain cancer. "Joe and I knew that we had to find purpose to deal with the grief that we felt after his death. So this is very personal to us." ... [joined Evers for teacher appreciation event] "You have a friend in the White House. Two, in fact," Biden told the union members. "I always knew Joe would be an education president. And he's delivered on his promises, from addressing the mental health and academic needs of our students to signing the bipartisan gun safety bill."

Baldwin called Evers the "one of the most pro-union, pro-education governors in Wisconsin history." "Let's get you reelected," Evers said of Baldwin. ... Biden appeared at a fundraiser for Baldwin Thursday evening. Baldwin has raised \$5.4M in 1H23. Republican contenders have been slow to announce campaigns for her seat. ... "Republicans are looking for the most extreme candidate to challenge her," Evers said Thursday night. ... Biden referenced Wisconsin's 1849 law that effectively banned abortion after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. ... key issue in April's Wisconsin Supreme Court race, which saw high Democratic turnout. "Wisconsin Republicans, like their national counterparts, want to drag us back to a past that we thought was long over. But we won't let them," Biden said. Reviews potential Baldwin challengers and decliners.

* RPW chair Schimming: "Jill Biden's visit to Madison shows who is top of mind, not only for the Biden administration, but for Tammy Baldwin -- who is beholden to the teachers' unions." .

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/jill-biden-visits-madison-a-key-democratic-stronghold-in-wisconsin/70713015007/>

- Biden, Baldwin come to Madison to promote expanding cancer screening ... at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... Biden and Baldwin heard from several organizations about the work they're doing to expand access to cancer screenings, address health disparities, educate people about cancer and create spaces for cancer survivors.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/first-lady-jill-biden-tammy-baldwin>

- Jill Biden touts teachers, unions in visit to Verona school ... NEA President Becky Pringle and AFT President Randi Weingarten both spoke at the event as well, thanking the educators for their work and building excitement as the school year approaches. Baldwin thanked both of those leaders for their efforts on behalf of

teachers. Teacher Hong, Verona Supt. Clardy comment.

<https://captimes.com/d3ce27fe-f846-5fbb-b66c-afd7b36d5258.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Bice: Evers says it's nobody's business if supervisors in his office date subordinates ... [unlike UW System, Legislature, most corporations in "MeToo" era] Evers acknowledged that his office doesn't restrict supervisors from engaging in consensual romantic relationships with the staffers they oversee. ... said he keeps a close eye on what is going on in his ... 37 employees. "It's a small group of people, and I monitor their performance on a regular basis," Evers said. "One of my jobs as governor is to monitor the performance of my staff, and I believe they are doing a good job." But a handful of Democrats have ... express[ed] their concerns that Maggie Gau, Evers' powerful chief of staff, is -- from all appearances -- in a longtime romantic relationship with another senior employee whom she directly supervises. ... believe no one can raise concerns to Gau about her partner. Asked about this, the governor said, "That's not accurate. It's as simple as that. No way." ... two staffers have lived together for at least a couple of years, according to state records. ... are very private individuals but that their relationship is a "poorly kept secret." ... [direct question yielded statement from Evers' office:] "Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability." [staffer was hired in 2019 at \$62K, promoted in 2020 to position under Gau at \$100K, now makes \$112K] ... did not make clear what Gau's role was in promoting the staffer. ... "Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation," it continued. "Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office." ... Gau was asked specifically via email ... She responded: "Per your last request, our office already provided on-the-record responses to your questions. We will continue to refer you to those responses." Reviews preponderance of formal HR policies, excerpts UW System, Assembly, Senate policies. Recalls Mayor Norquist-Figueroa fiasco. Attys. Goodbaum, Heins and Ploor comment.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/evers-wont-discuss-governors-office-supervisor-subordinate-relationships/70725490007/>

- Assembly committee holds hearing on GOP tax cut proposals ... [\$2.9B] AB-386, would cut the income tax rate on the state's second-highest tax bracket to 4.4% from its current 5.3% on incomes ranging from \$27,630 (for a single filer) to \$405,550 (for joint filers). ... "We are in a unique situation here in Wisconsin with a multibillion dollar surplus," said [Assembly sponsor] Steffen ... testifying before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, "and is our belief as authors that we return that surplus to people." ... "If you're listening to the people that you represent, I don't think this is a one party or another party issue," [Senate sponsor] Cabral Guevara said, "This is across the board," with taxpayers "asking for their hard work to be appreciated and their funds to be returned." ... [IA, IL, MS, PA] have similar laws in place to exempt retiree income from income taxes ... "I think we've done the due diligence to make sure that we don't turn into Kansas because if you remember when

they did their tax adjustments, they overshot and had to go back in and backpedal. I just want to make sure that that's not happened.," [chair] Macco said [noting 2012 KS tax cut had to be rescinded in 2017] ... [LFB] analysts testified that without any tax revenue growth, the cut would leave the state with a structural deficit of \$2.3B, but that projected increases in revenue ... could make up that difference. There was no opposition testimony at the hearing, nor at the following hearing on AJR-66, a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a supermajority of the Legislature to approve any future tax rate increases. ... committee is scheduled to vote on both measures on Wednesday, Sept. 6, Macco said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/assembly-committee-holds-hearing>

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sen. Ron Johnson says CDC pressured social media to censor his COVID vaccine post ... In a letter he sent earlier this week to Dr. Mandy Cohen, CDC director, he called for critical documents and materials about the efforts to suppress vaccine information from the public through social media. ... cited his own social media post on the platform now known as X, which was labeled as "misleading" when the social media site was called Twitter.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/sen-ron-johnson-says-cdc-pressured-social-media-ce/>

- No rematch for Congress: Democrat Brad Pfaff will seek second state Senate term

<https://lacrossetribune.com/4de4c8ce-4745-11ee-a23c-737e2750467a.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Zepnick Enters Race To Replace Borkowski, Three candidates now seeking to replace outgoing alderman. ... Zepnick served in the Wisconsin State Assembly as a Democrat from 2003 to 2019. He was upset in a 2018 primary by Marisabel Cabrera. ... [as a state rep in 2016], Zepnick ran in a spring election to oust Robert Donovan, but finished third. He ran in a 2019 special election to replace Terry Witkowski. ... finished sixth in a seven-way primary ... lost by 17 votes to Juan Miguel Martinez in a spring 2022 race for an open seat on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/31/city-hall-zepnick-enters-race-to-replace>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Protasiewicz is under pressure to step away from a case. What to know about impeachment and recusal ... [defines recusal, state and federal standards, WI Code of Judicial Conduct's 5 standards] In short, if a judge's impartiality can be reasonably questioned, recusal can come into play. ... [WI] Supreme Court adopted rules in 2010 that a judge "shall not be required" to recuse based solely on an endorsement or campaign contribution. ... a unique provision, [UW Law prof.] Yablon said, noting ... [some states set] a recusal standard at a particular financial threshold. ... up to the individual to determine whether they will recuse ... state Supreme Court ruled in 2011 ... "A majority of this court does not have the power to disqualify a judicial peer from performing the constitutional functions of a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice on a case-by-case basis," the 4-3 decision said. ... Impeachment can be used to remove "civil officers of the state," although state law does not define "civil officers." ... or corrupt conduct in office or for committing a crime. ... Proceedings start in the state

Assembly, where a simple majority must vote to impeach before the state Senate can ... conduct a trial ... If two-thirds of the senators present vote to convict, the official is removed from office. There are no criminal sentences or penalties involved. ... official cannot perform the duties of their office without being acquitted by the Senate. ... [if Senate takes no action] could potentially sideline Protasiewicz indefinitely and create a 3-3 split on the court between conservatives and liberals. Reviews Protasiewicz's campaign statements about "rigged" "unfair" maps, recusal.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/01/what-to-know-about-impeachment-and-judicial-recusal-in-wisconsin/70728762007/>

- Dem groups file response to Republican attempt to force Protasiewicz off redistricting cases. Excerpts ... "Neither Petitioners nor their counsel are alleged to have made any sizable contribution, and certainly not one that 'had a significant and disproportionate influence in placing the judge on the case.'" ... "Respondents next argue that Justice Protasiewicz's comments on the campaign trail require recusal. But there is no recognized basis to require recusal based on campaign remarks."

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/dem-groups-file-response-to-republican-attempt>

CULTURE [^top^](#)

- Anti-abortion 'abolitionists' take slavery rhetoric to the next level ... [Abolish Human Abortion's] Hunter has frequently taken to Facebook, YouTube and other video platforms to imply or directly state that groups like Operation Save America, Students for Life of America, Live Action and others don't always advocate from an exclusively "abolitionist" standpoint and are not as committed to ending abortion as he is. ... "pro-life" groups ... generally oppose criminal penalties for the pregnant person. ... Gabriel Rensch, a member of the extremist Christ Church in Moscow, Idaho, also compared abortion to slavery, saying if churches in America had taken a stand against slavery, the Civil War would never have happened. ... Rensch said. "We need to end abortion, which is awful -- way worse than slavery, by the way. The slave trade had four, five million slaves max in America? And 600,000 people died. How much has abortion killed?" ... Historians say a little more than 300,000 slaves were brought to the United States. [CDC] reported about 1.3M abortions per year between 1980 and 1997, after which the numbers dropped to less than 650K/yr since 2013. Academics, advocates comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/anti-abortion-abolitionists-take-slavery>

DEMOGRAPHICS [^top^](#)

- Racial gaps in unemployment and wages are shrinking in Wisconsin ... COWS, finds that while overall median hourly wages in Wisconsin didn't keep pace with inflation in 2022, wages for Black and brown workers rose faster ... From 2019 to 2022, the median wage for Black men rose almost 14% to \$21.04, and the median for Hispanic men rose nearly 8% to \$18.84. Gains for white women nearly matched inflation (with real wages rising 0.5% to \$20.90), while Black women's real wages rose just over 4% to \$17 and Hispanic women's pay rose more than 16% to \$18.75. ... White workers in Wisconsin still have the highest wages (\$25.01 for white men and \$20.90 for white women), but workers of color, who disproportionately work in low-wage jobs, were the only ones whose pay rose enough to substantially outpace inflation. Details, COWS' Dresser comments.

<https://captimes.com/1519ea57-623a-5861-9508-7872b41e1dfe.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Evers on hand as Bristol School kicks off academic year ... visited the K-8 school [Thu. morning] as part of a tour of several districts ... "There were a lot of big smiles and surprised faces in reaction to the dramatic changes," District Administrator Jack Musha said. "Kids and parents are excited about it."

<https://kenoshanews.com/d74eca00-4813-11ee-80f0-737cb10c46e6.html>

- GBSD needs to reduce staff, but it's still hiring. Here's why ... still needs to fill 34 full-time classroom and specialty teaching positions, along with 120 support staff openings. Last school year, over 200 certified staff members resigned or retired from the district ... preliminary budget presented in June [found] district needs to reduce its staff by about 1,000 full-time equivalent employees to match enrollment. ... district plans to downsize staff through attrition,

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2023/09/01/heres-why-green-bay-schools-is-hiring-despite-needing-to-downsize/70718550007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Wisconsin might not be ready for 'freakish' heat, author Goodell warns ... "Heat is predatory. It goes after people who have weaker hearts, who have poor circulatory systems," he said. "It's really easy to say, 'Oh yeah, let's just get everybody air conditioning and it'll be fine.' But that's not the way the real world is going to work." ... sometimes catches flak for being too optimistic. It would take political will and resident engagement, but there's a way to build a better world, he said. "These heat waves we're seeing (are) really driving home to millions of people that climate change is not a far-off, distant event," he said. "It's really happening fast. It's happening now. Our lives are at stake. We can make changes to do things differently."

<https://www.wpr.org/central-time-wisconsin-heat-will-kill-you-first-jeff-goodell-author>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- FBI updates photo of UW bomber wanted for 53 years ... FBI on Thursday released age-processed photographs of [now-75-y/o Leo Burt,] who has thus far evaded law enforcement and been referred to as "Wisconsin's state ghost." ... [reviews crime, accomplice trials] ... FBI continues to offer \$150,000 for information leading to Burt's arrest. ... Madison attorney Lester Pines, 73, was a UW student at the time of the bombing. ... was part of a team that defended one of the bombers. "If the FBI is correct, Leo Burt's visage has changed much worse than mine has," Pines said ... "I guess that Leo has not taken good care of himself, if he's even still alive."

<https://apnews.com/4d8aeae3ee200ac46d789d6b1d73f15c>

- 27 inmates charged in barricade of Milwaukee County Jail library ... charged with obstructing an officer, as a party to a crime, and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors. ... After nearly two hours, correctional officers "gained entry to the library and subdued the occupants," the sheriff's office said. One officer was taken to the hospital for an injury suffered in the process, and three other officers were treated on site. ... [Milwaukee Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression blamed] conditions inside the jail and said the sheriff's office was not being transparent about

the incident. ... called attention to the several recent deaths inside the jail.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2023/09/01/milwaukee-county-jail-inmates-charged-in-library-barricade/70736650007/>

- Sheriff's department, DA find Oneida zoning violated parliamentary procedure, But no consequences; DA says no open meetings violation ... Pfeifer said the committee did not run afoul of the state's open meetings law when it adjourned the August 2 hearing until the following week and reconvened a week later, but doing so as a regular meeting and not as a continuation of the public hearing. [see Editorials] <https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/sheriffs-department-da-find-oneida-zoning-violated-parliamentary-procedure/>

- Jeremy Kopp named next chief of Wausau Fire Department

<https://www.wausaudailyherald.com/story/news/local/2023/08/31/jeremy-kopp-named-next-chief-of-wausau-fire-department/70730236007/>

- Both Ashland County prosecutors [Walker-appointed Meany, Kressel] retiring ... It will be up to Evers to appoint an attorney to Meany's job until the seat is up for election in November of 2024. "The governor has opened applications and they are due Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.," Evers Communications Director Britt Cudaback said. <https://www.apg-wi.com/bf9e1428-4760-11ee-97be-c733d76c2883.html>

- Deputy in fatal [Aug. 15] Mellen shooting named [21-year vet Janecek]. ... victim was a 44-year-old man named Jay Claremboux, who had been threatening two women at the home with a knife. ... Sheriff Brian Zupke has refused to answer any questions about the incident and referred all questions to the DOJ, which also is refusing to answer questions

<https://www.apg-wi.com/52c8b66e-4747-11ee-9678-e7fcf3e3182a.html>

MANAGEMENT [^top^](#)

- Glendale manufacturer agrees to add directors sought by billionaire investor Gabelli ... Gabelli's firm GAMCO Investors, which holds nearly 18% of Strattec stock, this summer filed notices for nominating Bruce Lisman ... and F. Jack Liebau Jr. ... CEO Frank Krejci says he welcomes the nominees and believes his intentions and those of Gabelli are aligned. ... Koss, who is chairman and CEO of Milwaukee-based Koss Corp., notified Strattec he will not stand for re-election at Strattec's annual meeting. Koss, 69, has served as a Strattec director since 1995.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/michael-koss-to- retire-from-strattec-board.html>

MICHIGAN [^top^](#)

- Marijuana saga escalates: Federal and state lawsuits filed over license controversy: by Rize and The Fire Station

<https://www.ehextra.com/8859c244-47b7-11ee-907b-b39f4289571d.html>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- Halfway to play: Children's Museum of Rock County passes midpoint of fundraising goal: \$4.7M of \$8M goal

<https://www.gazettextra.com/96f547a0-4853-11ee-98f7-f7b464017dcd.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- As opioid overdose deaths plateau, WI funds Narcan vending machines ... [DHS] recorded 1,410 fatal opioid overdoses last year, according to provisional data, compared with a record 1,427 in 2021 ... More than 90% of last year's opioid overdose deaths involved fentanyl or other synthetic opioids, similar to previous years, said [DHS] Krupski ... Fewer than 100 ... known to involve xylazine, a tranquilizer seen increasing in some states ... Madison Street Medicine and Monona-based Tellurian Behavioral Health are among the agencies getting money for vending machines to dispense free fentanyl test strips and Narcan ... a more private way of getting the materials than having to talk to workers at an agency, he said. ... [DHS announced federal grants Thursday ... Twenty-six health departments and other agencies around the state were previously awarded a total of \$2M for vending machines ... from opioid settlement ... awarding \$300K to the Marshfield Clinic to help rural communities respond to overdoses and nearly \$800K to the Family Health Center of Marshfield and the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin to prevent and address neonatal exposure to opioids. [see Editorials]

<https://madison.com/8c1ce11a-4819-11ee-873f-53521775a988.html>

- Rural Wisconsin towns get \$1 million to combat overdose crisis

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/rural-wisconsin-towns-get-1-million-to-combat>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

-WI biz leaders form consortium seeking regional tech hub designation, funding

<https://biztimes.com/wisconsin-business-leaders-form-consortium-seeking-regional>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS [^top^](#)

- Projects funded with federal dollars driving growth for Waukesha-based utility construction company ... Five Star Energy Services, based in Waukesha, has been completing those projects with local workers. ... is a utility construction company working in the fiber optic, water, gas, and power utility space. Since its founding in 2019, the company has grown from 45 employees to 370.

<https://biztimes.com/projects-funded-with-federal-dollars-driving-growth-for-waukesha-based-utility-construction-company/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Waukesha County leaders voice support for American Family Field funding ... [Exec.] Farrow said [at CEO Roundtable] that if he wasn't in support of the state providing funding to American Family Field, his late mother, Margaret Farrow, would probably come down and strike him with lightning. ... [Visit Brookfield's] Justman said the Brewers are absolutely critical for hotels in Brookfield. ... [Cushman & Wakefield's] Hoffman said the challenge is the exponential increases in valuation for [MLB] teams. [Attanasio's susceptibility to biz deals] ... "We should really push to resolve this now and not let a suitor emerge," Hoffman said. ... [ProHealth Care's] Bacon said that keeping the Brewers is essential in order to attract younger talent to the region.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/waukesha-county-leaders-voice-support-amfam-field.html>

- Seeing 'Red' after Taylor Swift debacle, lawmakers weigh concert ticket rules, More than a dozen states considered bills following the Eras Tour problems. ... [MN Rep. Moller] preregistered for tickets, but never received a code to buy them. And on the day sales went live online, she sat by as friends with codes got bumped out of the ticket queue for no apparent reason. Then Ticketmaster's website crashed. ... convinced her that the concert ticket industry warrants more government oversight. ... introduced a bill this year that would force ticket sellers to disclose the full cost of tickets, including fees, up front to buyers in her state. It also would ban speculative ticketing -- a practice in which resale companies sell tickets they don't yet own. ... Lawmakers of both parties across the country introduced new bills this year to regulate concert and live event ticket purchasing. ... Bills in several states backed by StubHub aim to protect so-called transferability of tickets -- that is, the customers' right to pass on or resell tickets they purchase. ... has tracked nearly 70 ticketing bills proposed across 25 states. ... Ticketmaster cited bots as a major cause of the Eras Tour fiasco. Bots are banned by federal law, though that regulation only has been enforced once since 2016 ... regulators need cooperation from the industry and access to ticketing software to monitor for bots, [StubHub's] Dooley said.
<https://stateline.org/2023/09/01/seeing-red-after-taylor-swift-debacle-lawmakers-weigh-concert-ticket-rules/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: From bad to worse in Oneida County: From buffoonery to cocoonery in the DA's office ... Oneida [DA Pfeifer] completely flubbed her analysis of our complaint about the zoning committee's actions in a public hearing related to Kirk Bangstad's conditional use permit application. ... said the committee did not break the open meetings law when it failed to resume and properly post an August 9 public hearing on the CUP application, and instead noticed and held an illegal regular meeting instead. Nothing to see there, she concluded. ... [lengthy analysis] She needs immediate training in the open government laws, and a promise to do much better in the future.

She could start right now by righting this wrong and holding the county accountable.
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/lakeland-times-our-view/>

- ECLT editorial: Overdose deaths can be reduced ... It's probably impossible to prevent every single overdose. Accidents happen, even with medication that's being used for appropriate reasons and with the full intent of following instructions. But reducing the number of deaths is an eminently achievable goal. The tools are available. The question is whether we'll use them.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/ea1f0a46-481d-11ee-afc1-4b3bb3b8fa76.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- UW-Madison College Dem chair Grace Florence: GOP candidates lose youth voters on climate response ... Fossil fuels are what got us into this climate crisis, and clean energy is what's going to get us out. ... Republican presidential candidates need to wake up and realize how far afield they are from the rest of the country on this issue. This simply shouldn't be a political issue.

<https://captimes.com/7a828dd3-8390-514c-8667-6a99da95b459.html>

- Scott Walker: For young people, climate change is real ... So many young people have been sold a bill of goods on climate since they were young. We have to find ways to let them know that they've been told a lie.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/for-young-people-climate-change-is-real/>

- Tech Council President Tom Still: Climate change heats up interest in nuclear energy

<https://wisconsintechcouncil.com/insidewis-climate-change-heats-up-interest-in-nuclear-energy/>

- Dave Zweifel: Vos and Fitzgerald, the Laurel and Hardy of Wisconsin politics ... It occurred to me this week that Laurel and Hardy's travails could serve as a metaphor for the machinations surrounding the state Legislature that gerrymandering has saddled us with. Only Laurel and Hardy were funny; these guys are far from it.

https://captimes.com/opinion/dave-zweifel/opinion-vos-and-fitzgerald-the-laurel-and-hardy-of-wisconsin-politics/article_87b19bb0-126a-5616-ae42-1460bad624fc.html

- Mike Nichols: Let's talk real facts about pot in Wisconsin: The vast majority of Wisconsinites have an opinion about whether pot should be legalized or not -- but based on what?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/lets-talk-real-facts-about-pot-in-wisconsin/>

- Bruce Murphy: State's top CEOs got rich in 2022: Top pay: \$43 million for Harley's CEO. Top pay in U.S.: Google exec's \$225 million!

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/30/murphys-law-states-top-ceos-got-rich-in-2022/>

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Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 10:12:06 AM

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STORY TOPICS

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TOP STORIES

Subscribers: WisPolitics is moving our office this week. To help ease the move, the News Summary will be our last products of the week. Regular product delivery will resume Tuesday. Thank you for subscribing and have a happy holiday weekend.

LAB finds WEDC performance slipping

... Auditors found that the WEDC's governing board failed to post minutes of board meetings ... failed to update their policies to reflect state laws that require the agency to award tax credits to businesses for wages paid only in Wisconsin enterprise zones ... awarded five grants totaling \$50,000 to ineligible recipients. Two grants totaling \$20,000 went to UW System even though the money was supposed to go to small businesses ... policies prohibited government entities from being awarded grants ... didn't require eight grant recipients to repay \$64,300 in grants [after contracts expired] ... closed about 29,000 economic development awards totaling \$992M from FY2011-12 through FY2021-22, including 338 tax credit

- [Law and order](#)

- [Management](#)

- [Michigan](#)

- [Non-profits](#)

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[Telecommunications](#)

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and loan awards [with fewer than 70% of required jobs created] ... federal pandemic relief funds accounted for 60%+ of the WEDC's \$106.5M total revenue in FY2021-22. WEDC has struggled since its creation on a variety of fronts. Evers 2018 campaign vowed to dissolve it but reversed when elected. LAB's 2021 audit found administrative improvements. * WEDC CEO Hughes responded in a 'thank you' letter noting Sikich's independent audit found no internal deficiencies in financial reporting, touted 10th successive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada, acknowledged 5 grants that "may need to be recaptured," planned 3rd-party evaluation of its business tax credit program, promised timely meeting minutes and an implementation plan for LAB recommendations by Dec. 6. By Richmond, AP

<https://apnews.com/01da1b302e90360c2f5118083927e8e4>

[First Lady] Biden promotes cancer screenings, public education in Madison visit

... Sen. Tammy Baldwin joined Biden for the day, including an event with teacher's unions at a Verona, Wis., elementary school ... Earlier in the day, Biden promoted the White House's cancer prevention initiative, Cancer Moonshot. She met with Black community leaders at Black Women's Wellness in Madison. ... Baldwin said she would work in Washington to increase funding for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program ... visits are expected to ramp up in 2024, when Wisconsin will be a key state to any candidate's path to the White House. By van Wagendonk, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/first-lady-jill-biden-promotes-cancer-screenings-public-education-madison-visit>

New liberal Supreme Court justice hasn't heard a case but GOP may impeach

... after Protasiewicz said during her winning campaign [which got \$10M from DPW] that the maps are "rigged," "unfair" and should be reviewed. ... And they have the votes to do it [64 in Assembly, 22 in Senate]. Republicans worry that the legislative districts they drew 12 years ago, which are widely viewed as among the most gerrymandered in the country, will be undone in one of the court's first actions under liberal control [facing 2 Dem suits]. Assembly GOP could impeach her, which would bar her from court proceedings until Senate hearing on removing her; but by delaying a hearing, the Senate GOP could prevent Evers from appointing a

replacement during the redistricting trials. 1853 was only judicial impeachment, but was not convicted. Impeachment talk mixes with redistricting suits, which Supremes have yet to decide on accepting, while CJ Ziegler feuds with liberal majority ahead of their first case together Sep. 11.

* Speaker Vos, legislative GOP asked to intervene in the redistricting lawsuits, arguing that Protasiewicz must recuse herself because she has prejudged the cases. "When you're saying that one side has rigged maps, you have made a decision that maps in her opinion are biased, which is the point of the whole case," Vos said. "She shouldn't have said what she did, but she did. And now she has to own it," argued GOP is simply trying to ensure an unbiased court, still studying impeachment option, "I want to do legal research and see if this is unprecedented. I'm not saying it's definitely happening. But we have to take a look at it."

* Law Forward's Mandell, part of plaintiff coalition: "Those who unconstitutionally locked themselves into control over the legislature are apoplectic that they cannot gerrymander the court. They're trying, again, to undo the will of Wisconsin voters and preserve their illegitimate power at all costs."

* Senate Leader LeMahieu did not respond, but has doubted the process, "To impeach someone, they would need to do something very serious. We are not looking to start the impeachment process as a regular occurring event in Wisconsin."

* MU Law prof. Oldfather called it "super hard to predict. ... There's so much uncharted territory that's involved in this. It's unclear what the standards are," noted challenges to impeachment standards could come in state or federal court, mixed with political calculations, "It's a mess, is what it is." By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/0215233d279092e7236c992957bbe935>

8/31/2023 COVID data summary from WHA

... 1,790,777 confirmed cases, 14,606 confirmed deaths ... 275 more cases, 334 more negative tests since Wednesday, 1 death this week ... 119 are currently hospitalized, 2 more, 14 in ICU, 2 less - than Wednesday, 26.2% ICU beds available ... [7-day avg. daily cases: 160 - 197 a week ago. 7-day avg. positivity - 14.4%, 72 counties have "low" level]

<https://www.wha.org/Covid-19Update>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- First lady Jill Biden tours Exact Sciences to highlight early cancer detection ... landed ... early Thursday afternoon and first took an hourlong tour of an Exact Sciences laboratory. ... joined by [CEO Conroy, CLO Hooker, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, ex-guv/board member Doyle, and U.S. Sen. Baldwin] ... Biden and Baldwin later attended a listening session at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... joined Gov. Tony Evers at a back-to-school educator appreciation event with [NEA, AFT]at Glacier Edge Elementary School in Verona ... ended her day in Madison at a fundraiser for Baldwin

<https://madison.com/2ae17bfc-4843-11ee-9d6b-47935b73c2f3.html>

- Jill Biden visits Madison, a crucial Wisconsin Democratic stronghold with the 2024 election looming ... "Cancer touches us all, and it changes everyone it touches," Biden said, referencing Beau Biden's death from brain cancer. "Joe and I knew that we had to find purpose to deal with the grief that we felt after his death. So this is very personal to us." ... [joined Evers for teacher appreciation event] "You have a friend in the White House. Two, in fact," Biden told the union members. "I always knew Joe would be an education president. And he's delivered on his promises, from addressing the mental health and academic needs of our students to signing the bipartisan gun safety bill."

Baldwin called Evers the "one of the most pro-union, pro-education governors in Wisconsin history." "Let's get you reelected," Evers said of Baldwin. ... Biden appeared at a fundraiser for Baldwin Thursday evening. Baldwin has raised \$5.4M in 1H23. Republican contenders have been slow to announce campaigns for her seat. ... "Republicans are looking for the most extreme candidate to challenge her," Evers said Thursday night. ... Biden referenced Wisconsin's 1849 law that effectively banned abortion after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. ... key issue in April's Wisconsin Supreme Court race, which saw high Democratic turnout. "Wisconsin Republicans, like their national counterparts, want to drag us back to a past that we thought was long over. But we won't let them," Biden said. Reviews potential Baldwin challengers and decliners.

* RPW chair Schimming: "Jill Biden's visit to Madison shows who is top of mind, not only for the Biden administration, but for Tammy Baldwin -- who is beholden to the teachers' unions." .

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/jill-biden-visits-madison-a-key-democratic-stronghold-in-wisconsin/70713015007/>

- Biden, Baldwin come to Madison to promote expanding cancer screening ... at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... Biden and Baldwin heard from several organizations about the work they're doing to expand access to cancer screenings, address health disparities, educate people about cancer and create spaces for cancer survivors.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/first-lady-jill-biden-tammy-baldwin>

- Jill Biden touts teachers, unions in visit to Verona school ... NEA President Becky Pringle and AFT President Randi Weingarten both spoke at the event as well, thanking the educators for their work and building excitement as the school year approaches. Baldwin thanked both of those leaders for their efforts on behalf of

teachers. Teacher Hong, Verona Supt. Clardy comment.

<https://captimes.com/d3ce27fe-f846-5fbb-b66c-afd7b36d5258.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Bice: Evers says it's nobody's business if supervisors in his office date subordinates ... [unlike UW System, Legislature, most corporations in "MeToo" era] Evers acknowledged that his office doesn't restrict supervisors from engaging in consensual romantic relationships with the staffers they oversee. ... said he keeps a close eye on what is going on in his ... 37 employees. "It's a small group of people, and I monitor their performance on a regular basis," Evers said. "One of my jobs as governor is to monitor the performance of my staff, and I believe they are doing a good job." But a handful of Democrats have ... express[ed] their concerns that Maggie Gau, Evers' powerful chief of staff, is -- from all appearances -- in a longtime romantic relationship with another senior employee whom she directly supervises. ... believe no one can raise concerns to Gau about her partner. Asked about this, the governor said, "That's not accurate. It's as simple as that. No way." ... two staffers have lived together for at least a couple of years, according to state records. ... are very private individuals but that their relationship is a "poorly kept secret." ... [direct question yielded statement from Evers' office:] "Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability." [staffer was hired in 2019 at \$62K, promoted in 2020 to position under Gau at \$100K, now makes \$112K] ... did not make clear what Gau's role was in promoting the staffer. ... "Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation," it continued. "Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office." ... Gau was asked specifically via email ... She responded: "Per your last request, our office already provided on-the-record responses to your questions. We will continue to refer you to those responses." Reviews preponderance of formal HR policies, excerpts UW System, Assembly, Senate policies. Recalls Mayor Norquist-Figueroa fiasco. Attys. Goodbaum, Heins and Ploor comment.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/evers-wont-discuss-governors-office-supervisor-subordinate-relationships/70725490007/>

- Assembly committee holds hearing on GOP tax cut proposals ... [\$2.9B] AB-386, would cut the income tax rate on the state's second-highest tax bracket to 4.4% from its current 5.3% on incomes ranging from \$27,630 (for a single filer) to \$405,550 (for joint filers). ... "We are in a unique situation here in Wisconsin with a multibillion dollar surplus," said [Assembly sponsor] Steffen ... testifying before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, "and is our belief as authors that we return that surplus to people." ... "If you're listening to the people that you represent, I don't think this is a one party or another party issue," [Senate sponsor] Cabral Guevara said, "This is across the board," with taxpayers "asking for their hard work to be appreciated and their funds to be returned." ... [IA, IL, MS, PA] have similar laws in place to exempt retiree income from income taxes ... "I think we've done the due diligence to make sure that we don't turn into Kansas because if you remember when

they did their tax adjustments, they overshot and had to go back in and backpedal. I just want to make sure that that's not happened.," [chair] Macco said [noting 2012 KS tax cut had to be rescinded in 2017] ... [LFB] analysts testified that without any tax revenue growth, the cut would leave the state with a structural deficit of \$2.3B, but that projected increases in revenue ... could make up that difference. There was no opposition testimony at the hearing, nor at the following hearing on AJR-66, a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a supermajority of the Legislature to approve any future tax rate increases. ... committee is scheduled to vote on both measures on Wednesday, Sept. 6, Macco said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/assembly-committee-holds-hearing>

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sen. Ron Johnson says CDC pressured social media to censor his COVID vaccine post ... In a letter he sent earlier this week to Dr. Mandy Cohen, CDC director, he called for critical documents and materials about the efforts to suppress vaccine information from the public through social media. ... cited his own social media post on the platform now known as X, which was labeled as "misleading" when the social media site was called Twitter.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/sen-ron-johnson-says-cdc-pressured-social-media-ce/>

- No rematch for Congress: Democrat Brad Pfaff will seek second state Senate term

<https://lacrossetribune.com/4de4c8ce-4745-11ee-a23c-737e2750467a.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Zepnick Enters Race To Replace Borkowski, Three candidates now seeking to replace outgoing alderman. ... Zepnick served in the Wisconsin State Assembly as a Democrat from 2003 to 2019. He was upset in a 2018 primary by Marisabel Cabrera. ... [as a state rep in 2016], Zepnick ran in a spring election to oust Robert Donovan, but finished third. He ran in a 2019 special election to replace Terry Witkowski. ... finished sixth in a seven-way primary ... lost by 17 votes to Juan Miguel Martinez in a spring 2022 race for an open seat on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/31/city-hall-zepnick-enters-race-to-replace>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Protasiewicz is under pressure to step away from a case. What to know about impeachment and recusal ... [defines recusal, state and federal standards, WI Code of Judicial Conduct's 5 standards] In short, if a judge's impartiality can be reasonably questioned, recusal can come into play. ... [WI] Supreme Court adopted rules in 2010 that a judge "shall not be required" to recuse based solely on an endorsement or campaign contribution. ... a unique provision, [UW Law prof.] Yablon said, noting ... [some states set] a recusal standard at a particular financial threshold. ... up to the individual to determine whether they will recuse ... state Supreme Court ruled in 2011 ... "A majority of this court does not have the power to disqualify a judicial peer from performing the constitutional functions of a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice on a case-by-case basis," the 4-3 decision said. ... Impeachment can be used to remove "civil officers of the state," although state law does not define "civil officers." ... or corrupt conduct in office or for committing a crime. ... Proceedings start in the state

Assembly, where a simple majority must vote to impeach before the state Senate can ... conduct a trial ... If two-thirds of the senators present vote to convict, the official is removed from office. There are no criminal sentences or penalties involved. ... official cannot perform the duties of their office without being acquitted by the Senate. ... [if Senate takes no action] could potentially sideline Protasiewicz indefinitely and create a 3-3 split on the court between conservatives and liberals. Reviews Protasiewicz's campaign statements about "rigged" "unfair" maps, recusal.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/01/what-to-know-about-impeachment-and-judicial-recusal-in-wisconsin/70728762007/>

- Dem groups file response to Republican attempt to force Protasiewicz off redistricting cases. Excerpts ... "Neither Petitioners nor their counsel are alleged to have made any sizable contribution, and certainly not one that 'had a significant and disproportionate influence in placing the judge on the case.'" ... "Respondents next argue that Justice Protasiewicz's comments on the campaign trail require recusal. But there is no recognized basis to require recusal based on campaign remarks."

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/dem-groups-file-response-to-republican-attempt>

CULTURE [^top^](#)

- Anti-abortion 'abolitionists' take slavery rhetoric to the next level ... [Abolish Human Abortion's] Hunter has frequently taken to Facebook, YouTube and other video platforms to imply or directly state that groups like Operation Save America, Students for Life of America, Live Action and others don't always advocate from an exclusively "abolitionist" standpoint and are not as committed to ending abortion as he is. ... "pro-life" groups ... generally oppose criminal penalties for the pregnant person. ... Gabriel Rensch, a member of the extremist Christ Church in Moscow, Idaho, also compared abortion to slavery, saying if churches in America had taken a stand against slavery, the Civil War would never have happened. ... Rensch said. "We need to end abortion, which is awful -- way worse than slavery, by the way. The slave trade had four, five million slaves max in America? And 600,000 people died. How much has abortion killed?" ... Historians say a little more than 300,000 slaves were brought to the United States. [CDC] reported about 1.3M abortions per year between 1980 and 1997, after which the numbers dropped to less than 650K/yr since 2013. Academics, advocates comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/anti-abortion-abolitionists-take-slavery>

DEMOGRAPHICS [^top^](#)

- Racial gaps in unemployment and wages are shrinking in Wisconsin ... COWS, finds that while overall median hourly wages in Wisconsin didn't keep pace with inflation in 2022, wages for Black and brown workers rose faster ... From 2019 to 2022, the median wage for Black men rose almost 14% to \$21.04, and the median for Hispanic men rose nearly 8% to \$18.84. Gains for white women nearly matched inflation (with real wages rising 0.5% to \$20.90), while Black women's real wages rose just over 4% to \$17 and Hispanic women's pay rose more than 16% to \$18.75. ... White workers in Wisconsin still have the highest wages (\$25.01 for white men and \$20.90 for white women), but workers of color, who disproportionately work in low-wage jobs, were the only ones whose pay rose enough to substantially outpace inflation. Details, COWS' Dresser comments.

<https://captimes.com/1519ea57-623a-5861-9508-7872b41e1dfe.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Evers on hand as Bristol School kicks off academic year ... visited the K-8 school [Thu. morning] as part of a tour of several districts ... "There were a lot of big smiles and surprised faces in reaction to the dramatic changes," District Administrator Jack Musha said. "Kids and parents are excited about it."

<https://kenoshanews.com/d74eca00-4813-11ee-80f0-737cb10c46e6.html>

- GBSD needs to reduce staff, but it's still hiring. Here's why ... still needs to fill 34 full-time classroom and specialty teaching positions, along with 120 support staff openings. Last school year, over 200 certified staff members resigned or retired from the district ... preliminary budget presented in June [found] district needs to reduce its staff by about 1,000 full-time equivalent employees to match enrollment. ... district plans to downsize staff through attrition,

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2023/09/01/heres-why-green-bay-schools-is-hiring-despite-needing-to-downsize/70718550007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Wisconsin might not be ready for 'freakish' heat, author Goodell warns ... "Heat is predatory. It goes after people who have weaker hearts, who have poor circulatory systems," he said. "It's really easy to say, 'Oh yeah, let's just get everybody air conditioning and it'll be fine.' But that's not the way the real world is going to work." ... sometimes catches flak for being too optimistic. It would take political will and resident engagement, but there's a way to build a better world, he said. "These heat waves we're seeing (are) really driving home to millions of people that climate change is not a far-off, distant event," he said. "It's really happening fast. It's happening now. Our lives are at stake. We can make changes to do things differently."

<https://www.wpr.org/central-time-wisconsin-heat-will-kill-you-first-jeff-goodell-author>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- FBI updates photo of UW bomber wanted for 53 years ... FBI on Thursday released age-processed photographs of [now-75-y/o Leo Burt,] who has thus far evaded law enforcement and been referred to as "Wisconsin's state ghost." ... [reviews crime, accomplice trials] ... FBI continues to offer \$150,000 for information leading to Burt's arrest. ... Madison attorney Lester Pines, 73, was a UW student at the time of the bombing. ... was part of a team that defended one of the bombers. "If the FBI is correct, Leo Burt's visage has changed much worse than mine has," Pines said ... "I guess that Leo has not taken good care of himself, if he's even still alive."

<https://apnews.com/4d8aeae3ee200ac46d789d6b1d73f15c>

- 27 inmates charged in barricade of Milwaukee County Jail library ... charged with obstructing an officer, as a party to a crime, and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors. ... After nearly two hours, correctional officers "gained entry to the library and subdued the occupants," the sheriff's office said. One officer was taken to the hospital for an injury suffered in the process, and three other officers were treated on site. ... [Milwaukee Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression blamed] conditions inside the jail and said the sheriff's office was not being transparent about

the incident. ... called attention to the several recent deaths inside the jail.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2023/09/01/milwaukee-county-jail-inmates-charged-in-library-barricade/70736650007/>

- Sheriff's department, DA find Oneida zoning violated parliamentary procedure, But no consequences; DA says no open meetings violation ... Pfeifer said the committee did not run afoul of the state's open meetings law when it adjourned the August 2 hearing until the following week and reconvened a week later, but doing so as a regular meeting and not as a continuation of the public hearing. [see Editorials]
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/sheriffs-department-da-find-oneida-zoning-violated-parliamentary-procedure/>

- Jeremy Kopp named next chief of Wausau Fire Department

<https://www.wausaudailyherald.com/story/news/local/2023/08/31/jeremy-kopp-named-next-chief-of-wausau-fire-department/70730236007/>

- Both Ashland County prosecutors [Walker-appointed Meany, Kressel] retiring ... It will be up to Evers to appoint an attorney to Meany's job until the seat is up for election in November of 2024. "The governor has opened applications and they are due Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.," Evers Communications Director Britt Cudaback said.
<https://www.apg-wi.com/bf9e1428-4760-11ee-97be-c733d76c2883.html>

- Deputy in fatal [Aug. 15] Mellen shooting named [21-year vet Janecek]. ... victim was a 44-year-old man named Jay Claremboux, who had been threatening two women at the home with a knife. ... Sheriff Brian Zupke has refused to answer any questions about the incident and referred all questions to the DOJ, which also is refusing to answer questions

<https://www.apg-wi.com/52c8b66e-4747-11ee-9678-e7fcf3e3182a.html>

MANAGEMENT [^top^](#)

- Glendale manufacturer agrees to add directors sought by billionaire investor Gabelli ... Gabelli's firm GAMCO Investors, which holds nearly 18% of Strattec stock, this summer filed notices for nominating Bruce Lisman ... and F. Jack Liebau Jr. ... CEO Frank Krejci says he welcomes the nominees and believes his intentions and those of Gabelli are aligned. ... Koss, who is chairman and CEO of Milwaukee-based Koss Corp., notified Strattec he will not stand for re-election at Strattec's annual meeting. Koss, 69, has served as a Strattec director since 1995.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/michael-koss-to-retire-from-strattec-board.html>

MICHIGAN [^top^](#)

- Marijuana saga escalates: Federal and state lawsuits filed over license controversy: by Rize and The Fire Station

<https://www.ehextra.com/8859c244-47b7-11ee-907b-b39f4289571d.html>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- Halfway to play: Children's Museum of Rock County passes midpoint of fundraising goal: \$4.7M of \$8M goal

<https://www.gazettextra.com/96f547a0-4853-11ee-98f7-f7b464017dcd.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- As opioid overdose deaths plateau, WI funds Narcan vending machines ... [DHS] recorded 1,410 fatal opioid overdoses last year, according to provisional data, compared with a record 1,427 in 2021 ... More than 90% of last year's opioid overdose deaths involved fentanyl or other synthetic opioids, similar to previous years, said [DHS] Krupski ... Fewer than 100 ... known to involve xylazine, a tranquilizer seen increasing in some states ... Madison Street Medicine and Monona-based Tellurian Behavioral Health are among the agencies getting money for vending machines to dispense free fentanyl test strips and Narcan ... a more private way of getting the materials than having to talk to workers at an agency, he said. ... [DHS announced federal grants Thursday ... Twenty-six health departments and other agencies around the state were previously awarded a total of \$2M for vending machines ... from opioid settlement ... awarding \$300K to the Marshfield Clinic to help rural communities respond to overdoses and nearly \$800K to the Family Health Center of Marshfield and the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin to prevent and address neonatal exposure to opioids. [see Editorials]

<https://madison.com/8c1ce11a-4819-11ee-873f-53521775a988.html>

- Rural Wisconsin towns get \$1 million to combat overdose crisis

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/rural-wisconsin-towns-get-1-million-to-combat>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

-WI biz leaders form consortium seeking regional tech hub designation, funding

<https://biztimes.com/wisconsin-business-leaders-form-consortium-seeking-regional>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS [^top^](#)

- Projects funded with federal dollars driving growth for Waukesha-based utility construction company ... Five Star Energy Services, based in Waukesha, has been completing those projects with local workers. ... is a utility construction company working in the fiber optic, water, gas, and power utility space. Since its founding in 2019, the company has grown from 45 employees to 370.

<https://biztimes.com/projects-funded-with-federal-dollars-driving-growth-for-waukesha-based-utility-construction-company/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Waukesha County leaders voice support for American Family Field funding ... [Exec.] Farrow said [at CEO Roundtable] that if he wasn't in support of the state providing funding to American Family Field, his late mother, Margaret Farrow, would probably come down and strike him with lightning. ... [Visit Brookfield's] Justman said the Brewers are absolutely critical for hotels in Brookfield. ... [Cushman & Wakefield's] Hoffman said the challenge is the exponential increases in valuation for [MLB] teams. [Attanasio's susceptibility to biz deals] ... "We should really push to resolve this now and not let a suitor emerge," Hoffman said. ... [ProHealth Care's] Bacon said that keeping the Brewers is essential in order to attract younger talent to the region.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/waukesha-county-leaders-voice-support-amfam-field.html>

- Seeing 'Red' after Taylor Swift debacle, lawmakers weigh concert ticket rules, More than a dozen states considered bills following the Eras Tour problems. ... [MN Rep. Moller] preregistered for tickets, but never received a code to buy them. And on the day sales went live online, she sat by as friends with codes got bumped out of the ticket queue for no apparent reason. Then Ticketmaster's website crashed. ... convinced her that the concert ticket industry warrants more government oversight. ... introduced a bill this year that would force ticket sellers to disclose the full cost of tickets, including fees, up front to buyers in her state. It also would ban speculative ticketing -- a practice in which resale companies sell tickets they don't yet own. ... Lawmakers of both parties across the country introduced new bills this year to regulate concert and live event ticket purchasing. ... Bills in several states backed by StubHub aim to protect so-called transferability of tickets -- that is, the customers' right to pass on or resell tickets they purchase. ... has tracked nearly 70 ticketing bills proposed across 25 states. ... Ticketmaster cited bots as a major cause of the Eras Tour fiasco. Bots are banned by federal law, though that regulation only has been enforced once since 2016 ... regulators need cooperation from the industry and access to ticketing software to monitor for bots, [StubHub's] Dooley said.
<https://stateline.org/2023/09/01/seeing-red-after-taylor-swift-debacle-lawmakers-weigh-concert-ticket-rules/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: From bad to worse in Oneida County: From buffoonery to cocoonery in the DA's office ... Oneida [DA Pfeifer] completely flubbed her analysis of our complaint about the zoning committee's actions in a public hearing related to Kirk Bangstad's conditional use permit application. ... said the committee did not break the open meetings law when it failed to resume and properly post an August 9 public hearing on the CUP application, and instead noticed and held an illegal regular meeting instead. Nothing to see there, she concluded. ... [lengthy analysis] She needs immediate training in the open government laws, and a promise to do much better in the future.

She could start right now by righting this wrong and holding the county accountable.
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/lakeland-times-our-view/>

- ECLT editorial: Overdose deaths can be reduced ... It's probably impossible to prevent every single overdose. Accidents happen, even with medication that's being used for appropriate reasons and with the full intent of following instructions. But reducing the number of deaths is an eminently achievable goal. The tools are available. The question is whether we'll use them.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/ea1f0a46-481d-11ee-afc1-4b3bb3b8fa76.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- UW-Madison College Dem chair Grace Florence: GOP candidates lose youth voters on climate response ... Fossil fuels are what got us into this climate crisis, and clean energy is what's going to get us out. ... Republican presidential candidates need to wake up and realize how far afield they are from the rest of the country on this issue. This simply shouldn't be a political issue.

<https://captimes.com/7a828dd3-8390-514c-8667-6a99da95b459.html>

- Scott Walker: For young people, climate change is real ... So many young people have been sold a bill of goods on climate since they were young. We have to find ways to let them know that they've been told a lie.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/for-young-people-climate-change-is-real/>

- Tech Council President Tom Still: Climate change heats up interest in nuclear energy

<https://wisconsintechcouncil.com/insidewis-climate-change-heats-up-interest-in-nuclear-energy/>

- Dave Zweifel: Vos and Fitzgerald, the Laurel and Hardy of Wisconsin politics ... It occurred to me this week that Laurel and Hardy's travails could serve as a metaphor for the machinations surrounding the state Legislature that gerrymandering has saddled us with. Only Laurel and Hardy were funny; these guys are far from it.

https://captimes.com/opinion/dave-zweifel/opinion-vos-and-fitzgerald-the-laurel-and-hardy-of-wisconsin-politics/article_87b19bb0-126a-5616-ae42-1460bad624fc.html

- Mike Nichols: Let's talk real facts about pot in Wisconsin: The vast majority of Wisconsinites have an opinion about whether pot should be legalized or not -- but based on what?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/lets-talk-real-facts-about-pot-in-wisconsin/>

- Bruce Murphy: State's top CEOs got rich in 2022: Top pay: \$43 million for Harley's CEO. Top pay in U.S.: Google exec's \$225 million!

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/30/murphys-law-states-top-ceos-got-rich-in-2022/>

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Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 10:12:13 AM

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STORY TOPICS

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TOP STORIES

Subscribers: WisPolitics is moving our office this week. To help ease the move, the News Summary will be our last products of the week. Regular product delivery will resume Tuesday. Thank you for subscribing and have a happy holiday weekend.

LAB finds WEDC performance slipping

... Auditors found that the WEDC's governing board failed to post minutes of board meetings ... failed to update their policies to reflect state laws that require the agency to award tax credits to businesses for wages paid only in Wisconsin enterprise zones ... awarded five grants totaling \$50,000 to ineligible recipients. Two grants totaling \$20,000 went to UW System even though the money was supposed to go to small businesses ... policies prohibited government entities from being awarded grants ... didn't require eight grant recipients to repay \$64,300 in grants [after contracts expired] ... closed about 29,000 economic development awards totaling \$992M from FY2011-12 through FY2021-22, including 338 tax credit

- [Law and order](#)

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and loan awards [with fewer than 70% of required jobs created] ... federal pandemic relief funds accounted for 60%+ of the WEDC's \$106.5M total revenue in FY2021-22. WEDC has struggled since its creation on a variety of fronts. Evers 2018 campaign vowed to dissolve it but reversed when elected. LAB's 2021 audit found administrative improvements. * WEDC CEO Hughes responded in a 'thank you' letter noting Sikich's independent audit found no internal deficiencies in financial reporting, touted 10th successive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada, acknowledged 5 grants that "may need to be recaptured," planned 3rd-party evaluation of its business tax credit program, promised timely meeting minutes and an implementation plan for LAB recommendations by Dec. 6. By Richmond, AP

<https://apnews.com/01da1b302e90360c2f5118083927e8e4>

[First Lady] Biden promotes cancer screenings, public education in Madison visit

... Sen. Tammy Baldwin joined Biden for the day, including an event with teacher's unions at a Verona, Wis., elementary school ... Earlier in the day, Biden promoted the White House's cancer prevention initiative, Cancer Moonshot. She met with Black community leaders at Black Women's Wellness in Madison. ... Baldwin said she would work in Washington to increase funding for the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program ... visits are expected to ramp up in 2024, when Wisconsin will be a key state to any candidate's path to the White House. By van Wagendonk, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/first-lady-jill-biden-promotes-cancer-screenings-public-education-madison-visit>

New liberal Supreme Court justice hasn't heard a case but GOP may impeach

... after Protasiewicz said during her winning campaign [which got \$10M from DPW] that the maps are "rigged," "unfair" and should be reviewed. ... And they have the votes to do it [64 in Assembly, 22 in Senate]. Republicans worry that the legislative districts they drew 12 years ago, which are widely viewed as among the most gerrymandered in the country, will be undone in one of the court's first actions under liberal control [facing 2 Dem suits]. Assembly GOP could impeach her, which would bar her from court proceedings until Senate hearing on removing her; but by delaying a hearing, the Senate GOP could prevent Evers from appointing a

replacement during the redistricting trials. 1853 was only judicial impeachment, but was not convicted. Impeachment talk mixes with redistricting suits, which Supremes have yet to decide on accepting, while CJ Ziegler feuds with liberal majority ahead of their first case together Sep. 11.

* Speaker Vos, legislative GOP asked to intervene in the redistricting lawsuits, arguing that Protasiewicz must recuse herself because she has prejudged the cases. "When you're saying that one side has rigged maps, you have made a decision that maps in her opinion are biased, which is the point of the whole case," Vos said. "She shouldn't have said what she did, but she did. And now she has to own it," argued GOP is simply trying to ensure an unbiased court, still studying impeachment option, "I want to do legal research and see if this is unprecedented. I'm not saying it's definitely happening. But we have to take a look at it."

* Law Forward's Mandell, part of plaintiff coalition: "Those who unconstitutionally locked themselves into control over the legislature are apoplectic that they cannot gerrymander the court. They're trying, again, to undo the will of Wisconsin voters and preserve their illegitimate power at all costs."

* Senate Leader LeMahieu did not respond, but has doubted the process, "To impeach someone, they would need to do something very serious. We are not looking to start the impeachment process as a regular occurring event in Wisconsin."

* MU Law prof. Oldfather called it "super hard to predict. ... There's so much uncharted territory that's involved in this. It's unclear what the standards are," noted challenges to impeachment standards could come in state or federal court, mixed with political calculations, "It's a mess, is what it is." By Bauer, AP

<https://apnews.com/0215233d279092e7236c992957bbe935>

8/31/2023 COVID data summary from WHA

... 1,790,777 confirmed cases, 14,606 confirmed deaths ...
275 more cases, 334 more negative tests since Wednesday, 1 death this week ... 119 are currently hospitalized, 2 more, 14 in ICU, 2 less - than Wednesday, 26.2% ICU beds available ...
[7-day avg. daily cases: 160 - 197 a week ago. 7-day avg. positivity - 14.4%, 72 counties have "low" level]

<https://www.wha.org/Covid-19Update>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- First lady Jill Biden tours Exact Sciences to highlight early cancer detection ... landed ... early Thursday afternoon and first took an hourlong tour of an Exact Sciences laboratory. ... joined by [CEO Conroy, CLO Hooker, Mayor Rhodes-Conway, ex-guv/board member Doyle, and U.S. Sen. Baldwin] ... Biden and Baldwin later attended a listening session at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... joined Gov. Tony Evers at a back-to-school educator appreciation event with [NEA, AFT]at Glacier Edge Elementary School in Verona ... ended her day in Madison at a fundraiser for Baldwin

<https://madison.com/2ae17bfc-4843-11ee-9d6b-47935b73c2f3.html>

- Jill Biden visits Madison, a crucial Wisconsin Democratic stronghold with the 2024 election looming ... "Cancer touches us all, and it changes everyone it touches," Biden said, referencing Beau Biden's death from brain cancer. "Joe and I knew that we had to find purpose to deal with the grief that we felt after his death. So this is very personal to us." ... [joined Evers for teacher appreciation event] "You have a friend in the White House. Two, in fact," Biden told the union members. "I always knew Joe would be an education president. And he's delivered on his promises, from addressing the mental health and academic needs of our students to signing the bipartisan gun safety bill."

Baldwin called Evers the "one of the most pro-union, pro-education governors in Wisconsin history." "Let's get you reelected," Evers said of Baldwin. ... Biden appeared at a fundraiser for Baldwin Thursday evening. Baldwin has raised \$5.4M in 1H23. Republican contenders have been slow to announce campaigns for her seat. ... "Republicans are looking for the most extreme candidate to challenge her," Evers said Thursday night. ... Biden referenced Wisconsin's 1849 law that effectively banned abortion after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade. ... key issue in April's Wisconsin Supreme Court race, which saw high Democratic turnout. "Wisconsin Republicans, like their national counterparts, want to drag us back to a past that we thought was long over. But we won't let them," Biden said. Reviews potential Baldwin challengers and decliners.

* RPW chair Schimming: "Jill Biden's visit to Madison shows who is top of mind, not only for the Biden administration, but for Tammy Baldwin -- who is beholden to the teachers' unions." .

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/jill-biden-visits-madison-a-key-democratic-stronghold-in-wisconsin/70713015007/>

- Biden, Baldwin come to Madison to promote expanding cancer screening ... at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness ... Biden and Baldwin heard from several organizations about the work they're doing to expand access to cancer screenings, address health disparities, educate people about cancer and create spaces for cancer survivors.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/first-lady-jill-biden-tammy-baldwin>

- Jill Biden touts teachers, unions in visit to Verona school ... NEA President Becky Pringle and AFT President Randi Weingarten both spoke at the event as well, thanking the educators for their work and building excitement as the school year approaches. Baldwin thanked both of those leaders for their efforts on behalf of

teachers. Teacher Hong, Verona Supt. Clardy comment.

<https://captimes.com/d3ce27fe-f846-5fbb-b66c-afd7b36d5258.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Bice: Evers says it's nobody's business if supervisors in his office date subordinates ... [unlike UW System, Legislature, most corporations in "MeToo" era] Evers acknowledged that his office doesn't restrict supervisors from engaging in consensual romantic relationships with the staffers they oversee. ... said he keeps a close eye on what is going on in his ... 37 employees. "It's a small group of people, and I monitor their performance on a regular basis," Evers said. "One of my jobs as governor is to monitor the performance of my staff, and I believe they are doing a good job." But a handful of Democrats have ... express[ed] their concerns that Maggie Gau, Evers' powerful chief of staff, is -- from all appearances -- in a longtime romantic relationship with another senior employee whom she directly supervises. ... believe no one can raise concerns to Gau about her partner. Asked about this, the governor said, "That's not accurate. It's as simple as that. No way." ... two staffers have lived together for at least a couple of years, according to state records. ... are very private individuals but that their relationship is a "poorly kept secret." ... [direct question yielded statement from Evers' office:] "Our office does not comment on the marital status, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, etc., of employees because we respect the dignity, humanity, and privacy of each member of our team, and because doing so could, in many circumstances, create legal liability." [staffer was hired in 2019 at \$62K, promoted in 2020 to position under Gau at \$100K, now makes \$112K] ... did not make clear what Gau's role was in promoting the staffer. ... "Any potential for conflicts, harassment, or legal concerns are evaluated on an individual basis based on the facts of any given situation," it continued. "Further, it is the governor's expectation that staff comply with all applicable Wisconsin statutes, ethics rules, and any other policies applicable to staff in our office." ... Gau was asked specifically via email ... She responded: "Per your last request, our office already provided on-the-record responses to your questions. We will continue to refer you to those responses." Reviews preponderance of formal HR policies, excerpts UW System, Assembly, Senate policies. Recalls Mayor Norquist-Figueroa fiasco. Attys. Goodbaum, Heins and Ploor comment.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/31/evers-wont-discuss-governors-office-supervisor-subordinate-relationships/70725490007/>

- Assembly committee holds hearing on GOP tax cut proposals ... [\$2.9B] AB-386, would cut the income tax rate on the state's second-highest tax bracket to 4.4% from its current 5.3% on incomes ranging from \$27,630 (for a single filer) to \$405,550 (for joint filers). ... "We are in a unique situation here in Wisconsin with a multibillion dollar surplus," said [Assembly sponsor] Steffen ... testifying before the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, "and is our belief as authors that we return that surplus to people." ... "If you're listening to the people that you represent, I don't think this is a one party or another party issue," [Senate sponsor] Cabral Guevara said, "This is across the board," with taxpayers "asking for their hard work to be appreciated and their funds to be returned." ... [IA, IL, MS, PA] have similar laws in place to exempt retiree income from income taxes ... "I think we've done the due diligence to make sure that we don't turn into Kansas because if you remember when

they did their tax adjustments, they overshot and had to go back in and backpedal. I just want to make sure that that's not happened.," [chair] Macco said [noting 2012 KS tax cut had to be rescinded in 2017] ... [LFB] analysts testified that without any tax revenue growth, the cut would leave the state with a structural deficit of \$2.3B, but that projected increases in revenue ... could make up that difference. There was no opposition testimony at the hearing, nor at the following hearing on AJR-66, a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a supermajority of the Legislature to approve any future tax rate increases. ... committee is scheduled to vote on both measures on Wednesday, Sept. 6, Macco said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/assembly-committee-holds-hearing>

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sen. Ron Johnson says CDC pressured social media to censor his COVID vaccine post ... In a letter he sent earlier this week to Dr. Mandy Cohen, CDC director, he called for critical documents and materials about the efforts to suppress vaccine information from the public through social media. ... cited his own social media post on the platform now known as X, which was labeled as "misleading" when the social media site was called Twitter.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/sen-ron-johnson-says-cdc-pressured-social-media-ce/>

- No rematch for Congress: Democrat Brad Pfaff will seek second state Senate term

<https://lacrossetribune.com/4de4c8ce-4745-11ee-a23c-737e2750467a.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Zepnick Enters Race To Replace Borkowski, Three candidates now seeking to replace outgoing alderman. ... Zepnick served in the Wisconsin State Assembly as a Democrat from 2003 to 2019. He was upset in a 2018 primary by Marisabel Cabrera. ... [as a state rep in 2016], Zepnick ran in a spring election to oust Robert Donovan, but finished third. He ran in a 2019 special election to replace Terry Witkowski. ... finished sixth in a seven-way primary ... lost by 17 votes to Juan Miguel Martinez in a spring 2022 race for an open seat on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/31/city-hall-zepnick-enters-race-to-replace>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- Protasiewicz is under pressure to step away from a case. What to know about impeachment and recusal ... [defines recusal, state and federal standards, WI Code of Judicial Conduct's 5 standards] In short, if a judge's impartiality can be reasonably questioned, recusal can come into play. ... [WI] Supreme Court adopted rules in 2010 that a judge "shall not be required" to recuse based solely on an endorsement or campaign contribution. ... a unique provision, [UW Law prof.] Yablon said, noting ... [some states set] a recusal standard at a particular financial threshold. ... up to the individual to determine whether they will recuse ... state Supreme Court ruled in 2011 ... "A majority of this court does not have the power to disqualify a judicial peer from performing the constitutional functions of a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice on a case-by-case basis," the 4-3 decision said. ... Impeachment can be used to remove "civil officers of the state," although state law does not define "civil officers." ... or corrupt conduct in office or for committing a crime. ... Proceedings start in the state

Assembly, where a simple majority must vote to impeach before the state Senate can ... conduct a trial ... If two-thirds of the senators present vote to convict, the official is removed from office. There are no criminal sentences or penalties involved. ... official cannot perform the duties of their office without being acquitted by the Senate. ... [if Senate takes no action] could potentially sideline Protasiewicz indefinitely and create a 3-3 split on the court between conservatives and liberals. Reviews Protasiewicz's campaign statements about "rigged" "unfair" maps, recusal.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/01/what-to-know-about-impeachment-and-judicial-recusal-in-wisconsin/70728762007/>

- Dem groups file response to Republican attempt to force Protasiewicz off redistricting cases. Excerpts ... "Neither Petitioners nor their counsel are alleged to have made any sizable contribution, and certainly not one that 'had a significant and disproportionate influence in placing the judge on the case.'" ... "Respondents next argue that Justice Protasiewicz's comments on the campaign trail require recusal. But there is no recognized basis to require recusal based on campaign remarks."

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/dem-groups-file-response-to-republican-attempt>

CULTURE [^top^](#)

- Anti-abortion 'abolitionists' take slavery rhetoric to the next level ... [Abolish Human Abortion's] Hunter has frequently taken to Facebook, YouTube and other video platforms to imply or directly state that groups like Operation Save America, Students for Life of America, Live Action and others don't always advocate from an exclusively "abolitionist" standpoint and are not as committed to ending abortion as he is. ... "pro-life" groups ... generally oppose criminal penalties for the pregnant person. ... Gabriel Rensch, a member of the extremist Christ Church in Moscow, Idaho, also compared abortion to slavery, saying if churches in America had taken a stand against slavery, the Civil War would never have happened. ... Rensch said. "We need to end abortion, which is awful -- way worse than slavery, by the way. The slave trade had four, five million slaves max in America? And 600,000 people died. How much has abortion killed?" ... Historians say a little more than 300,000 slaves were brought to the United States. [CDC] reported about 1.3M abortions per year between 1980 and 1997, after which the numbers dropped to less than 650K/yr since 2013. Academics, advocates comment.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/01/anti-abortion-abolitionists-take-slavery>

DEMOGRAPHICS [^top^](#)

- Racial gaps in unemployment and wages are shrinking in Wisconsin ... COWS, finds that while overall median hourly wages in Wisconsin didn't keep pace with inflation in 2022, wages for Black and brown workers rose faster ... From 2019 to 2022, the median wage for Black men rose almost 14% to \$21.04, and the median for Hispanic men rose nearly 8% to \$18.84. Gains for white women nearly matched inflation (with real wages rising 0.5% to \$20.90), while Black women's real wages rose just over 4% to \$17 and Hispanic women's pay rose more than 16% to \$18.75. ... White workers in Wisconsin still have the highest wages (\$25.01 for white men and \$20.90 for white women), but workers of color, who disproportionately work in low-wage jobs, were the only ones whose pay rose enough to substantially outpace inflation. Details, COWS' Dresser comments.

<https://captimes.com/1519ea57-623a-5861-9508-7872b41e1dfe.html>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Evers on hand as Bristol School kicks off academic year ... visited the K-8 school [Thu. morning] as part of a tour of several districts ... "There were a lot of big smiles and surprised faces in reaction to the dramatic changes," District Administrator Jack Musha said. "Kids and parents are excited about it."

<https://kenoshanews.com/d74eca00-4813-11ee-80f0-737cb10c46e6.html>

- GBSD needs to reduce staff, but it's still hiring. Here's why ... still needs to fill 34 full-time classroom and specialty teaching positions, along with 120 support staff openings. Last school year, over 200 certified staff members resigned or retired from the district ... preliminary budget presented in June [found] district needs to reduce its staff by about 1,000 full-time equivalent employees to match enrollment. ... district plans to downsize staff through attrition,

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/education/2023/09/01/heres-why-green-bay-schools-is-hiring-despite-needing-to-downsize/70718550007/>

ENVIRONMENT [^top^](#)

- Wisconsin might not be ready for 'freakish' heat, author Goodell warns ... "Heat is predatory. It goes after people who have weaker hearts, who have poor circulatory systems," he said. "It's really easy to say, 'Oh yeah, let's just get everybody air conditioning and it'll be fine.' But that's not the way the real world is going to work." ... sometimes catches flak for being too optimistic. It would take political will and resident engagement, but there's a way to build a better world, he said. "These heat waves we're seeing (are) really driving home to millions of people that climate change is not a far-off, distant event," he said. "It's really happening fast. It's happening now. Our lives are at stake. We can make changes to do things differently."

<https://www.wpr.org/central-time-wisconsin-heat-will-kill-you-first-jeff-goodell-author>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- FBI updates photo of UW bomber wanted for 53 years ... FBI on Thursday released age-processed photographs of [now-75-y/o Leo Burt,] who has thus far evaded law enforcement and been referred to as "Wisconsin's state ghost." ... [reviews crime, accomplice trials] ... FBI continues to offer \$150,000 for information leading to Burt's arrest. ... Madison attorney Lester Pines, 73, was a UW student at the time of the bombing. ... was part of a team that defended one of the bombers. "If the FBI is correct, Leo Burt's visage has changed much worse than mine has," Pines said ... "I guess that Leo has not taken good care of himself, if he's even still alive."

<https://apnews.com/4d8aeae3ee200ac46d789d6b1d73f15c>

- 27 inmates charged in barricade of Milwaukee County Jail library ... charged with obstructing an officer, as a party to a crime, and disorderly conduct, both misdemeanors. ... After nearly two hours, correctional officers "gained entry to the library and subdued the occupants," the sheriff's office said. One officer was taken to the hospital for an injury suffered in the process, and three other officers were treated on site. ... [Milwaukee Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression blamed] conditions inside the jail and said the sheriff's office was not being transparent about

the incident. ... called attention to the several recent deaths inside the jail.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/crime/2023/09/01/milwaukee-county-jail-inmates-charged-in-library-barricade/70736650007/>

- Sheriff's department, DA find Oneida zoning violated parliamentary procedure, But no consequences; DA says no open meetings violation ... Pfeifer said the committee did not run afoul of the state's open meetings law when it adjourned the August 2 hearing until the following week and reconvened a week later, but doing so as a regular meeting and not as a continuation of the public hearing. [see Editorials] <https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/sheriffs-department-da-find-oneida-zoning-violated-parliamentary-procedure/>

- Jeremy Kopp named next chief of Wausau Fire Department

<https://www.wausaudailyherald.com/story/news/local/2023/08/31/jeremy-kopp-named-next-chief-of-wausau-fire-department/70730236007/>

- Both Ashland County prosecutors [Walker-appointed Meany, Kressel] retiring ... It will be up to Evers to appoint an attorney to Meany's job until the seat is up for election in November of 2024. "The governor has opened applications and they are due Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.," Evers Communications Director Britt Cudaback said. <https://www.apg-wi.com/bf9e1428-4760-11ee-97be-c733d76c2883.html>

- Deputy in fatal [Aug. 15] Mellen shooting named [21-year vet Janecek]. ... victim was a 44-year-old man named Jay Claremboux, who had been threatening two women at the home with a knife. ... Sheriff Brian Zupke has refused to answer any questions about the incident and referred all questions to the DOJ, which also is refusing to answer questions

<https://www.apg-wi.com/52c8b66e-4747-11ee-9678-e7fcf3e3182a.html>

MANAGEMENT [^top^](#)

- Glendale manufacturer agrees to add directors sought by billionaire investor Gabelli ... Gabelli's firm GAMCO Investors, which holds nearly 18% of Strattec stock, this summer filed notices for nominating Bruce Lisman ... and F. Jack Liebau Jr. ... CEO Frank Krejci says he welcomes the nominees and believes his intentions and those of Gabelli are aligned. ... Koss, who is chairman and CEO of Milwaukee-based Koss Corp., notified Strattec he will not stand for re-election at Strattec's annual meeting. Koss, 69, has served as a Strattec director since 1995.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/michael-koss-to-retire-from-strattec-board.html>

MICHIGAN [^top^](#)

- Marijuana saga escalates: Federal and state lawsuits filed over license controversy: by Rize and The Fire Station

<https://www.ehextra.com/8859c244-47b7-11ee-907b-b39f4289571d.html>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- Halfway to play: Children's Museum of Rock County passes midpoint of fundraising goal: \$4.7M of \$8M goal

<https://www.gazettextra.com/96f547a0-4853-11ee-98f7-f7b464017dcd.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- As opioid overdose deaths plateau, WI funds Narcan vending machines ... [DHS] recorded 1,410 fatal opioid overdoses last year, according to provisional data, compared with a record 1,427 in 2021 ... More than 90% of last year's opioid overdose deaths involved fentanyl or other synthetic opioids, similar to previous years, said [DHS] Krupski ... Fewer than 100 ... known to involve xylazine, a tranquilizer seen increasing in some states ... Madison Street Medicine and Monona-based Tellurian Behavioral Health are among the agencies getting money for vending machines to dispense free fentanyl test strips and Narcan ... a more private way of getting the materials than having to talk to workers at an agency, he said. ... [DHS announced federal grants Thursday ... Twenty-six health departments and other agencies around the state were previously awarded a total of \$2M for vending machines ... from opioid settlement ... awarding \$300K to the Marshfield Clinic to help rural communities respond to overdoses and nearly \$800K to the Family Health Center of Marshfield and the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin to prevent and address neonatal exposure to opioids. [see Editorials]

<https://madison.com/8c1ce11a-4819-11ee-873f-53521775a988.html>

- Rural Wisconsin towns get \$1 million to combat overdose crisis

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/brief/rural-wisconsin-towns-get-1-million-to-combat>

TECHNOLOGY [^top^](#)

-WI biz leaders form consortium seeking regional tech hub designation, funding

<https://biztimes.com/wisconsin-business-leaders-form-consortium-seeking-regional>

TELECOMMUNICATIONS [^top^](#)

- Projects funded with federal dollars driving growth for Waukesha-based utility construction company ... Five Star Energy Services, based in Waukesha, has been completing those projects with local workers. ... is a utility construction company working in the fiber optic, water, gas, and power utility space. Since its founding in 2019, the company has grown from 45 employees to 370.

<https://biztimes.com/projects-funded-with-federal-dollars-driving-growth-for-waukesha-based-utility-construction-company/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- Waukesha County leaders voice support for American Family Field funding ... [Exec.] Farrow said [at CEO Roundtable] that if he wasn't in support of the state providing funding to American Family Field, his late mother, Margaret Farrow, would probably come down and strike him with lightning. ... [Visit Brookfield's] Justman said the Brewers are absolutely critical for hotels in Brookfield. ... [Cushman & Wakefield's] Hoffman said the challenge is the exponential increases in valuation for [MLB] teams. [Attanasio's susceptibility to biz deals] ... "We should really push to resolve this now and not let a suitor emerge," Hoffman said. ... [ProHealth Care's] Bacon said that keeping the Brewers is essential in order to attract younger talent to the region.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/08/31/waukesha-county-leaders-voice-support-amfam-field.html>

- Seeing 'Red' after Taylor Swift debacle, lawmakers weigh concert ticket rules, More than a dozen states considered bills following the Eras Tour problems. ... [MN Rep. Moller] preregistered for tickets, but never received a code to buy them. And on the day sales went live online, she sat by as friends with codes got bumped out of the ticket queue for no apparent reason. Then Ticketmaster's website crashed. ... convinced her that the concert ticket industry warrants more government oversight. ... introduced a bill this year that would force ticket sellers to disclose the full cost of tickets, including fees, up front to buyers in her state. It also would ban speculative ticketing -- a practice in which resale companies sell tickets they don't yet own. ... Lawmakers of both parties across the country introduced new bills this year to regulate concert and live event ticket purchasing. ... Bills in several states backed by StubHub aim to protect so-called transferability of tickets -- that is, the customers' right to pass on or resell tickets they purchase. ... has tracked nearly 70 ticketing bills proposed across 25 states. ... Ticketmaster cited bots as a major cause of the Eras Tour fiasco. Bots are banned by federal law, though that regulation only has been enforced once since 2016 ... regulators need cooperation from the industry and access to ticketing software to monitor for bots, [StubHub's] Dooley said.
<https://stateline.org/2023/09/01/seeing-red-after-taylor-swift-debacle-lawmakers-weigh-concert-ticket-rules/>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: From bad to worse in Oneida County: From buffoonery to cocoonery in the DA's office ... Oneida [DA Pfeifer] completely flubbed her analysis of our complaint about the zoning committee's actions in a public hearing related to Kirk Bangstad's conditional use permit application. ... said the committee did not break the open meetings law when it failed to resume and properly post an August 9 public hearing on the CUP application, and instead noticed and held an illegal regular meeting instead. Nothing to see there, she concluded. ... [lengthy analysis] She needs immediate training in the open government laws, and a promise to do much better in the future.

She could start right now by righting this wrong and holding the county accountable.
<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/01/lakeland-times-our-view/>

- ECLT editorial: Overdose deaths can be reduced ... It's probably impossible to prevent every single overdose. Accidents happen, even with medication that's being used for appropriate reasons and with the full intent of following instructions. But reducing the number of deaths is an eminently achievable goal. The tools are available. The question is whether we'll use them.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/ea1f0a46-481d-11ee-afc1-4b3bb3b8fa76.html>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- UW-Madison College Dem chair Grace Florence: GOP candidates lose youth voters on climate response ... Fossil fuels are what got us into this climate crisis, and clean energy is what's going to get us out. ... Republican presidential candidates need to wake up and realize how far afield they are from the rest of the country on this issue. This simply shouldn't be a political issue.

<https://captimes.com/7a828dd3-8390-514c-8667-6a99da95b459.html>

- Scott Walker: For young people, climate change is real ... So many young people have been sold a bill of goods on climate since they were young. We have to find ways to let them know that they've been told a lie.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/aug/31/for-young-people-climate-change-is-real/>

- Tech Council President Tom Still: Climate change heats up interest in nuclear energy

<https://wisconsintechcouncil.com/insidewis-climate-change-heats-up-interest-in-nuclear-energy/>

- Dave Zweifel: Vos and Fitzgerald, the Laurel and Hardy of Wisconsin politics ... It occurred to me this week that Laurel and Hardy's travails could serve as a metaphor for the machinations surrounding the state Legislature that gerrymandering has saddled us with. Only Laurel and Hardy were funny; these guys are far from it.

https://captimes.com/opinion/dave-zweifel/opinion-vos-and-fitzgerald-the-laurel-and-hardy-of-wisconsin-politics/article_87b19bb0-126a-5616-ae42-1460bad624fc.html

- Mike Nichols: Let's talk real facts about pot in Wisconsin: The vast majority of Wisconsinites have an opinion about whether pot should be legalized or not -- but based on what?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/lets-talk-real-facts-about-pot-in-wisconsin/>

- Bruce Murphy: State's top CEOs got rich in 2022: Top pay: \$43 million for Harley's CEO. Top pay in U.S.: Google exec's \$225 million!

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/08/30/murphys-law-states-top-ceos-got-rich-in-2022/>

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
Subject: Bice
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 3:12:16 PM

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Holiday greetings

First time I was working in Washington (Pentagon) I heard a line I haven't forgotten.

"The higher the monkey goes up the rope, the more of his ass you see".

Well .. you r pretty high up.

Hope u r smiling.

Jerry

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

From: [Jessica McBride](#)
To: [DOA Communications](#); [GOV Press](#); [Wisconsin Right Now](#)
Subject: Open records request
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 5:06:58 PM

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Hello,

This is an official open records request for:

1. The personnel evaluations/performance evaluations of Britt Cudaback from 2019 to present.
2. Any documents indicating who conducted the evaluations of Britt Cudaback from 2019 to present.
3. All emails or text messages from Maggie Gau to Britt Cudaback and from Britt Cudaback to Maggie Gau from August 20, 2023 to present.
4. All emails and text messages from or to any staff member in Gov. Evers' office and from or to Gov. Evers himself mentioning Dan Bice from August 20, 2023 to present

We reserve the right to inspect the materials. Please provide any cost estimate up front.

Thank you
Jessica McBride
Wisconsin Right Now.com journalist

From: [Jessica McBride](#)
To: [DOA Communications](#); [GOV Press](#); [Wisconsin Right Now](#)
Subject: Re: Open records request
Date: Friday, September 1, 2023 5:09:10 PM

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We would note that we are asking for emails and texts using state accounts or devices (cell phone, computer, ipad etc.)

On Fri, Sep 1, 2023 at 3:06 PM Jessica McBride <jessica.wirightnow@gmail.com> wrote:

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We reserve the right to inspect the materials. Please provide any cost estimate up front.

Thank you
Jessica McBride
Wisconsin Right Now.com journalist

From: [GOV Public Records](#)
To: jessica.wirightnow@gmail.com
Subject: RE: Open records request
Date: Tuesday, September 5, 2023 4:52:00 PM

Thank you for reaching out to the Office of the Governor. The below records request has been received. A response will be provided as soon as practicable and without delay.

In accordance with Section 19.35(3) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Office of the Governor can charge for the costs of copying, mailing, and/or locating records due to open records requests.

If your request for records is denied, you will receive a letter with the rationale. Pursuant to Section 19.35(4)(b) of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Office of the Governor's decision to deny your request is subject to review by mandamus under Section 19.37(1) of the Wisconsin Statutes, or upon application to the attorney general or to your local district attorney.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact us with any questions you might have.

Best,
The Office of Governor Tony Evers

From: Jessica McBride <jessica.wirightnow@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 5:08:49 PM
To: DOA Communications <DOACommunications@wisconsin.gov>; GOV Press <GOVPress@wisconsin.gov>; Wisconsin Right Now <jim.wirightnow@gmail.com>
Subject: Re: Open records request

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We would note that we are asking for emails and texts using state accounts or devices (cell phone, computer, ipad etc.)

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4. All emails and text messages from or to any staff member in Gov. Evers' office and from or to Gov. Evers himself mentioning Dan Bice from August 20, 2023 to present

We reserve the right to inspect the materials. Please provide any cost estimate up front.

Thank you

Jessica McBride

Wisconsin Right Now.com journalist

From: [Milwaukee Journal Sentinel](#)
To: [Henney, Cara - GOV](#)
Subject: On Wisconsin Politics: Republicans seek amendment requiring two-thirds vote to raise taxes
Date: Wednesday, September 6, 2023 7:01:34 AM

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milwaukee journal sentinel

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On Wisconsin Politics

Wed Sep 6 2023

Republicans seek amendment requiring two-thirds vote to raise taxes



Amending the Wisconsin Constitution would require passage in two consecutive legislative sessions then a statewide ballot by voters.

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What to know about impeachment and judicial recusal in Wisconsin

Here's what Wisconsin's laws and policies say about recusal and impeachment.

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Jill Biden visits Democratic stronghold Madison ahead of 2024



election

Jill Biden visited cancer-screening innovator Exact Sciences and met with teachers union members before attending a fundraiser with Tammy Baldwin.

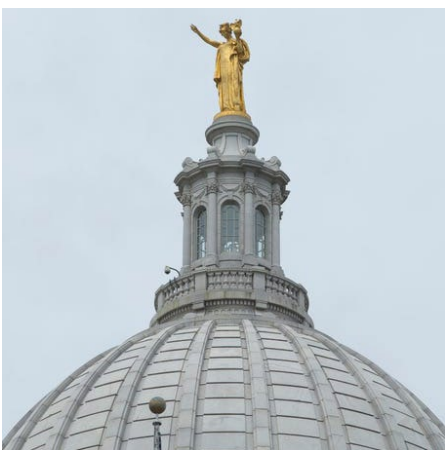
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Bice: Evers says whether chief of staff is dating subordinate is nobody's business

Unlike Wisconsin's Legislature and UW system, the governor's office has no policy prohibiting supervisors from having relationships with subordinates.

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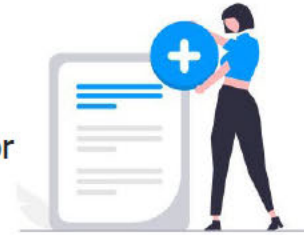
Taxpayers could pay \$2 million in legal fees to defend GOP-drawn maps

The total cost could grow under provisions in contracts Assembly Speaker Robin Vos and Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu signed this month.

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From: WisPolitics.com
To: [Mortensen, Taylor - GOV](#)
Subject: FRI News Summary: Revised GOP-backed income tax cut advances through Assembly committee as Evers promises veto
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:41:46 AM

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FRI News Summary -- 8 Sept. 2023

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

Access the mobile version of the News Summary:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/fri-news-summary-revised-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-advances-through-assembly-committee-as-evers-promises-veto/>

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TOP STORIES

Lawmakers advance GOP-backed income tax cut, but Evers promises to veto ...

The proposal would expand retirement exemptions and cut taxes by nearly 1% for WI's third income tax bracket ... "100 percent of this money is going to folks that need it the most," Macco, who chairs Wisconsin's Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, said of the proposal. ... "We have the money today, but I don't I don't have the confidence that we're going to have the money in three years," [W&M Dem Conley] said. "And I just think this needs more time to be vetted more deeply." ... "I'm not going to sign an irresponsible Republican tax cut that jeopardizes our state's financial stability well into the future and the investments we need to be making today to address the real, pressing challenges facing our state." Evers posted to social media on Wednesday. ... "The \$2.9 billion goes directly back to the people for an overpayment that was made, returning their surplus," [sponsor Steffen] said. "We will still have a billion dollars of surplus to discuss options further into the session, to discuss what are some mutually agreed upon priorities." Rep. Ohnstad-D joined GOP advancing the bill, but

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could change his mind on final passage, "I do have concerns about the sustainability of this tax cut," Ohnstad said. "But I also recognize that ... people in my district make 80% of what the median income is in the state of Wisconsin, and I also have thousands of retirees that are in my district." ... [also] voted along party lines to advance a ballot proposal that seeks to amend Wisconsin's Constitution to ... mandate approval by a two-thirds majority of the state Legislature in order to increase income, sales or franchise taxes in the future. By Lehr, WPR
<https://www.wpr.org/lawmakers-advance-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-evers-promises-veto>

GOP threatens to impeach justice over Dem donations, but conservatives also took GOP cash

... [Hagedorn and Bradley took RPW donations] totaling roughly \$150,000 and \$70,000 respectively. ... Karofsky's campaign [got \$1.3M+ from DPW. Kelly got \$1.2M+ from RPW, RNC]. ... Conservative majorities in the court approved rules [written in part by donor WMC, which spent \$2M electing now-CJ Ziegler and \$1.8M electing then-justice Gableman] allowing justices to hear cases involving their campaign donors in 2010 and rejected [retired judges'] request for clearer recusal standards in 2017. Protasiewicz vowed recusal on cases brought by DPW, but DPW did not bring the redistricting cases - though DPW stands to benefit from rulings. None of the sitting justices responded on whether they would recuse from cases involving their campaign supporters, none recused from last year's redistricting cases. Reviews WI maps' reputation for being gerrymandered, expanded GOP majorities despite losing statewide, Protasiewicz's 11-point win, "rigged" and "unfair" comments. Ziegler and Gableman did not recuse in WMC cases. Ziegler as county judge rule on cases involving her husband's bank and companies in which she held stock. Justice Bradley wrote incredulous opinion rejecting the 2017 request for recusal standards on donors' cases, but she blasted Protasiewicz for not recusing on restricting case that could help donor DPW.
 * CC/WI's Heck: "It's what I call selective outrage. It's incredibly hypocritical," noted was no GOP outrage when conservative justices heard numerous cases over the years involving their conservative donors, "The rules and parameters of recusal were put in place by the conservatives and by the Republicans. If they don't like the way the situation is now, all they have to do is look at their own behavior."

* Assembly Majority Leader August was asked if conservative justices should recuse from redistricting cases over taking RPW donations, "We're talking about this case, this justice, and I'll leave it at that." By Bauer, Venhuizen AP
<https://apnews.com/f1d1dfd476325a00e9b99d4735b4b5ee>

Rep. Dave Murphy questions whether UW-Madison complying with affirmative action admissions ban

... During a three-hour public hearing before the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities, GOP lawmakers held up copies of heavily redacted admissions criteria obtained from UW-Madison through an open records request and accused the university of not being transparent ... [UW's] Potts said the university had offered to let [chair Murphy, Senate chair Hutton] review the documents in person, cited "shared goal that we would not unintentionally provide an advantage to elected officials in their knowledge of our admissions process for their particular constituents to benefit from."

* Murphy: "That is the most ridiculous answer I have ever heard! I can't believe you're talking about advantaging legislators by letting them know what this criteria is about. We are the committee that has oversight over your agency!" asked Potts how lawmakers can know UW-Madison is "following the Supreme Court's [affirmative action] decision ... if there's no transparency, then that's pretty difficult to do."

* Potts: "the goal is to follow the law and being in compliance with the law."

* co-sponsor Rep. O'Connor said the guaranteed admissions legislation "could be labeled as an anti-DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) bill. ... I don't care about DEI in this situation. This is simply about not discriminating against the best of the best coming out of our high schools."

... would require state colleges and universities to admit high school graduates students in the top five percent of their class, it would be up to high school administrators to decide how to rank them. Rep. Wittke questioned 421 arbitrary class rankings. FdL Supt Fleig supported bill, suggested adding ranking criteria. UW prof. Odle study found offering direct admission to students, particularly those from minority groups and lower-income families, boosted applications but didn't impact enrollment. By Kremer, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-rep-dave-murphy-questions-whether-uw-madison-complying-affirmative-action-admissions-ban>

Senate chief clerk Queensland placed on administrative leave pending investigation

... chief clerk is a nonpartisan officer elected by the full Senate every two years. ... oversees the administration and record-keeping for the state Senate as well as serving as parliamentarian and chief operating officer. ... paid \$141,000 per year. ... "This is a personnel matter," Radday [for LeMahieu] said. "I can't comment further." LeMahieu said same. Queensland was not immediately available. Queensland's access to state buildings was revoked on Aug. 23 at the request Senate Sergeant at Arms Engel. GOP

source said GOP senators were told that Queensland was on leave pending investigation, not to ask questions about the situation or to take calls from Queensland, who was formerly Legis Council senior staff attorney. By Bice, Beck MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/07/wisconsin-senate-chief-clerk-placed-on-leave-pending-investigation/70785605007/>

Prosecutors charge WI man of assaulting officer during Jan. 6 attack at US Capitol

... Joseph Cattani, 40, of Colgate ... arrested Thursday in Wisconsin and charged in federal court in Washington, D.C. ... faces two felony counts of civil disorder and assaulting officers. ... misdemeanor counts of entering and remaining in a restricted building, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and demonstrating in a Capitol building. ... Online court records didn't list an attorney for him. ... Law enforcement officers have arrested more than 1,146 people across the country in connection with the incident at the Capitol. About 400 of them have been charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement. By AP

<https://apnews.com/162ff04360375a75549273d2b56d70cd>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Trump rallies with SD Gov. Noem, Allies hope is a VP tryout

<https://lacrossetribune.com/90d66dba-b56e-50c4-a256-5db7b9d6d325.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Pay raises for Wisconsin state employees still awaiting legislative approval ... On July 31, [DOA sent JCOER, who sent to LFB] a proposed pay plan to implement the [\$422M budget-funded] raises. ... [LFB] typically waits for the bureau to analyze a pay plan before adopting it, something that hasn't happened yet. In the past, the fiscal bureau has taken around a month to finish its review. ... Asked whether the committee might alter the plan, [JCOER member Born] said, "It's likely we will try to make sure we implement the things that we did in the budget." JCOER co-chair Kapenga did not respond. [LFB declined comment.] Reviews budget raise provisions.

<https://madison.com/cab2f9c2-4cc5-11ee-8cfc-6ba9a4d4dc30.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sup. Tony Staskunas Won't Seek Re-Election, The West Allis supervisor has served on the board since 2013: when he left the state Assembly, enabling Supv. Sanfelippo to run for Assembly.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/mke-county-sup-tony-staskunas-wont-seek>

- Vilas County judge rules election re-do for Presque Isle town chair, How the special election will be administered leaves questions yet to be answered ... The ruling comes roughly four months after [ex-town chair] MacLean filed a notice of an appeal of recount seven days after an April 12 recount that reaffirmed [ex-clerk] Walters's one-vote victory -- 242-241 -- in the April 4 election. ... it was found that Walters's son Jim had been working on town computers off-site at his Michigan-based tech company for the last 20 years. ... judge Martha Milanowski ordered a special election ... during an oral ruling lasting about an hour on Aug. 31 in Eagle River.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/05/vilas-county-judge-rules-election-re-do-for-presque-isle-town-chair/>

- ECC Admin. Schauf comments on conclusion of DHS investigation ... ready to move forward and put an investigation of the Department of Human Services finances behind them, after the board opted Tuesday to not take any action regarding her leadership.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/1fa438aa-4cf4-11ee-b57b-8767b1b1f6d0.html>

BANKING AND INVESTMENT [^top^](#)

- Reedsburg lawyer stole \$1.6M from client's trust to pay for home improvements, 2 trucks and a tractor ... Judge William M. Conley on Thursday ordered Kristin Lein, 61, to serve 45 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. She pleaded guilty in June

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/wisconsin-lawyer-gets-prison-time-for-embezzling-1-million-from-trust/70789951007/>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court, in public hearing, weighs eviction records ... Legal Action of Wisconsin ... asked the state Supreme Court in March 2022 to change court rules [re: 20-yr eviction record retention] ... records are retained regardless of whether an eviction was granted. Many landlords can access these records online ... to help "more Wisconsin families find and maintain safe and affordable rental housing." ... Once someone has an eviction on their record, there's not a lot that can be done to remove the record, according to Madison's Tenant Resource Center. ... Legal Action requested a similar change in 2021 that was not adopted because then-Director of State Courts Randy Koschnick determined a new record-retention policy would be too burdensome ... [despite furor over Protasiewicz recusal/impeachment, liberal court majority firing Koschnick and limiting CJ powers,] justices appeared cordial Thursday in the state Capitol hearing room as they questioned attorneys and listened to two hours of testimony advocating both for and against granting the rule change.

* LAW's Ayers: "It's the court's obligation to somehow use its power for good and, in this case, we believe that that is scrubbing these records. We're talking about human decency here, as well as court process. Individuals are just trying to access housing, which is a basic human right, and this will be impactful."

* UW Law Eviction Defense Clinic's Kube: "The stories we heard over and over and over again were varying degrees of, 'I got the five-day notice and I vacated. I had no idea this was on my record.' It is, 'I got evicted one time because I had an emergency expense for my child. I've had a perfect rental history since and this 8-year-old record

is still impeding me from finding housing."

* landlord groups atty. Giese: "Landlords, knowing that they won't have good access to somebody's past business record, are going to have to raise the security deposit, double it perhaps to be sure they're going to get their rent paid. They're going to have to engage in a tighter screening for those tenants. That's going to hurt tenants, especially tenants who have never been evicted. It's also going to hurt the small landlords. ... In these big counties like Dane and Milwaukee, there is a form you fill out where you check a box if you've been evicted or not, and that is the end of the story."

* Justice Hagedorn: "It just feels to me like you're making a really dramatic policy argument that is asking us to favor certain folks over others and proposing to hide information from the public, including those who would have a pretty reasonable interest in that information when making business decisions."

* LAW's Lundin: "What makes eviction records different from other court records, including criminal records, is that they impact a basic human need of having shelter. ... We're only asking that the state not be the one to put this information out there. There are plenty of private market solutions to this that landlords have come up with."

* Dane Co Clerk of Courts Esqueda: "We had 1,700 eviction cases (in Dane County) filed so far this year. I wouldn't be surprised if the vast majority of those wound up having sealing and redaction motions filed on them," the only way to complete the rule change would be to consider "the nuclear option": taking down CCAP altogether.

* Ayers acknowledged administrative burden, "We also believe that there should be a balancing test and when it ultimately comes down to it, we look at equity and what is fairest. ... If we have to take a step back, we believe that at a minimum not having free access online could be (a) potential."

<https://captimes.com/d7e6660e-1e6c-54c2-9c74-51a0ff5fa6d2.html>

- New Wisconsin Supreme Court meets for first time in hearing on eviction records rule change

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/07/new-wisconsin-supreme-court-meets-for>

- State Public Defender Kelli Thompson reflects on 12 years overseeing agency ... revealed she'll resign effective Oct. 9 in as low-key a way as possible. There was a press announcement and letter released Sept. 1 ... deputy, Katie York [will serve interim], with the board conducting a search to fill the position on a full-time basis. In August 2022, a suit filed in Green Bay alleged Evers, PD have violated constitutional rights of thousands of indigent criminal defendants who have waited weeks and months for an appointed lawyer. Judge Tom Walsh will rule on defendants' motion to dismiss and the plaintiffs' motion for class certification. Resignation letter excerpts.

* Thompson: "It's the right thing. It's the right decision. ... I have to tell you, I have cried more over this decision than anything else. ... Truly, I love the public defender's office. I'm leaving with a heavy heart."

* CJ Ziegler: "Kelli not only effectively advocated for the public defender's office, but she has been a steadfast defender of constitutional rights for those in need of legal services. Job well done, Kelli!"

* Justice Dallet: "I think she loves her job but I also know that Kelli has done the work of training the next generation and has ensured it will be in good hands when she leaves."

* ex-county CJ Triggiano: "She's a dear friend. We've brainstormed the pandemic and backlogs together. It's going to be an incredible loss for that office and it will be interesting to see what she does next. She has a big heart."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/public-defender-kelli-thompson-reflects-on-12-years-overseeing-agency/70787632007/>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Exclusive: One-on-one sit down with U.S. Education Sec. Miguel Cardona ... Cardona toured Vel Phillips Memorial High School on Thursday. 3 Qs&As

* Cardona: "... this bus trip is really to promote our "Raise the Bar," lead the world strategy, where we're focusing on our plan to improve education across our country. It engages families that engages educators around academic excellence, mental health support for students, and really being innovative and giving them more opportunities - not only for college, but also for careers that exist. We also focus on making sure fixing a broken loan system and making higher education more accessible and more affordable to our students. Imagine if we unlock the potential of our country by opening doors to college for more students we'll be in better shape."

<https://www.channel3000.com/ada26f46-4dda-11ee-b0a7-cb970644c911.html>

- 5 Republican child care bills aim to improve daycare shortage by loosening some restrictions on providers, At public hearing, some say they worry teen workers, higher adult-to-child ratios, could worsen care. Testimony highlights.

<https://www.wpr.org/5-republican-child-care-bills-aim-improve-daycare-shortage-loosening-some-restrictions-providers>

- Bus driver shortage means some Waukesha students don't even get picked up until after school starts

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/09/07/waukesha-parents-concerned-about-bus-driver-shortage/70765086007/>

- What is the benefit of breakfast on school performance? ... article from the Frontiers in Human Neuroscience cites multiple studies which demonstrate that eating breakfast does have a positive effect on students. ... [ECSD's Smith] said that on top of breakfast improving academic performance, it can also improve mood.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/b7b5e3da-4db4-11ee-ae0e-fb610833a1ea.html>

- Evers visits Northwestern High School ... part of the governor's statewide Back to School tour. ... first gubernatorial visit to the Maple School District ... sat down at a lunch table to quiz seniors Lily Mickus, Grace Udeen, Jalynn Tuura, Ava Anderson and Jade Stillson about their career plans. ... felt a return to normalcy following the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, he said, there's been "a lot of good energy, no matter where I've been, small towns, big towns, small districts, big districts."... asked how the state can address the current teacher shortage. "We're not going to be able to replace teachers with widgets, and so it is important that we continue to encourage people, and one of the ways to do that is to provide teachers with the respect they deserve," Evers said. ... talked about the need to support and grow child care ... "I have a proposal out there for \$17 million dollars and we can afford it, and we should be using that to prop up and support our child care industry in the state of Wisconsin," Evers

said. Students, school officials comment.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/wisconsin-gov-tony-evers-visits-northwestern-high-school>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- WI's suicide numbers have reached historically high levels for the 2nd year in a row ... CDC is funding 24 jurisdictions, including Wisconsin, through its comprehensive suicide prevention program, with the goal of reducing the nation's suicide numbers by 20% by 2025. On Wednesday, Gov. Tony Evers announced that his office and [DHS] were joining the effort to reduce suicide among two at-risk populations [rural men 25+, adolescents 10-19] by 10% over the next five years. "I declared 2023 the Year of Mental Health because we cannot overstate the profound impact the past few years have had on our kids, families, and communities, and we know that Wisconsinites across our state are struggling perhaps now more than ever," Evers said in Wednesday's press release.

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2023/09/08/gov-tony-evers-plans-to-reduce-suicide-numbers-by-10-over-5-years/70779845007/>

LABOR [^top^](#)

- Democrats push an agenda to restore worker rights, Proposals face uphill battle, but backers say they show what they stand for: Rep. Shankland led presser for 10-bill collection Thursday to enshrine workers' rights in state law after a decade and a half of measures rolling back those rights. ... pointed to union organizing, activism and contract fights at Colectivo and Starbucks coffee shops, Leinenkugel brewery and UPS as well as the prospect of a looming job action by the UAW ... "Right now, union popularity is soaring, with seven out of 10 Americans having a positive view of labor unions, because labor unions are getting real results that improve both the economic and safety conditions for the workers they represent," Shankland said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/democrats-push-an-agenda-to-restore>

- The four-day workweek gains another prominent champion ... UAW President Shawn Fain laid out a 32-hour workweek as one of the many proposals for a new contract with the largest three American auto manufacturers, as well as a 40% increase in pay, boosted pensions and other items. The union already authorized a strike, and the contract runs out Sept. 14. ... A new survey by Bankrate found 81% of American workers support a four-day workweek and, of those, 54% would work longer hours to get it, according to the survey. About 37% would change jobs or industries and 10% would take a pay cut. About 27% would even stay in the office more. ... In March, Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif., introduced legislation that would alter the standard workweek from 40 hours to 32 hours, phased in over a three-year period. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., has also recently highlighted the four-day workweek. ... Pennsylvania state Rep. G. Roni Green working to introduce legislation that would reduce the official workweek for businesses with more than 500 employees to 32 hours without a reduction in pay. ... 4 Day Week Global has already completed several pilots involving the four-day workweek.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/09/08/four-day-work-week-pay-compensation-union-uaw.html>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Appeals court affirms circuit court decision in jail transfer dispute ... Because Jeremy Alquist completed his jail sentence before the first appeal brief was even filed, the issue is moot, the appeals court ruled Wednesday.

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/appeals-court-affirms-circuit-court-decision-in-jail-transfer-dispute/>

- Sexual assault survivors can now track their rape kits in most states, Public criticism about kit backlogs spurs push for more transparency.

<https://stateline.org/2023/09/08/sexual-assault-survivors-can-now-track-their-rape-kits-in-most-states/>

MEDIA [^top^](#)

- 'Convicting a Murderer,' DailyWire+ docuseries on Steven Avery case, premieres Friday ... will premiere Friday on X, formerly Twitter, beginning at 8 p.m. Central ... remain available to anyone on the platform "indefinitely."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/07/convicting-a-murderer-series-on-steven-avery-case-premieres-friday/70786913007/>

MILITARY [^top^](#)

- Bong Center staff confront stolen valor incident, An email, an expert and a piece of paper helped unravel a false Vietnam tale. ... resulted in a new policy requiring proof of military service for every program, donation, display and volunteer.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/bong-center-staff-confront-stolen-valor-incident>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- YWCA Rock County seeking nominations for 2023 Dorothy Height Diversity in the Workplace Award

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/ea53a888-d516-586e-bffc-cc1007427767.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Waukesha Celebrates Completing Milwaukee Water Pipeline, \$286M project will provide [radium-]safe water for suburban community, revenue for Milwaukee. ... "Milwaukee water was the right choice because of its closer connection, low rates and capacity. Just as important, Milwaukee is a national leader in ensuring safe drinking water. There is no better water," said Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly during a ceremony Thursday afternoon inside the new Waukesha Booster Pumping Station ... water will start flowing between Sept. 14 and 18 said Waukesha Water [guru] Duchniak, who [emceed] the event [and culminated 21-yr search for radium-free replacement water] ... "It's safe to say I didn't know what I was getting into 20 years ago," said Duchniak. ... "It's a partnership that has led us to today's celebration and I look forward to more partnerships, more working together and more celebrations," said Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Reilly and his Waukesha colleagues. Reilly also endorsed more future collaboration between the cities. ... "We are here because Jennifer Abele delivered results," said Johnson, praising the former city lobbyist and Milwaukee Water Works superintendent, who is widely credited with

negotiating the deal from the Milwaukee side. ... Waukesha is to pay Milwaukee at least \$3.2M/yr for the water and already made a \$2.5M one-time payment. The annual payments will rise to \$4.5M if Waukesha uses the full 8.2M gallons the deal allows, with an additional escalator available. Waukesha Exec. Farrow, WCBA's Kelley, Carroll prof. Piatt also spoke. Audience included US Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Allen, Water Works dir. Pauly, ex-Water Worksters Dettmer and Abele. Details and pics.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/waukesha-celebrates-completing-milwaukee>

- Construction for project to bring Lake Michigan water to Waukesha now complete, City will make switch to Lake Michigan water in coming days: Great Water Alliance groundbreaking ceremony Thursday, project details. Waukesha Mayor Reilly, water guru Duchniak, DNR's Elmore comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/construction-project-bring-lake-michigan-water-waukesha-now-complete>

- FDNY firefighters who were at Ground Zero on 9/11 to speak at Oshkosh's EAA Aviation Museum, Matt Nelson, Charles Blaich and Steven San Filippo were veteran members of the department who were on duty on 9/11.

<https://www.thenorthwestern.com/story/news/local/2023/09/06/fdny-firefighters-who-were-at-911-to-speak-in-oshkosh-at-eaa-aviation-museum/70731866007/>

- US Military Firefighters Grapple With Unknowns of PFAS Exposure ... Defense Department is interested in the outcomes of ongoing health studies by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry as well as toxicology assessments by the [EPA] and noted that the Pentagon supported the testicular cancer study by allowing use of the Department of Defense Serum Repository and including it in the Pentagon's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. ... not requested by the Pentagon in its annual budget, but instead are supported by extra money that Congress gives the department to manage research projects that members deem necessary to advance medical science and promote the health of the armed forces.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/like-a-russian-roulette-us-military>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- Leaders celebrate Couture's progress, workforce development ... soon to be Wisconsin's tallest residential building, local and national officials gathered Thursday to celebrate the progress on the building, the construction career pipeline it creates and what it all means for the future of Milwaukee. Building's core is built up to floor 33, floor decks to floor 30, precast panels up to 21, glass is at 16, inwall plumbing at level 10 and drywall level at eight, adding, on average, one floor per week. \$104.5M of estimated \$191M cost came from the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, which owns the main construction loan for the project - HIT's largest investment in its history.

* NABTU's McGarvey: "Behind me is a symphony. When you see the men and women who are building that building, it's some of the greatest music ever played."

* Findorff's Hornung: "We've put in hundreds of thousands of labor hours, with hundreds of thousands of labor hours to go. Over 38,000 yards of concrete have been poured to date."

* Developer Barrett: "As a Milwaukee guy, the crown jewel for me is The Couture," has created 2K+ construction-related jobs and, once completed, the project will create 150 permanent jobs.

* Mayor Johnson: "It doesn't matter if it's taking lead service lines out of the ground or adding peaks to our skyline, like we're seeing with The Couture, Milwaukee is on the upward swing. We're depending on the men and women in the unions to make that happen. ... It'll create stability in their lives, it'll create stability in the lives of their family, it'll create stability in their neighborhoods, which will create stability in our city. In the end, that helps us achieve the public safety that all of us want to see."

<https://biztimes.com/see-photos-leaders-celebrate-coutures-progress-workforce>

REGULATION [^top^](#)

- Should the DNR oversee all zoos? Activists and zoo owners disagree ... bill would allow privately owned zoos to forgo a license from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as long as it receives accreditation from the Zoological Association of America. A similar exemption is already in place for members of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association. Reviews Wed.'s Assembly committee hearing.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/zoo-owners-activists-square-off-over-dnr-oversight-for-private-zoos/70768235007/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- KISS' Gene Simmons visits Rhinelander to promote his Wisconsin-made vodka

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/kiss-gene-simmons-visits-rhinelander-to-promote-his-wisconsin-made-vodka/>

- Twisted Sister's Dee Snider to sign copies of new novel, 'Frats,' on morning after Friday concert with Bret Michaels ... at the Rock N Roll Land record store

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/entertainment/music/2023/09/07/twisted-sisters-dee-snider-to-sign-copies-of-his-new-book-on-saturday-after-concert-with-bret-michae/70786018007/>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Forest County Potawatomi embrace solar energy, spiritually and financially ... Since 2010, Hauber estimates, its solar panel installations and energy efficiency projects have saved the tribe 179 gigawatt hours of electricity and 3.594 million therms of natural gas, as well as prevented the emissions of 75,419 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. ... Potawatomi Casino Hotel in Milwaukee and the Wgema Campus, site of the former Concordia University in Milwaukee, were among the tribal buildings to undergo energy projects in recent years. Tribal government buildings in Forest County ... also have been reworked to improve energy efficiency.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/forest-county-potawatomi-embrace-solar-energy/70780397007/>

WORKPLACE SAFETY [^top^](#)

- USDOL fined Florence Hardwoods nearly \$200K following death of a teen this summer ... Officials found that at least three other children aged 15 and 16 were injured working for Florence Hardwoods between November 2021 and March 2023 --

one of those children was injured on two separate occasions. ... found the company employed nine underage workers 14-17 were illegally allowed to operate machinery. Seven were allowed to work outside legally permitted hours. ... "Any death of a child is too many," [Sec. Su] said. "That's why our Wage and Hour Division and Solicitor's Office took immediate steps to prevent the sale of 'hot goods' and to hold the company accountable for allowing children to perform hazardous and, in this case, deadly jobs. Illegal child labor is a stain on this country and will not be tolerated by this administration or this department."

<https://www.wpr.org/northern-wisconsin-sawmill-fined-nearly-200k-following-death-teen-summer>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: The most dangerous gas in America: Of late the globalist warming crowd has targeted the poor cow for the cause of the earth burning up before our very eyes. ... in the real world, there is no such thing as settled science, and scientific consensus was never meant to be taken as incontrovertible proof. ... It's all bunk, and the truth is out there if only people will look for it. Granted, it's hard to find sometimes. ... Nobel laureate John Clauser -- whose Nobel came just last year -- is trying to do just that by joining a growing group of scientific dissenters who say there is no climate crisis at all, at least not a human-made one. Clauser's dissent is the loudest and the latest, but the numbers are spiraling upward. ... If Nobel laureates can stand up and say the truth, so can presidential candidates. ... do it for all the poor maligned cows. Their moos are on the line, too.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/08/lakeland-times-our-view/>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Paul Fanlund: Stop blaming the mainstream media for Trump's resilience ... Through the years I have agreed with Bunch and Rubin -- believing that false equivalencies and so-called "bothsidesism" have been significant problems for American journalism, resulting in overheated coverage of Hillary Clinton's emails and Hunter Biden's legal problems. It is just that I think there actually is a lot of journalism in 2023 that identifies and labels lies and threats to our democracy. I think the national media did learn lessons from normalizing Trump's 2016 campaign. ... I actually think the media does do two things at once -- reporting the news of the day, some of it horse-race politics, while also exploring larger themes and trends about fascism, authoritarianism, racism and the many signs of climate catastrophe. ... Again, to me the biggest problem is that too many Americans, the ones who believe the distortions of Fox News and its even more extreme brethren, apparently are unwilling to read or listen to any serious journalism. When we figure out a way to get more people to listen, we may get somewhere.

<https://captimes.com/7ae82482-ee66-52a1-beb8-2534a9c3189c.html>

- John Nichols: The Wisconsin GOP's New Attack on Democracy Is Extreme Even for Them, Conservatives lost control of Wisconsin's Supreme Court with April's election of Justice Janet Protasiewicz. Now, they're scheming to impeach her.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/wisconsin-gop-supreme-court-impeachment/>

- Scott Walker: Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz must recuse herself in redistricting case: Wisconsin lawmakers are considering a potential vote on impeaching the newest member of the state Supreme Court.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/sep/7/wisconsin-supreme-court-justice-janet-protasiewicz/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Expect Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz to be impeached ... liberals could harness that anger to recall one or more of the conservative justices. That takes 340,000 signatures, but reproductive rights is a powerful motivator. Vos may fear that backlash or get enough pushback from national Republicans to back down from his threat. We'll see. But right now it looks to me like we're headed for impeachment.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/expect-justice-protasiewicz-to-be-impeached/>

- Dave Zweifel: Falling vaccination rates threaten our schools

<https://captimes.com/8e47bda4-cffa-581b-b6fa-c1e6a741a56a.html>

- Patrick McIlheran: DPI 'equity' speakers talk revolution; Wisconsin parents just want their kids to be able to read: If the system's so rotten, why shouldn't kids escape?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/equity-speakers-talk-of-revolution-wisconsin-parents-just-want-their-kids-to-read/>

- Rocketship WI's Kadeem Gill: More Special Education Funding Is Needed, State covers only 33% of the costs. That must be increased.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/op-ed-more-special-education-funding>

- Mike Nichols: The Journal Sentinel gets its comeuppance: Local paper's smear of Moms for Liberty noted in Wall Street Journal.

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/the-journal-sentinel-gets-its-comeuppance/>

- Ex-UWSP Foundation Pres. Bruce Froehlke: Story on Wisconsin alcohol addiction omits AA resources ... there was one remarkable element in the Wisconsin Watch report: the absence of Alcoholics Anonymous in its recommendations for treatment. ... [on United Way/DHS website] Under addiction recovery, one can explore treatment options, which funnels people to clinics, treatment centers and county health service offices. Nowhere is Alcoholics Anonymous (or Narcotics Anonymous) mentioned.

<https://captimes.com/6d056ca0-13eb-5769-9cc9-12ba4c8a8c55.html>

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From: WisPolitics.com
To: [Dye, Jenni N - GOV](#)
Subject: FRI News Summary: Revised GOP-backed income tax cut advances through Assembly committee as Evers promises veto
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:41:46 AM

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FRI News Summary -- 8 Sept. 2023

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<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/fri-news-summary-revised-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-advances-through-assembly-committee-as-evers-promises-veto/>

STORY TOPICS

- [White house](#)
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TOP STORIES

Lawmakers advance GOP-backed income tax cut, but Evers promises to veto ...

The proposal would expand retirement exemptions and cut taxes by nearly 1% for WI's third income tax bracket ... "100 percent of this money is going to folks that need it the most," Macco, who chairs Wisconsin's Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, said of the proposal. ... "We have the money today, but I don't I don't have the confidence that we're going to have the money in three years," [W&M Dem Conley] said. "And I just think this needs more time to be vetted more deeply." ... "I'm not going to sign an irresponsible Republican tax cut that jeopardizes our state's financial stability well into the future and the investments we need to be making today to address the real, pressing challenges facing our state." Evers posted to social media on Wednesday. ... "The \$2.9 billion goes directly back to the people for an overpayment that was made, returning their surplus," [sponsor Steffen] said. "We will still have a billion dollars of surplus to discuss options further into the session, to discuss what are some mutually agreed upon priorities." Rep. Ohnstad-D joined GOP advancing the bill, but

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could change his mind on final passage, "I do have concerns about the sustainability of this tax cut," Ohnstad said. "But I also recognize that ... people in my district make 80% of what the median income is in the state of Wisconsin, and I also have thousands of retirees that are in my district." ... [also] voted along party lines to advance a ballot proposal that seeks to amend Wisconsin's Constitution to ... mandate approval by a two-thirds majority of the state Legislature in order to increase income, sales or franchise taxes in the future. By Lehr, WPR
<https://www.wpr.org/lawmakers-advance-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-evers-promises-veto>

GOP threatens to impeach justice over Dem donations, but conservatives also took GOP cash

... [Hagedorn and Bradley took RPW donations] totaling roughly \$150,000 and \$70,000 respectively. ... Karofsky's campaign [got \$1.3M+ from DPW. Kelly got \$1.2M+ from RPW, RNC]. ... Conservative majorities in the court approved rules [written in part by donor WMC, which spent \$2M electing now-CJ Ziegler and \$1.8M electing then-justice Gableman] allowing justices to hear cases involving their campaign donors in 2010 and rejected [retired judges'] request for clearer recusal standards in 2017. Protasiewicz vowed recusal on cases brought by DPW, but DPW did not bring the redistricting cases - though DPW stands to benefit from rulings. None of the sitting justices responded on whether they would recuse from cases involving their campaign supporters, none recused from last year's redistricting cases. Reviews WI maps' reputation for being gerrymandered, expanded GOP majorities despite losing statewide, Protasiewicz's 11-point win, "rigged" and "unfair" comments. Ziegler and Gableman did not recuse in WMC cases. Ziegler as county judge rule on cases involving her husband's bank and companies in which she held stock. Justice Bradley wrote incredulous opinion rejecting the 2017 request for recusal standards on donors' cases, but she blasted Protasiewicz for not recusing on restricting case that could help donor DPW.
 * CC/WI's Heck: "It's what I call selective outrage. It's incredibly hypocritical," noted was no GOP outrage when conservative justices heard numerous cases over the years involving their conservative donors, "The rules and parameters of recusal were put in place by the conservatives and by the Republicans. If they don't like the way the situation is now, all they have to do is look at their own behavior."

* Assembly Majority Leader August was asked if conservative justices should recuse from redistricting cases over taking RPW donations, "We're talking about this case, this justice, and I'll leave it at that." By Bauer, Venhuizen AP
<https://apnews.com/f1d1dfd476325a00e9b99d4735b4b5ee>

Rep. Dave Murphy questions whether UW-Madison complying with affirmative action admissions ban

... During a three-hour public hearing before the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities, GOP lawmakers held up copies of heavily redacted admissions criteria obtained from UW-Madison through an open records request and accused the university of not being transparent ... [UW's] Potts said the university had offered to let [chair Murphy, Senate chair Hutton] review the documents in person, cited "shared goal that we would not unintentionally provide an advantage to elected officials in their knowledge of our admissions process for their particular constituents to benefit from."

* Murphy: "That is the most ridiculous answer I have ever heard! I can't believe you're talking about advantaging legislators by letting them know what this criteria is about. We are the committee that has oversight over your agency!" asked Potts how lawmakers can know UW-Madison is "following the Supreme Court's [affirmative action] decision ... if there's no transparency, then that's pretty difficult to do."

* Potts: "the goal is to follow the law and being in compliance with the law."

* co-sponsor Rep. O'Connor said the guaranteed admissions legislation "could be labeled as an anti-DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) bill. ... I don't care about DEI in this situation. This is simply about not discriminating against the best of the best coming out of our high schools."

... would require state colleges and universities to admit high school graduates students in the top five percent of their class, it would be up to high school administrators to decide how to rank them. Rep. Wittke questioned 421 arbitrary class rankings. FdL Supt Fleig supported bill, suggested adding ranking criteria. UW prof. Odle study found offering direct admission to students, particularly those from minority groups and lower-income families, boosted applications but didn't impact enrollment. By Kremer, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-rep-dave-murphy-questions-whether-uw-madison-complying-affirmative-action-admissions-ban>

Senate chief clerk Queensland placed on administrative leave pending investigation

... chief clerk is a nonpartisan officer elected by the full Senate every two years. ... oversees the administration and record-keeping for the state Senate as well as serving as parliamentarian and chief operating officer. ... paid \$141,000 per year. ... "This is a personnel matter," Radday [for LeMahieu] said. "I can't comment further." LeMahieu said same. Queensland was not immediately available. Queensland's access to state buildings was revoked on Aug. 23 at the request Senate Sergeant at Arms Engel. GOP

source said GOP senators were told that Queensland was on leave pending investigation, not to ask questions about the situation or to take calls from Queensland, who was formerly Legis Council senior staff attorney. By Bice, Beck MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/07/wisconsin-senate-chief-clerk-placed-on-leave-pending-investigation/70785605007/>

Prosecutors charge WI man of assaulting officer during Jan. 6 attack at US Capitol

... Joseph Cattani, 40, of Colgate ... arrested Thursday in Wisconsin and charged in federal court in Washington, D.C. ... faces two felony counts of civil disorder and assaulting officers. ... misdemeanor counts of entering and remaining in a restricted building, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and demonstrating in a Capitol building. ... Online court records didn't list an attorney for him. ... Law enforcement officers have arrested more than 1,146 people across the country in connection with the incident at the Capitol. About 400 of them have been charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement. By AP

<https://apnews.com/162ff04360375a75549273d2b56d70cd>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Trump rallies with SD Gov. Noem, Allies hope is a VP tryout

<https://lacrossetribune.com/90d66dba-b56e-50c4-a256-5db7b9d6d325.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Pay raises for Wisconsin state employees still awaiting legislative approval ... On July 31, [DOA sent JCOER, who sent to LFB] a proposed pay plan to implement the [\$422M budget-funded] raises. ... [LFB] typically waits for the bureau to analyze a pay plan before adopting it, something that hasn't happened yet. In the past, the fiscal bureau has taken around a month to finish its review. ... Asked whether the committee might alter the plan, [JCOER member Born] said, "It's likely we will try to make sure we implement the things that we did in the budget." JCOER co-chair Kapenga did not respond. [LFB declined comment.] Reviews budget raise provisions.

<https://madison.com/cab2f9c2-4cc5-11ee-8cfc-6ba9a4d4dc30.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sup. Tony Staskunas Won't Seek Re-Election, The West Allis supervisor has served on the board since 2013: when he left the state Assembly, enabling Supv. Sanfelippo to run for Assembly.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/mke-county-sup-tony-staskunas-wont-seek>

- Vilas County judge rules election re-do for Presque Isle town chair, How the special election will be administered leaves questions yet to be answered ... The ruling comes roughly four months after [ex-town chair] MacLean filed a notice of an appeal of recount seven days after an April 12 recount that reaffirmed [ex-clerk] Walters's one-vote victory -- 242-241 -- in the April 4 election. ... it was found that Walters's son Jim had been working on town computers off-site at his Michigan-based tech company for the last 20 years. ... judge Martha Milanowski ordered a special election ... during an oral ruling lasting about an hour on Aug. 31 in Eagle River.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/05/vilas-county-judge-rules-election-re-do-for-presque-isle-town-chair/>

- ECC Admin. Schauf comments on conclusion of DHS investigation ... ready to move forward and put an investigation of the Department of Human Services finances behind them, after the board opted Tuesday to not take any action regarding her leadership.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/1fa438aa-4cf4-11ee-b57b-8767b1b1f6d0.html>

BANKING AND INVESTMENT [^top^](#)

- Reedsburg lawyer stole \$1.6M from client's trust to pay for home improvements, 2 trucks and a tractor ... Judge William M. Conley on Thursday ordered Kristin Lein, 61, to serve 45 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. She pleaded guilty in June

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/wisconsin-lawyer-gets-prison-time-for-embezzling-1-million-from-trust/70789951007/>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court, in public hearing, weighs eviction records ... Legal Action of Wisconsin ... asked the state Supreme Court in March 2022 to change court rules [re: 20-yr eviction record retention] ... records are retained regardless of whether an eviction was granted. Many landlords can access these records online ... to help "more Wisconsin families find and maintain safe and affordable rental housing." ... Once someone has an eviction on their record, there's not a lot that can be done to remove the record, according to Madison's Tenant Resource Center. ... Legal Action requested a similar change in 2021 that was not adopted because then-Director of State Courts Randy Koschnick determined a new record-retention policy would be too burdensome ... [despite furor over Protasiewicz recusal/impeachment, liberal court majority firing Koschnick and limiting CJ powers,] justices appeared cordial Thursday in the state Capitol hearing room as they questioned attorneys and listened to two hours of testimony advocating both for and against granting the rule change.

* LAW's Ayers: "It's the court's obligation to somehow use its power for good and, in this case, we believe that that is scrubbing these records. We're talking about human decency here, as well as court process. Individuals are just trying to access housing, which is a basic human right, and this will be impactful."

* UW Law Eviction Defense Clinic's Kube: "The stories we heard over and over and over again were varying degrees of, 'I got the five-day notice and I vacated. I had no idea this was on my record.' It is, 'I got evicted one time because I had an emergency expense for my child. I've had a perfect rental history since and this 8-year-old record

is still impeding me from finding housing."

* landlord groups atty. Giese: "Landlords, knowing that they won't have good access to somebody's past business record, are going to have to raise the security deposit, double it perhaps to be sure they're going to get their rent paid. They're going to have to engage in a tighter screening for those tenants. That's going to hurt tenants, especially tenants who have never been evicted. It's also going to hurt the small landlords. ... In these big counties like Dane and Milwaukee, there is a form you fill out where you check a box if you've been evicted or not, and that is the end of the story."

* Justice Hagedorn: "It just feels to me like you're making a really dramatic policy argument that is asking us to favor certain folks over others and proposing to hide information from the public, including those who would have a pretty reasonable interest in that information when making business decisions."

* LAW's Lundin: "What makes eviction records different from other court records, including criminal records, is that they impact a basic human need of having shelter. ... We're only asking that the state not be the one to put this information out there. There are plenty of private market solutions to this that landlords have come up with."

* Dane Co Clerk of Courts Esqueda: "We had 1,700 eviction cases (in Dane County) filed so far this year. I wouldn't be surprised if the vast majority of those wound up having sealing and redaction motions filed on them," the only way to complete the rule change would be to consider "the nuclear option": taking down CCAP altogether.

* Ayers acknowledged administrative burden, "We also believe that there should be a balancing test and when it ultimately comes down to it, we look at equity and what is fairest. ... If we have to take a step back, we believe that at a minimum not having free access online could be (a) potential."

<https://captimes.com/d7e6660e-1e6c-54c2-9c74-51a0ff5fa6d2.html>

- New Wisconsin Supreme Court meets for first time in hearing on eviction records rule change

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/07/new-wisconsin-supreme-court-meets-for>

- State Public Defender Kelli Thompson reflects on 12 years overseeing agency ... revealed she'll resign effective Oct. 9 in as low-key a way as possible. There was a press announcement and letter released Sept. 1 ... deputy, Katie York [will serve interim], with the board conducting a search to fill the position on a full-time basis. In August 2022, a suit filed in Green Bay alleged Evers, PD have violated constitutional rights of thousands of indigent criminal defendants who have waited weeks and months for an appointed lawyer. Judge Tom Walsh will rule on defendants' motion to dismiss and the plaintiffs' motion for class certification. Resignation letter excerpts.

* Thompson: "It's the right thing. It's the right decision. ... I have to tell you, I have cried more over this decision than anything else. ... Truly, I love the public defender's office. I'm leaving with a heavy heart."

* CJ Ziegler: "Kelli not only effectively advocated for the public defender's office, but she has been a steadfast defender of constitutional rights for those in need of legal services. Job well done, Kelli!"

* Justice Dallet: "I think she loves her job but I also know that Kelli has done the work of training the next generation and has ensured it will be in good hands when she leaves."

* ex-county CJ Triggiano: "She's a dear friend. We've brainstormed the pandemic and backlogs together. It's going to be an incredible loss for that office and it will be interesting to see what she does next. She has a big heart."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/public-defender-kelli-thompson-reflects-on-12-years-overseeing-agency/70787632007/>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Exclusive: One-on-one sit down with U.S. Education Sec. Miguel Cardona ... Cardona toured Vel Phillips Memorial High School on Thursday. 3 Qs&As

* Cardona: "... this bus trip is really to promote our "Raise the Bar," lead the world strategy, where we're focusing on our plan to improve education across our country. It engages families that engages educators around academic excellence, mental health support for students, and really being innovative and giving them more opportunities - not only for college, but also for careers that exist. We also focus on making sure fixing a broken loan system and making higher education more accessible and more affordable to our students. Imagine if we unlock the potential of our country by opening doors to college for more students we'll be in better shape."

<https://www.channel3000.com/ada26f46-4dda-11ee-b0a7-cb970644c911.html>

- 5 Republican child care bills aim to improve daycare shortage by loosening some restrictions on providers, At public hearing, some say they worry teen workers, higher adult-to-child ratios, could worsen care. Testimony highlights.

<https://www.wpr.org/5-republican-child-care-bills-aim-improve-daycare-shortage-loosening-some-restrictions-providers>

- Bus driver shortage means some Waukesha students don't even get picked up until after school starts

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/09/07/waukesha-parents-concerned-about-bus-driver-shortage/70765086007/>

- What is the benefit of breakfast on school performance? ... article from the Frontiers in Human Neuroscience cites multiple studies which demonstrate that eating breakfast does have a positive effect on students. ... [ECSD's Smith] said that on top of breakfast improving academic performance, it can also improve mood.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/b7b5e3da-4db4-11ee-ae0e-fb610833a1ea.html>

- Evers visits Northwestern High School ... part of the governor's statewide Back to School tour. ... first gubernatorial visit to the Maple School District ... sat down at a lunch table to quiz seniors Lily Mickus, Grace Udeen, Jalynn Tuura, Ava Anderson and Jade Stillson about their career plans. ... felt a return to normalcy following the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, he said, there's been "a lot of good energy, no matter where I've been, small towns, big towns, small districts, big districts."... asked how the state can address the current teacher shortage. "We're not going to be able to replace teachers with widgets, and so it is important that we continue to encourage people, and one of the ways to do that is to provide teachers with the respect they deserve," Evers said. ... talked about the need to support and grow child care ... "I have a proposal out there for \$17 million dollars and we can afford it, and we should be using that to prop up and support our child care industry in the state of Wisconsin," Evers

said. Students, school officials comment.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/wisconsin-gov-tony-evers-visits-northwestern-high-school>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- WI's suicide numbers have reached historically high levels for the 2nd year in a row ... CDC is funding 24 jurisdictions, including Wisconsin, through its comprehensive suicide prevention program, with the goal of reducing the nation's suicide numbers by 20% by 2025. On Wednesday, Gov. Tony Evers announced that his office and [DHS] were joining the effort to reduce suicide among two at-risk populations [rural men 25+, adolescents 10-19] by 10% over the next five years. "I declared 2023 the Year of Mental Health because we cannot overstate the profound impact the past few years have had on our kids, families, and communities, and we know that Wisconsinites across our state are struggling perhaps now more than ever," Evers said in Wednesday's press release.

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2023/09/08/gov-tony-evers-plans-to-reduce-suicide-numbers-by-10-over-5-years/70779845007/>

LABOR [^top^](#)

- Democrats push an agenda to restore worker rights, Proposals face uphill battle, but backers say they show what they stand for: Rep. Shankland led presser for 10-bill collection Thursday to enshrine workers' rights in state law after a decade and a half of measures rolling back those rights. ... pointed to union organizing, activism and contract fights at Colectivo and Starbucks coffee shops, Leinenkugel brewery and UPS as well as the prospect of a looming job action by the UAW ... "Right now, union popularity is soaring, with seven out of 10 Americans having a positive view of labor unions, because labor unions are getting real results that improve both the economic and safety conditions for the workers they represent," Shankland said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/democrats-push-an-agenda-to-restore>

- The four-day workweek gains another prominent champion ... UAW President Shawn Fain laid out a 32-hour workweek as one of the many proposals for a new contract with the largest three American auto manufacturers, as well as a 40% increase in pay, boosted pensions and other items. The union already authorized a strike, and the contract runs out Sept. 14. ... A new survey by Bankrate found 81% of American workers support a four-day workweek and, of those, 54% would work longer hours to get it, according to the survey. About 37% would change jobs or industries and 10% would take a pay cut. About 27% would even stay in the office more. ... In March, Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif., introduced legislation that would alter the standard workweek from 40 hours to 32 hours, phased in over a three-year period. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., has also recently highlighted the four-day workweek. ... Pennsylvania state Rep. G. Roni Green working to introduce legislation that would reduce the official workweek for businesses with more than 500 employees to 32 hours without a reduction in pay. ... 4 Day Week Global has already completed several pilots involving the four-day workweek.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/09/08/four-day-work-week-pay-compensation-union-uaw.html>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Appeals court affirms circuit court decision in jail transfer dispute ... Because Jeremy Alquist completed his jail sentence before the first appeal brief was even filed, the issue is moot, the appeals court ruled Wednesday.

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/appeals-court-affirms-circuit-court-decision-in-jail-transfer-dispute/>

- Sexual assault survivors can now track their rape kits in most states, Public criticism about kit backlogs spurs push for more transparency.

<https://stateline.org/2023/09/08/sexual-assault-survivors-can-now-track-their-rape-kits-in-most-states/>

MEDIA [^top^](#)

- 'Convicting a Murderer,' DailyWire+ docuseries on Steven Avery case, premieres Friday ... will premiere Friday on X, formerly Twitter, beginning at 8 p.m. Central ... remain available to anyone on the platform "indefinitely."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/07/convicting-a-murderer-series-on-steven-avery-case-premieres-friday/70786913007/>

MILITARY [^top^](#)

- Bong Center staff confront stolen valor incident, An email, an expert and a piece of paper helped unravel a false Vietnam tale. ... resulted in a new policy requiring proof of military service for every program, donation, display and volunteer.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/bong-center-staff-confront-stolen-valor-incident>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- YWCA Rock County seeking nominations for 2023 Dorothy Height Diversity in the Workplace Award

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/ea53a888-d516-586e-bffc-cc1007427767.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Waukesha Celebrates Completing Milwaukee Water Pipeline, \$286M project will provide [radium-]safe water for suburban community, revenue for Milwaukee. ... "Milwaukee water was the right choice because of its closer connection, low rates and capacity. Just as important, Milwaukee is a national leader in ensuring safe drinking water. There is no better water," said Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly during a ceremony Thursday afternoon inside the new Waukesha Booster Pumping Station ... water will start flowing between Sept. 14 and 18 said Waukesha Water [guru] Duchniak, who [emceed] the event [and culminated 21-yr search for radium-free replacement water] ... "It's safe to say I didn't know what I was getting into 20 years ago," said Duchniak. ... "It's a partnership that has led us to today's celebration and I look forward to more partnerships, more working together and more celebrations," said Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Reilly and his Waukesha colleagues. Reilly also endorsed more future collaboration between the cities. ... "We are here because Jennifer Abele delivered results," said Johnson, praising the former city lobbyist and Milwaukee Water Works superintendent, who is widely credited with

negotiating the deal from the Milwaukee side. ... Waukesha is to pay Milwaukee at least \$3.2M/yr for the water and already made a \$2.5M one-time payment. The annual payments will rise to \$4.5M if Waukesha uses the full 8.2M gallons the deal allows, with an additional escalator available. Waukesha Exec. Farrow, WCBA's Kelley, Carroll prof. Piatt also spoke. Audience included US Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Allen, Water Works dir. Pauly, ex-Water Worksters Dettmer and Abele. Details and pics.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/waukesha-celebrates-completing-milwaukee>

- Construction for project to bring Lake Michigan water to Waukesha now complete, City will make switch to Lake Michigan water in coming days: Great Water Alliance groundbreaking ceremony Thursday, project details. Waukesha Mayor Reilly, water guru Duchniak, DNR's Elmore comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/construction-project-bring-lake-michigan-water-waukesha-now-complete>

- FDNY firefighters who were at Ground Zero on 9/11 to speak at Oshkosh's EAA Aviation Museum, Matt Nelson, Charles Blaich and Steven San Filippo were veteran members of the department who were on duty on 9/11.

<https://www.thenorthwestern.com/story/news/local/2023/09/06/fdny-firefighters-who-were-at-911-to-speak-in-oshkosh-at-eaa-aviation-museum/70731866007/>

- US Military Firefighters Grapple With Unknowns of PFAS Exposure ... Defense Department is interested in the outcomes of ongoing health studies by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry as well as toxicology assessments by the [EPA] and noted that the Pentagon supported the testicular cancer study by allowing use of the Department of Defense Serum Repository and including it in the Pentagon's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. ... not requested by the Pentagon in its annual budget, but instead are supported by extra money that Congress gives the department to manage research projects that members deem necessary to advance medical science and promote the health of the armed forces.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/like-a-russian-roulette-us-military>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- Leaders celebrate Couture's progress, workforce development ... soon to be Wisconsin's tallest residential building, local and national officials gathered Thursday to celebrate the progress on the building, the construction career pipeline it creates and what it all means for the future of Milwaukee. Building's core is built up to floor 33, floor decks to floor 30, precast panels up to 21, glass is at 16, inwall plumbing at level 10 and drywall level at eight, adding, on average, one floor per week. \$104.5M of estimated \$191M cost came from the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, which owns the main construction loan for the project - HIT's largest investment in its history.

* NABTU's McGarvey: "Behind me is a symphony. When you see the men and women who are building that building, it's some of the greatest music ever played."

* Findorff's Hornung: "We've put in hundreds of thousands of labor hours, with hundreds of thousands of labor hours to go. Over 38,000 yards of concrete have been poured to date."

* Developer Barrett: "As a Milwaukee guy, the crown jewel for me is The Couture," has created 2K+ construction-related jobs and, once completed, the project will create 150 permanent jobs.

* Mayor Johnson: "It doesn't matter if it's taking lead service lines out of the ground or adding peaks to our skyline, like we're seeing with The Couture, Milwaukee is on the upward swing. We're depending on the men and women in the unions to make that happen. ... It'll create stability in their lives, it'll create stability in the lives of their family, it'll create stability in their neighborhoods, which will create stability in our city. In the end, that helps us achieve the public safety that all of us want to see."

<https://biztimes.com/see-photos-leaders-celebrate-coutures-progress-workforce>

REGULATION [^top^](#)

- Should the DNR oversee all zoos? Activists and zoo owners disagree ... bill would allow privately owned zoos to forgo a license from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as long as it receives accreditation from the Zoological Association of America. A similar exemption is already in place for members of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association. Reviews Wed.'s Assembly committee hearing.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/zoo-owners-activists-square-off-over-dnr-oversight-for-private-zoos/70768235007/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- KISS' Gene Simmons visits Rhinelander to promote his Wisconsin-made vodka

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/kiss-gene-simmons-visits-rhinelander-to-promote-his-wisconsin-made-vodka/>

- Twisted Sister's Dee Snider to sign copies of new novel, 'Frats,' on morning after Friday concert with Bret Michaels ... at the Rock N Roll Land record store

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/entertainment/music/2023/09/07/twisted-sisters-dee-snider-to-sign-copies-of-his-new-book-on-saturday-after-concert-with-bret-michae/70786018007/>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Forest County Potawatomi embrace solar energy, spiritually and financially ... Since 2010, Hauber estimates, its solar panel installations and energy efficiency projects have saved the tribe 179 gigawatt hours of electricity and 3.594 million therms of natural gas, as well as prevented the emissions of 75,419 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. ... Potawatomi Casino Hotel in Milwaukee and the Wgema Campus, site of the former Concordia University in Milwaukee, were among the tribal buildings to undergo energy projects in recent years. Tribal government buildings in Forest County ... also have been reworked to improve energy efficiency.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/forest-county-potawatomi-embrace-solar-energy/70780397007/>

WORKPLACE SAFETY [^top^](#)

- USDOL fined Florence Hardwoods nearly \$200K following death of a teen this summer ... Officials found that at least three other children aged 15 and 16 were injured working for Florence Hardwoods between November 2021 and March 2023 --

one of those children was injured on two separate occasions. ... found the company employed nine underage workers 14-17 were illegally allowed to operate machinery. Seven were allowed to work outside legally permitted hours. ... "Any death of a child is too many," [Sec. Su] said. "That's why our Wage and Hour Division and Solicitor's Office took immediate steps to prevent the sale of 'hot goods' and to hold the company accountable for allowing children to perform hazardous and, in this case, deadly jobs. Illegal child labor is a stain on this country and will not be tolerated by this administration or this department."

<https://www.wpr.org/northern-wisconsin-sawmill-fined-nearly-200k-following-death-teen-summer>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: The most dangerous gas in America: Of late the globalist warming crowd has targeted the poor cow for the cause of the earth burning up before our very eyes. ... in the real world, there is no such thing as settled science, and scientific consensus was never meant to be taken as incontrovertible proof. ... It's all bunk, and the truth is out there if only people will look for it. Granted, it's hard to find sometimes. ... Nobel laureate John Clauser -- whose Nobel came just last year -- is trying to do just that by joining a growing group of scientific dissenters who say there is no climate crisis at all, at least not a human-made one. Clauser's dissent is the loudest and the latest, but the numbers are spiraling upward. ... If Nobel laureates can stand up and say the truth, so can presidential candidates. ... do it for all the poor maligned cows. Their moos are on the line, too.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/08/lakeland-times-our-view/>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Paul Fanlund: Stop blaming the mainstream media for Trump's resilience ... Through the years I have agreed with Bunch and Rubin -- believing that false equivalencies and so-called "bothsidesism" have been significant problems for American journalism, resulting in overheated coverage of Hillary Clinton's emails and Hunter Biden's legal problems. It is just that I think there actually is a lot of journalism in 2023 that identifies and labels lies and threats to our democracy. I think the national media did learn lessons from normalizing Trump's 2016 campaign. ... I actually think the media does do two things at once -- reporting the news of the day, some of it horse-race politics, while also exploring larger themes and trends about fascism, authoritarianism, racism and the many signs of climate catastrophe. ... Again, to me the biggest problem is that too many Americans, the ones who believe the distortions of Fox News and its even more extreme brethren, apparently are unwilling to read or listen to any serious journalism. When we figure out a way to get more people to listen, we may get somewhere.

<https://captimes.com/7ae82482-ee66-52a1-beb8-2534a9c3189c.html>

- John Nichols: The Wisconsin GOP's New Attack on Democracy Is Extreme Even for Them, Conservatives lost control of Wisconsin's Supreme Court with April's election of Justice Janet Protasiewicz. Now, they're scheming to impeach her.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/wisconsin-gop-supreme-court-impeachment/>

- Scott Walker: Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz must recuse herself in redistricting case: Wisconsin lawmakers are considering a potential vote on impeaching the newest member of the state Supreme Court.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/sep/7/wisconsin-supreme-court-justice-janet-protasiewicz/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Expect Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz to be impeached ... liberals could harness that anger to recall one or more of the conservative justices. That takes 340,000 signatures, but reproductive rights is a powerful motivator. Vos may fear that backlash or get enough pushback from national Republicans to back down from his threat. We'll see. But right now it looks to me like we're headed for impeachment.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/expect-justice-protasiewicz-to-be-impeached/>

- Dave Zweifel: Falling vaccination rates threaten our schools

<https://captimes.com/8e47bda4-cffa-581b-b6fa-c1e6a741a56a.html>

- Patrick McIlheran: DPI 'equity' speakers talk revolution; Wisconsin parents just want their kids to be able to read: If the system's so rotten, why shouldn't kids escape?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/equity-speakers-talk-of-revolution-wisconsin-parents-just-want-their-kids-to-read/>

- Rocketship WI's Kadeem Gill: More Special Education Funding Is Needed, State covers only 33% of the costs. That must be increased.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/op-ed-more-special-education-funding>

- Mike Nichols: The Journal Sentinel gets its comeuppance: Local paper's smear of Moms for Liberty noted in Wall Street Journal.

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/the-journal-sentinel-gets-its-comeuppance/>

- Ex-UWSP Foundation Pres. Bruce Froehlke: Story on Wisconsin alcohol addiction omits AA resources ... there was one remarkable element in the Wisconsin Watch report: the absence of Alcoholics Anonymous in its recommendations for treatment. ... [on United Way/DHS website] Under addiction recovery, one can explore treatment options, which funnels people to clinics, treatment centers and county health service offices. Nowhere is Alcoholics Anonymous (or Narcotics Anonymous) mentioned.

<https://captimes.com/6d056ca0-13eb-5769-9cc9-12ba4c8a8c55.html>

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From: WisPolitics.com
To: [Gau, Maggie M - GOV](#)
Subject: FRI News Summary: Revised GOP-backed income tax cut advances through Assembly committee as Evers promises veto
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:41:48 AM

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STORY TOPICS

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TOP STORIES

Lawmakers advance GOP-backed income tax cut, but Evers promises to veto ...

The proposal would expand retirement exemptions and cut taxes by nearly 1% for WI's third income tax bracket ... "100 percent of this money is going to folks that need it the most," Macco, who chairs Wisconsin's Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, said of the proposal. ... "We have the money today, but I don't I don't have the confidence that we're going to have the money in three years," [W&M Dem Conley] said. "And I just think this needs more time to be vetted more deeply." ... "I'm not going to sign an irresponsible Republican tax cut that jeopardizes our state's financial stability well into the future and the investments we need to be making today to address the real, pressing challenges facing our state." Evers posted to social media on Wednesday. ... "The \$2.9 billion goes directly back to the people for an overpayment that was made, returning their surplus," [sponsor Steffen] said. "We will still have a billion dollars of surplus to discuss options further into the session, to discuss what are some mutually agreed upon priorities." Rep. Ohnstad-D joined GOP advancing the bill, but

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could change his mind on final passage, "I do have concerns about the sustainability of this tax cut," Ohnstad said. "But I also recognize that ... people in my district make 80% of what the median income is in the state of Wisconsin, and I also have thousands of retirees that are in my district." ... [also] voted along party lines to advance a ballot proposal that seeks to amend Wisconsin's Constitution to ... mandate approval by a two-thirds majority of the state Legislature in order to increase income, sales or franchise taxes in the future. By Lehr, WPR
<https://www.wpr.org/lawmakers-advance-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-evers-promises-veto>

GOP threatens to impeach justice over Dem donations, but conservatives also took GOP cash

... [Hagedorn and Bradley took RPW donations] totaling roughly \$150,000 and \$70,000 respectively. ... Karofsky's campaign [got \$1.3M+ from DPW. Kelly got \$1.2M+ from RPW, RNC]. ... Conservative majorities in the court approved rules [written in part by donor WMC, which spent \$2M electing now-CJ Ziegler and \$1.8M electing then-justice Gableman] allowing justices to hear cases involving their campaign donors in 2010 and rejected [retired judges'] request for clearer recusal standards in 2017. Protasiewicz vowed recusal on cases brought by DPW, but DPW did not bring the redistricting cases - though DPW stands to benefit from rulings. None of the sitting justices responded on whether they would recuse from cases involving their campaign supporters, none recused from last year's redistricting cases. Reviews WI maps' reputation for being gerrymandered, expanded GOP majorities despite losing statewide, Protasiewicz's 11-point win, "rigged" and "unfair" comments. Ziegler and Gableman did not recuse in WMC cases. Ziegler as county judge rule on cases involving her husband's bank and companies in which she held stock. Justice Bradley wrote incredulous opinion rejecting the 2017 request for recusal standards on donors' cases, but she blasted Protasiewicz for not recusing on restricting case that could help donor DPW.
 * CC/WI's Heck: "It's what I call selective outrage. It's incredibly hypocritical," noted was no GOP outrage when conservative justices heard numerous cases over the years involving their conservative donors, "The rules and parameters of recusal were put in place by the conservatives and by the Republicans. If they don't like the way the situation is now, all they have to do is look at their own behavior."

* Assembly Majority Leader August was asked if conservative justices should recuse from redistricting cases over taking RPW donations, "We're talking about this case, this justice, and I'll leave it at that." By Bauer, Venhuizen AP
<https://apnews.com/f1d1dfd476325a00e9b99d4735b4b5ee>

Rep. Dave Murphy questions whether UW-Madison complying with affirmative action admissions ban

... During a three-hour public hearing before the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities, GOP lawmakers held up copies of heavily redacted admissions criteria obtained from UW-Madison through an open records request and accused the university of not being transparent ... [UW's] Potts said the university had offered to let [chair Murphy, Senate chair Hutton] review the documents in person, cited "shared goal that we would not unintentionally provide an advantage to elected officials in their knowledge of our admissions process for their particular constituents to benefit from."

* Murphy: "That is the most ridiculous answer I have ever heard! I can't believe you're talking about advantaging legislators by letting them know what this criteria is about. We are the committee that has oversight over your agency!" asked Potts how lawmakers can know UW-Madison is "following the Supreme Court's [affirmative action] decision ... if there's no transparency, then that's pretty difficult to do."

* Potts: "the goal is to follow the law and being in compliance with the law."

* co-sponsor Rep. O'Connor said the guaranteed admissions legislation "could be labeled as an anti-DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) bill. ... I don't care about DEI in this situation. This is simply about not discriminating against the best of the best coming out of our high schools."

... would require state colleges and universities to admit high school graduates students in the top five percent of their class, it would be up to high school administrators to decide how to rank them. Rep. Wittke questioned 421 arbitrary class rankings. FdL Supt Fleig supported bill, suggested adding ranking criteria. UW prof. Odle study found offering direct admission to students, particularly those from minority groups and lower-income families, boosted applications but didn't impact enrollment. By Kremer, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-rep-dave-murphy-questions-whether-uw-madison-complying-affirmative-action-admissions-ban>

Senate chief clerk Queensland placed on administrative leave pending investigation

... chief clerk is a nonpartisan officer elected by the full Senate every two years. ... oversees the administration and record-keeping for the state Senate as well as serving as parliamentarian and chief operating officer. ... paid \$141,000 per year. ... "This is a personnel matter," Radday [for LeMahieu] said. "I can't comment further." LeMahieu said same. Queensland was not immediately available. Queensland's access to state buildings was revoked on Aug. 23 at the request Senate Sergeant at Arms Engel. GOP

source said GOP senators were told that Queensland was on leave pending investigation, not to ask questions about the situation or to take calls from Queensland, who was formerly Legis Council senior staff attorney. By Bice, Beck MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/07/wisconsin-senate-chief-clerk-placed-on-leave-pending-investigation/70785605007/>

Prosecutors charge WI man of assaulting officer during Jan. 6 attack at US Capitol

... Joseph Cattani, 40, of Colgate ... arrested Thursday in Wisconsin and charged in federal court in Washington, D.C. ... faces two felony counts of civil disorder and assaulting officers. ... misdemeanor counts of entering and remaining in a restricted building, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and demonstrating in a Capitol building. ... Online court records didn't list an attorney for him. ... Law enforcement officers have arrested more than 1,146 people across the country in connection with the incident at the Capitol. About 400 of them have been charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement. By AP

<https://apnews.com/162ff04360375a75549273d2b56d70cd>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Trump rallies with SD Gov. Noem, Allies hope is a VP tryout

<https://lacrossetribune.com/90d66dba-b56e-50c4-a256-5db7b9d6d325.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Pay raises for Wisconsin state employees still awaiting legislative approval ... On July 31, [DOA sent JCOER, who sent to LFB] a proposed pay plan to implement the [\$422M budget-funded] raises. ... [LFB] typically waits for the bureau to analyze a pay plan before adopting it, something that hasn't happened yet. In the past, the fiscal bureau has taken around a month to finish its review. ... Asked whether the committee might alter the plan, [JCOER member Born] said, "It's likely we will try to make sure we implement the things that we did in the budget." JCOER co-chair Kapenga did not respond. [LFB declined comment.] Reviews budget raise provisions.

<https://madison.com/cab2f9c2-4cc5-11ee-8cfc-6ba9a4d4dc30.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sup. Tony Staskunas Won't Seek Re-Election, The West Allis supervisor has served on the board since 2013: when he left the state Assembly, enabling Supv. Sanfelippo to run for Assembly.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/mke-county-sup-tony-staskunas-wont-seek>

- Vilas County judge rules election re-do for Presque Isle town chair, How the special election will be administered leaves questions yet to be answered ... The ruling comes roughly four months after [ex-town chair] MacLean filed a notice of an appeal of recount seven days after an April 12 recount that reaffirmed [ex-clerk] Walters's one-vote victory -- 242-241 -- in the April 4 election. ... it was found that Walters's son Jim had been working on town computers off-site at his Michigan-based tech company for the last 20 years. ... judge Martha Milanowski ordered a special election ... during an oral ruling lasting about an hour on Aug. 31 in Eagle River.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/05/vilas-county-judge-rules-election-re-do-for-presque-isle-town-chair/>

- ECC Admin. Schauf comments on conclusion of DHS investigation ... ready to move forward and put an investigation of the Department of Human Services finances behind them, after the board opted Tuesday to not take any action regarding her leadership.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/1fa438aa-4cf4-11ee-b57b-8767b1b1f6d0.html>

BANKING AND INVESTMENT [^top^](#)

- Reedsburg lawyer stole \$1.6M from client's trust to pay for home improvements, 2 trucks and a tractor ... Judge William M. Conley on Thursday ordered Kristin Lein, 61, to serve 45 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. She pleaded guilty in June

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/wisconsin-lawyer-gets-prison-time-for-embezzling-1-million-from-trust/70789951007/>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court, in public hearing, weighs eviction records ... Legal Action of Wisconsin ... asked the state Supreme Court in March 2022 to change court rules [re: 20-yr eviction record retention] ... records are retained regardless of whether an eviction was granted. Many landlords can access these records online ... to help "more Wisconsin families find and maintain safe and affordable rental housing." ... Once someone has an eviction on their record, there's not a lot that can be done to remove the record, according to Madison's Tenant Resource Center. ... Legal Action requested a similar change in 2021 that was not adopted because then-Director of State Courts Randy Koschnick determined a new record-retention policy would be too burdensome ... [despite furor over Protasiewicz recusal/impeachment, liberal court majority firing Koschnick and limiting CJ powers,] justices appeared cordial Thursday in the state Capitol hearing room as they questioned attorneys and listened to two hours of testimony advocating both for and against granting the rule change.

* LAW's Ayers: "It's the court's obligation to somehow use its power for good and, in this case, we believe that that is scrubbing these records. We're talking about human decency here, as well as court process. Individuals are just trying to access housing, which is a basic human right, and this will be impactful."

* UW Law Eviction Defense Clinic's Kube: "The stories we heard over and over and over again were varying degrees of, 'I got the five-day notice and I vacated. I had no idea this was on my record.' It is, 'I got evicted one time because I had an emergency expense for my child. I've had a perfect rental history since and this 8-year-old record

is still impeding me from finding housing."

* landlord groups atty. Giese: "Landlords, knowing that they won't have good access to somebody's past business record, are going to have to raise the security deposit, double it perhaps to be sure they're going to get their rent paid. They're going to have to engage in a tighter screening for those tenants. That's going to hurt tenants, especially tenants who have never been evicted. It's also going to hurt the small landlords. ... In these big counties like Dane and Milwaukee, there is a form you fill out where you check a box if you've been evicted or not, and that is the end of the story."

* Justice Hagedorn: "It just feels to me like you're making a really dramatic policy argument that is asking us to favor certain folks over others and proposing to hide information from the public, including those who would have a pretty reasonable interest in that information when making business decisions."

* LAW's Lundin: "What makes eviction records different from other court records, including criminal records, is that they impact a basic human need of having shelter. ... We're only asking that the state not be the one to put this information out there. There are plenty of private market solutions to this that landlords have come up with."

* Dane Co Clerk of Courts Esqueda: "We had 1,700 eviction cases (in Dane County) filed so far this year. I wouldn't be surprised if the vast majority of those wound up having sealing and redaction motions filed on them," the only way to complete the rule change would be to consider "the nuclear option": taking down CCAP altogether.

* Ayers acknowledged administrative burden, "We also believe that there should be a balancing test and when it ultimately comes down to it, we look at equity and what is fairest. ... If we have to take a step back, we believe that at a minimum not having free access online could be (a) potential."

<https://captimes.com/d7e6660e-1e6c-54c2-9c74-51a0ff5fa6d2.html>

- New Wisconsin Supreme Court meets for first time in hearing on eviction records rule change

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/07/new-wisconsin-supreme-court-meets-for>

- State Public Defender Kelli Thompson reflects on 12 years overseeing agency ... revealed she'll resign effective Oct. 9 in as low-key a way as possible. There was a press announcement and letter released Sept. 1 ... deputy, Katie York [will serve interim], with the board conducting a search to fill the position on a full-time basis. In August 2022, a suit filed in Green Bay alleged Evers, PD have violated constitutional rights of thousands of indigent criminal defendants who have waited weeks and months for an appointed lawyer. Judge Tom Walsh will rule on defendants' motion to dismiss and the plaintiffs' motion for class certification. Resignation letter excerpts.

* Thompson: "It's the right thing. It's the right decision. ... I have to tell you, I have cried more over this decision than anything else. ... Truly, I love the public defender's office. I'm leaving with a heavy heart."

* CJ Ziegler: "Kelli not only effectively advocated for the public defender's office, but she has been a steadfast defender of constitutional rights for those in need of legal services. Job well done, Kelli!"

* Justice Dallet: "I think she loves her job but I also know that Kelli has done the work of training the next generation and has ensured it will be in good hands when she leaves."

* ex-county CJ Triggiano: "She's a dear friend. We've brainstormed the pandemic and backlogs together. It's going to be an incredible loss for that office and it will be interesting to see what she does next. She has a big heart."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/public-defender-kelli-thompson-reflects-on-12-years-overseeing-agency/70787632007/>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Exclusive: One-on-one sit down with U.S. Education Sec. Miguel Cardona ... Cardona toured Vel Phillips Memorial High School on Thursday. 3 Qs&As

* Cardona: "... this bus trip is really to promote our "Raise the Bar," lead the world strategy, where we're focusing on our plan to improve education across our country. It engages families that engages educators around academic excellence, mental health support for students, and really being innovative and giving them more opportunities - not only for college, but also for careers that exist. We also focus on making sure fixing a broken loan system and making higher education more accessible and more affordable to our students. Imagine if we unlock the potential of our country by opening doors to college for more students we'll be in better shape."

<https://www.channel3000.com/ada26f46-4dda-11ee-b0a7-cb970644c911.html>

- 5 Republican child care bills aim to improve daycare shortage by loosening some restrictions on providers, At public hearing, some say they worry teen workers, higher adult-to-child ratios, could worsen care. Testimony highlights.

<https://www.wpr.org/5-republican-child-care-bills-aim-improve-daycare-shortage-loosening-some-restrictions-providers>

- Bus driver shortage means some Waukesha students don't even get picked up until after school starts

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/09/07/waukesha-parents-concerned-about-bus-driver-shortage/70765086007/>

- What is the benefit of breakfast on school performance? ... article from the Frontiers in Human Neuroscience cites multiple studies which demonstrate that eating breakfast does have a positive effect on students. ... [ECSD's Smith] said that on top of breakfast improving academic performance, it can also improve mood.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/b7b5e3da-4db4-11ee-ae0e-fb610833a1ea.html>

- Evers visits Northwestern High School ... part of the governor's statewide Back to School tour. ... first gubernatorial visit to the Maple School District ... sat down at a lunch table to quiz seniors Lily Mickus, Grace Udeen, Jalynn Tuura, Ava Anderson and Jade Stillson about their career plans. ... felt a return to normalcy following the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, he said, there's been "a lot of good energy, no matter where I've been, small towns, big towns, small districts, big districts."... asked how the state can address the current teacher shortage. "We're not going to be able to replace teachers with widgets, and so it is important that we continue to encourage people, and one of the ways to do that is to provide teachers with the respect they deserve," Evers said. ... talked about the need to support and grow child care ... "I have a proposal out there for \$17 million dollars and we can afford it, and we should be using that to prop up and support our child care industry in the state of Wisconsin," Evers

said. Students, school officials comment.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/wisconsin-gov-tony-evers-visits-northwestern-high-school>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- WI's suicide numbers have reached historically high levels for the 2nd year in a row ... CDC is funding 24 jurisdictions, including Wisconsin, through its comprehensive suicide prevention program, with the goal of reducing the nation's suicide numbers by 20% by 2025. On Wednesday, Gov. Tony Evers announced that his office and [DHS] were joining the effort to reduce suicide among two at-risk populations [rural men 25+, adolescents 10-19] by 10% over the next five years. "I declared 2023 the Year of Mental Health because we cannot overstate the profound impact the past few years have had on our kids, families, and communities, and we know that Wisconsinites across our state are struggling perhaps now more than ever," Evers said in Wednesday's press release.

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2023/09/08/gov-tony-evers-plans-to-reduce-suicide-numbers-by-10-over-5-years/70779845007/>

LABOR [^top^](#)

- Democrats push an agenda to restore worker rights, Proposals face uphill battle, but backers say they show what they stand for: Rep. Shankland led presser for 10-bill collection Thursday to enshrine workers' rights in state law after a decade and a half of measures rolling back those rights. ... pointed to union organizing, activism and contract fights at Colectivo and Starbucks coffee shops, Leinenkugel brewery and UPS as well as the prospect of a looming job action by the UAW ... "Right now, union popularity is soaring, with seven out of 10 Americans having a positive view of labor unions, because labor unions are getting real results that improve both the economic and safety conditions for the workers they represent," Shankland said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/democrats-push-an-agenda-to-restore>

- The four-day workweek gains another prominent champion ... UAW President Shawn Fain laid out a 32-hour workweek as one of the many proposals for a new contract with the largest three American auto manufacturers, as well as a 40% increase in pay, boosted pensions and other items. The union already authorized a strike, and the contract runs out Sept. 14. ... A new survey by Bankrate found 81% of American workers support a four-day workweek and, of those, 54% would work longer hours to get it, according to the survey. About 37% would change jobs or industries and 10% would take a pay cut. About 27% would even stay in the office more. ... In March, Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif., introduced legislation that would alter the standard workweek from 40 hours to 32 hours, phased in over a three-year period. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., has also recently highlighted the four-day workweek. ... Pennsylvania state Rep. G. Roni Green working to introduce legislation that would reduce the official workweek for businesses with more than 500 employees to 32 hours without a reduction in pay. ... 4 Day Week Global has already completed several pilots involving the four-day workweek.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/09/08/four-day-work-week-pay-compensation-union-uaw.html>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Appeals court affirms circuit court decision in jail transfer dispute ... Because Jeremy Alquist completed his jail sentence before the first appeal brief was even filed, the issue is moot, the appeals court ruled Wednesday.

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/appeals-court-affirms-circuit-court-decision-in-jail-transfer-dispute/>

- Sexual assault survivors can now track their rape kits in most states, Public criticism about kit backlogs spurs push for more transparency.

<https://stateline.org/2023/09/08/sexual-assault-survivors-can-now-track-their-rape-kits-in-most-states/>

MEDIA [^top^](#)

- 'Convicting a Murderer,' DailyWire+ docuseries on Steven Avery case, premieres Friday ... will premiere Friday on X, formerly Twitter, beginning at 8 p.m. Central ... remain available to anyone on the platform "indefinitely."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/07/convicting-a-murderer-series-on-steven-avery-case-premieres-friday/70786913007/>

MILITARY [^top^](#)

- Bong Center staff confront stolen valor incident, An email, an expert and a piece of paper helped unravel a false Vietnam tale. ... resulted in a new policy requiring proof of military service for every program, donation, display and volunteer.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/bong-center-staff-confront-stolen-valor-incident>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- YWCA Rock County seeking nominations for 2023 Dorothy Height Diversity in the Workplace Award

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/ea53a888-d516-586e-bffc-cc1007427767.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Waukesha Celebrates Completing Milwaukee Water Pipeline, \$286M project will provide [radium-]safe water for suburban community, revenue for Milwaukee. ... "Milwaukee water was the right choice because of its closer connection, low rates and capacity. Just as important, Milwaukee is a national leader in ensuring safe drinking water. There is no better water," said Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly during a ceremony Thursday afternoon inside the new Waukesha Booster Pumping Station ... water will start flowing between Sept. 14 and 18 said Waukesha Water [guru] Duchniak, who [emceed] the event [and culminated 21-yr search for radium-free replacement water] ... "It's safe to say I didn't know what I was getting into 20 years ago," said Duchniak. ... "It's a partnership that has led us to today's celebration and I look forward to more partnerships, more working together and more celebrations," said Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Reilly and his Waukesha colleagues. Reilly also endorsed more future collaboration between the cities. ... "We are here because Jennifer Abele delivered results," said Johnson, praising the former city lobbyist and Milwaukee Water Works superintendent, who is widely credited with

negotiating the deal from the Milwaukee side. ... Waukesha is to pay Milwaukee at least \$3.2M/yr for the water and already made a \$2.5M one-time payment. The annual payments will rise to \$4.5M if Waukesha uses the full 8.2M gallons the deal allows, with an additional escalator available. Waukesha Exec. Farrow, WCBA's Kelley, Carroll prof. Piatt also spoke. Audience included US Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Allen, Water Works dir. Pauly, ex-Water Worksters Dettmer and Abele. Details and pics.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/waukesha-celebrates-completing-milwaukee>

- Construction for project to bring Lake Michigan water to Waukesha now complete, City will make switch to Lake Michigan water in coming days: Great Water Alliance groundbreaking ceremony Thursday, project details. Waukesha Mayor Reilly, water guru Duchniak, DNR's Elmore comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/construction-project-bring-lake-michigan-water-waukesha-now-complete>

- FDNY firefighters who were at Ground Zero on 9/11 to speak at Oshkosh's EAA Aviation Museum, Matt Nelson, Charles Blaich and Steven San Filippo were veteran members of the department who were on duty on 9/11.

<https://www.thenorthwestern.com/story/news/local/2023/09/06/fdny-firefighters-who-were-at-911-to-speak-in-oshkosh-at-eaa-aviation-museum/70731866007/>

- US Military Firefighters Grapple With Unknowns of PFAS Exposure ... Defense Department is interested in the outcomes of ongoing health studies by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry as well as toxicology assessments by the [EPA] and noted that the Pentagon supported the testicular cancer study by allowing use of the Department of Defense Serum Repository and including it in the Pentagon's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. ... not requested by the Pentagon in its annual budget, but instead are supported by extra money that Congress gives the department to manage research projects that members deem necessary to advance medical science and promote the health of the armed forces.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/like-a-russian-roulette-us-military>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- Leaders celebrate Couture's progress, workforce development ... soon to be Wisconsin's tallest residential building, local and national officials gathered Thursday to celebrate the progress on the building, the construction career pipeline it creates and what it all means for the future of Milwaukee. Building's core is built up to floor 33, floor decks to floor 30, precast panels up to 21, glass is at 16, inwall plumbing at level 10 and drywall level at eight, adding, on average, one floor per week. \$104.5M of estimated \$191M cost came from the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, which owns the main construction loan for the project - HIT's largest investment in its history.

* NABTU's McGarvey: "Behind me is a symphony. When you see the men and women who are building that building, it's some of the greatest music ever played."

* Findorff's Hornung: "We've put in hundreds of thousands of labor hours, with hundreds of thousands of labor hours to go. Over 38,000 yards of concrete have been poured to date."

* Developer Barrett: "As a Milwaukee guy, the crown jewel for me is The Couture," has created 2K+ construction-related jobs and, once completed, the project will create 150 permanent jobs.

* Mayor Johnson: "It doesn't matter if it's taking lead service lines out of the ground or adding peaks to our skyline, like we're seeing with The Couture, Milwaukee is on the upward swing. We're depending on the men and women in the unions to make that happen. ... It'll create stability in their lives, it'll create stability in the lives of their family, it'll create stability in their neighborhoods, which will create stability in our city. In the end, that helps us achieve the public safety that all of us want to see."

<https://biztimes.com/see-photos-leaders-celebrate-coutures-progress-workforce>

REGULATION [^top^](#)

- Should the DNR oversee all zoos? Activists and zoo owners disagree ... bill would allow privately owned zoos to forgo a license from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as long as it receives accreditation from the Zoological Association of America. A similar exemption is already in place for members of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association. Reviews Wed.'s Assembly committee hearing.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/zoo-owners-activists-square-off-over-dnr-oversight-for-private-zoos/70768235007/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- KISS' Gene Simmons visits Rhinelander to promote his Wisconsin-made vodka

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/kiss-gene-simmons-visits-rhinelander-to-promote-his-wisconsin-made-vodka/>

- Twisted Sister's Dee Snider to sign copies of new novel, 'Frats,' on morning after Friday concert with Bret Michaels ... at the Rock N Roll Land record store

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/entertainment/music/2023/09/07/twisted-sisters-dee-snider-to-sign-copies-of-his-new-book-on-saturday-after-concert-with-bret-michae/70786018007/>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Forest County Potawatomi embrace solar energy, spiritually and financially ... Since 2010, Hauber estimates, its solar panel installations and energy efficiency projects have saved the tribe 179 gigawatt hours of electricity and 3.594 million therms of natural gas, as well as prevented the emissions of 75,419 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. ... Potawatomi Casino Hotel in Milwaukee and the Wgema Campus, site of the former Concordia University in Milwaukee, were among the tribal buildings to undergo energy projects in recent years. Tribal government buildings in Forest County ... also have been reworked to improve energy efficiency.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/forest-county-potawatomi-embrace-solar-energy/70780397007/>

WORKPLACE SAFETY [^top^](#)

- USDOL fined Florence Hardwoods nearly \$200K following death of a teen this summer ... Officials found that at least three other children aged 15 and 16 were injured working for Florence Hardwoods between November 2021 and March 2023 --

one of those children was injured on two separate occasions. ... found the company employed nine underage workers 14-17 were illegally allowed to operate machinery. Seven were allowed to work outside legally permitted hours. ... "Any death of a child is too many," [Sec. Su] said. "That's why our Wage and Hour Division and Solicitor's Office took immediate steps to prevent the sale of 'hot goods' and to hold the company accountable for allowing children to perform hazardous and, in this case, deadly jobs. Illegal child labor is a stain on this country and will not be tolerated by this administration or this department."

<https://www.wpr.org/northern-wisconsin-sawmill-fined-nearly-200k-following-death-teen-summer>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: The most dangerous gas in America: Of late the globalist warming crowd has targeted the poor cow for the cause of the earth burning up before our very eyes. ... in the real world, there is no such thing as settled science, and scientific consensus was never meant to be taken as incontrovertible proof. ... It's all bunk, and the truth is out there if only people will look for it. Granted, it's hard to find sometimes. ... Nobel laureate John Clauser -- whose Nobel came just last year -- is trying to do just that by joining a growing group of scientific dissenters who say there is no climate crisis at all, at least not a human-made one. Clauser's dissent is the loudest and the latest, but the numbers are spiraling upward. ... If Nobel laureates can stand up and say the truth, so can presidential candidates. ... do it for all the poor maligned cows. Their moos are on the line, too.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/08/lakeland-times-our-view/>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Paul Fanlund: Stop blaming the mainstream media for Trump's resilience ... Through the years I have agreed with Bunch and Rubin -- believing that false equivalencies and so-called "bothsidesism" have been significant problems for American journalism, resulting in overheated coverage of Hillary Clinton's emails and Hunter Biden's legal problems. It is just that I think there actually is a lot of journalism in 2023 that identifies and labels lies and threats to our democracy. I think the national media did learn lessons from normalizing Trump's 2016 campaign. ... I actually think the media does do two things at once -- reporting the news of the day, some of it horse-race politics, while also exploring larger themes and trends about fascism, authoritarianism, racism and the many signs of climate catastrophe. ... Again, to me the biggest problem is that too many Americans, the ones who believe the distortions of Fox News and its even more extreme brethren, apparently are unwilling to read or listen to any serious journalism. When we figure out a way to get more people to listen, we may get somewhere.

<https://captimes.com/7ae82482-ee66-52a1-beb8-2534a9c3189c.html>

- John Nichols: The Wisconsin GOP's New Attack on Democracy Is Extreme Even for Them, Conservatives lost control of Wisconsin's Supreme Court with April's election of Justice Janet Protasiewicz. Now, they're scheming to impeach her.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/wisconsin-gop-supreme-court-impeachment/>

- Scott Walker: Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz must recuse herself in redistricting case: Wisconsin lawmakers are considering a potential vote on impeaching the newest member of the state Supreme Court.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/sep/7/wisconsin-supreme-court-justice-janet-protasiewicz/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Expect Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz to be impeached ... liberals could harness that anger to recall one or more of the conservative justices. That takes 340,000 signatures, but reproductive rights is a powerful motivator. Vos may fear that backlash or get enough pushback from national Republicans to back down from his threat. We'll see. But right now it looks to me like we're headed for impeachment.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/expect-justice-protasiewicz-to-be-impeached/>

- Dave Zweifel: Falling vaccination rates threaten our schools

<https://captimes.com/8e47bda4-cffa-581b-b6fa-c1e6a741a56a.html>

- Patrick McIlheran: DPI 'equity' speakers talk revolution; Wisconsin parents just want their kids to be able to read: If the system's so rotten, why shouldn't kids escape?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/equity-speakers-talk-of-revolution-wisconsin-parents-just-want-their-kids-to-read/>

- Rocketship WI's Kadeem Gill: More Special Education Funding Is Needed, State covers only 33% of the costs. That must be increased.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/op-ed-more-special-education-funding>

- Mike Nichols: The Journal Sentinel gets its comeuppance: Local paper's smear of Moms for Liberty noted in Wall Street Journal.

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/the-journal-sentinel-gets-its-comeuppance/>

- Ex-UWSP Foundation Pres. Bruce Froehle: Story on Wisconsin alcohol addiction omits AA resources ... there was one remarkable element in the Wisconsin Watch report: the absence of Alcoholics Anonymous in its recommendations for treatment. ... [on United Way/DHS website] Under addiction recovery, one can explore treatment options, which funnels people to clinics, treatment centers and county health service offices. Nowhere is Alcoholics Anonymous (or Narcotics Anonymous) mentioned.

<https://captimes.com/6d056ca0-13eb-5769-9cc9-12ba4c8a8c55.html>

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TOP STORIES

Lawmakers advance GOP-backed income tax cut, but Evers promises to veto ...

The proposal would expand retirement exemptions and cut taxes by nearly 1% for WI's third income tax bracket ... "100 percent of this money is going to folks that need it the most," Macco, who chairs Wisconsin's Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, said of the proposal. ... "We have the money today, but I don't I don't have the confidence that we're going to have the money in three years," [W&M Dem Conley] said. "And I just think this needs more time to be vetted more deeply." ... "I'm not going to sign an irresponsible Republican tax cut that jeopardizes our state's financial stability well into the future and the investments we need to be making today to address the real, pressing challenges facing our state." Evers posted to social media on Wednesday. ... "The \$2.9 billion goes directly back to the people for an overpayment that was made, returning their surplus," [sponsor Steffen] said. "We will still have a billion dollars of surplus to discuss options further into the session, to discuss what are some mutually agreed upon priorities." Rep. Ohnstad-D joined GOP advancing the bill, but

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could change his mind on final passage, "I do have concerns about the sustainability of this tax cut," Ohnstad said. "But I also recognize that ... people in my district make 80% of what the median income is in the state of Wisconsin, and I also have thousands of retirees that are in my district." ... [also] voted along party lines to advance a ballot proposal that seeks to amend Wisconsin's Constitution to ... mandate approval by a two-thirds majority of the state Legislature in order to increase income, sales or franchise taxes in the future. By Lehr, WPR
<https://www.wpr.org/lawmakers-advance-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-evers-promises-veto>

GOP threatens to impeach justice over Dem donations, but conservatives also took GOP cash

... [Hagedorn and Bradley took RPW donations] totaling roughly \$150,000 and \$70,000 respectively. ... Karofsky's campaign [got \$1.3M+ from DPW. Kelly got \$1.2M+ from RPW, RNC]. ... Conservative majorities in the court approved rules [written in part by donor WMC, which spent \$2M electing now-CJ Ziegler and \$1.8M electing then-justice Gableman] allowing justices to hear cases involving their campaign donors in 2010 and rejected [retired judges'] request for clearer recusal standards in 2017. Protasiewicz vowed recusal on cases brought by DPW, but DPW did not bring the redistricting cases - though DPW stands to benefit from rulings. None of the sitting justices responded on whether they would recuse from cases involving their campaign supporters, none recused from last year's redistricting cases. Reviews WI maps' reputation for being gerrymandered, expanded GOP majorities despite losing statewide, Protasiewicz's 11-point win, "rigged" and "unfair" comments. Ziegler and Gableman did not recuse in WMC cases. Ziegler as county judge rule on cases involving her husband's bank and companies in which she held stock. Justice Bradley wrote incredulous opinion rejecting the 2017 request for recusal standards on donors' cases, but she blasted Protasiewicz for not recusing on restricting case that could help donor DPW.
 * CC/WI's Heck: "It's what I call selective outrage. It's incredibly hypocritical," noted was no GOP outrage when conservative justices heard numerous cases over the years involving their conservative donors, "The rules and parameters of recusal were put in place by the conservatives and by the Republicans. If they don't like the way the situation is now, all they have to do is look at their own behavior."

* Assembly Majority Leader August was asked if conservative justices should recuse from redistricting cases over taking RPW donations, "We're talking about this case, this justice, and I'll leave it at that." By Bauer, Venhuizen AP
<https://apnews.com/f1d1dfd476325a00e9b99d4735b4b5ee>

Rep. Dave Murphy questions whether UW-Madison complying with affirmative action admissions ban

... During a three-hour public hearing before the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities, GOP lawmakers held up copies of heavily redacted admissions criteria obtained from UW-Madison through an open records request and accused the university of not being transparent ... [UW's] Potts said the university had offered to let [chair Murphy, Senate chair Hutton] review the documents in person, cited "shared goal that we would not unintentionally provide an advantage to elected officials in their knowledge of our admissions process for their particular constituents to benefit from."

* Murphy: "That is the most ridiculous answer I have ever heard! I can't believe you're talking about advantaging legislators by letting them know what this criteria is about. We are the committee that has oversight over your agency!" asked Potts how lawmakers can know UW-Madison is "following the Supreme Court's [affirmative action] decision ... if there's no transparency, then that's pretty difficult to do."

* Potts: "the goal is to follow the law and being in compliance with the law."

* co-sponsor Rep. O'Connor said the guaranteed admissions legislation "could be labeled as an anti-DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) bill. ... I don't care about DEI in this situation. This is simply about not discriminating against the best of the best coming out of our high schools."

... would require state colleges and universities to admit high school graduates students in the top five percent of their class, it would be up to high school administrators to decide how to rank them. Rep. Wittke questioned 421 arbitrary class rankings. FdL Supt Fleig supported bill, suggested adding ranking criteria. UW prof. Odle study found offering direct admission to students, particularly those from minority groups and lower-income families, boosted applications but didn't impact enrollment. By Kremer, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-rep-dave-murphy-questions-whether-uw-madison-complying-affirmative-action-admissions-ban>

Senate chief clerk Queensland placed on administrative leave pending investigation

... chief clerk is a nonpartisan officer elected by the full Senate every two years. ... oversees the administration and record-keeping for the state Senate as well as serving as parliamentarian and chief operating officer. ... paid \$141,000 per year. ... "This is a personnel matter," Radday [for LeMahieu] said. "I can't comment further." LeMahieu said same. Queensland was not immediately available. Queensland's access to state buildings was revoked on Aug. 23 at the request Senate Sergeant at Arms Engel. GOP

source said GOP senators were told that Queensland was on leave pending investigation, not to ask questions about the situation or to take calls from Queensland, who was formerly Legis Council senior staff attorney. By Bice, Beck MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/07/wisconsin-senate-chief-clerk-placed-on-leave-pending-investigation/70785605007/>

Prosecutors charge WI man of assaulting officer during Jan. 6 attack at US Capitol

... Joseph Cattani, 40, of Colgate ... arrested Thursday in Wisconsin and charged in federal court in Washington, D.C. ... faces two felony counts of civil disorder and assaulting officers. ... misdemeanor counts of entering and remaining in a restricted building, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and demonstrating in a Capitol building. ... Online court records didn't list an attorney for him. ... Law enforcement officers have arrested more than 1,146 people across the country in connection with the incident at the Capitol. About 400 of them have been charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement. By AP

<https://apnews.com/162ff04360375a75549273d2b56d70cd>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Trump rallies with SD Gov. Noem, Allies hope is a VP tryout

<https://lacrossetribune.com/90d66dba-b56e-50c4-a256-5db7b9d6d325.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Pay raises for Wisconsin state employees still awaiting legislative approval ... On July 31, [DOA sent JCOER, who sent to LFB] a proposed pay plan to implement the [\$422M budget-funded] raises. ... [LFB] typically waits for the bureau to analyze a pay plan before adopting it, something that hasn't happened yet. In the past, the fiscal bureau has taken around a month to finish its review. ... Asked whether the committee might alter the plan, [JCOER member Born] said, "It's likely we will try to make sure we implement the things that we did in the budget." JCOER co-chair Kapenga did not respond. [LFB declined comment.] Reviews budget raise provisions.

<https://madison.com/cab2f9c2-4cc5-11ee-8cfc-6ba9a4d4dc30.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sup. Tony Staskunas Won't Seek Re-Election, The West Allis supervisor has served on the board since 2013: when he left the state Assembly, enabling Supv. Sanfelippo to run for Assembly.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/mke-county-sup-tony-staskunas-wont-seek>

- Vilas County judge rules election re-do for Presque Isle town chair, How the special election will be administered leaves questions yet to be answered ... The ruling comes roughly four months after [ex-town chair] MacLean filed a notice of an appeal of recount seven days after an April 12 recount that reaffirmed [ex-clerk] Walters's one-vote victory -- 242-241 -- in the April 4 election. ... it was found that Walters's son Jim had been working on town computers off-site at his Michigan-based tech company for the last 20 years. ... judge Martha Milanowski ordered a special election ... during an oral ruling lasting about an hour on Aug. 31 in Eagle River.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/05/vilas-county-judge-rules-election-re-do-for-presque-isle-town-chair/>

- ECC Admin. Schauf comments on conclusion of DHS investigation ... ready to move forward and put an investigation of the Department of Human Services finances behind them, after the board opted Tuesday to not take any action regarding her leadership.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/1fa438aa-4cf4-11ee-b57b-8767b1b1f6d0.html>

BANKING AND INVESTMENT [^top^](#)

- Reedsburg lawyer stole \$1.6M from client's trust to pay for home improvements, 2 trucks and a tractor ... Judge William M. Conley on Thursday ordered Kristin Lein, 61, to serve 45 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. She pleaded guilty in June

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/wisconsin-lawyer-gets-prison-time-for-embezzling-1-million-from-trust/70789951007/>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court, in public hearing, weighs eviction records ... Legal Action of Wisconsin ... asked the state Supreme Court in March 2022 to change court rules [re: 20-yr eviction record retention] ... records are retained regardless of whether an eviction was granted. Many landlords can access these records online ... to help "more Wisconsin families find and maintain safe and affordable rental housing." ... Once someone has an eviction on their record, there's not a lot that can be done to remove the record, according to Madison's Tenant Resource Center. ... Legal Action requested a similar change in 2021 that was not adopted because then-Director of State Courts Randy Koschnick determined a new record-retention policy would be too burdensome ... [despite furor over Protasiewicz recusal/impeachment, liberal court majority firing Koschnick and limiting CJ powers,] justices appeared cordial Thursday in the state Capitol hearing room as they questioned attorneys and listened to two hours of testimony advocating both for and against granting the rule change.

* LAW's Ayers: "It's the court's obligation to somehow use its power for good and, in this case, we believe that that is scrubbing these records. We're talking about human decency here, as well as court process. Individuals are just trying to access housing, which is a basic human right, and this will be impactful."

* UW Law Eviction Defense Clinic's Kube: "The stories we heard over and over and over again were varying degrees of, 'I got the five-day notice and I vacated. I had no idea this was on my record.' It is, 'I got evicted one time because I had an emergency expense for my child. I've had a perfect rental history since and this 8-year-old record

is still impeding me from finding housing."

* landlord groups atty. Giese: "Landlords, knowing that they won't have good access to somebody's past business record, are going to have to raise the security deposit, double it perhaps to be sure they're going to get their rent paid. They're going to have to engage in a tighter screening for those tenants. That's going to hurt tenants, especially tenants who have never been evicted. It's also going to hurt the small landlords. ... In these big counties like Dane and Milwaukee, there is a form you fill out where you check a box if you've been evicted or not, and that is the end of the story."

* Justice Hagedorn: "It just feels to me like you're making a really dramatic policy argument that is asking us to favor certain folks over others and proposing to hide information from the public, including those who would have a pretty reasonable interest in that information when making business decisions."

* LAW's Lundin: "What makes eviction records different from other court records, including criminal records, is that they impact a basic human need of having shelter. ... We're only asking that the state not be the one to put this information out there. There are plenty of private market solutions to this that landlords have come up with."

* Dane Co Clerk of Courts Esqueda: "We had 1,700 eviction cases (in Dane County) filed so far this year. I wouldn't be surprised if the vast majority of those wound up having sealing and redaction motions filed on them," the only way to complete the rule change would be to consider "the nuclear option": taking down CCAP altogether.

* Ayers acknowledged administrative burden, "We also believe that there should be a balancing test and when it ultimately comes down to it, we look at equity and what is fairest. ... If we have to take a step back, we believe that at a minimum not having free access online could be (a) potential."

<https://captimes.com/d7e6660e-1e6c-54c2-9c74-51a0ff5fa6d2.html>

- New Wisconsin Supreme Court meets for first time in hearing on eviction records rule change

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/07/new-wisconsin-supreme-court-meets-for>

- State Public Defender Kelli Thompson reflects on 12 years overseeing agency ... revealed she'll resign effective Oct. 9 in as low-key a way as possible. There was a press announcement and letter released Sept. 1 ... deputy, Katie York [will serve interim], with the board conducting a search to fill the position on a full-time basis. In August 2022, a suit filed in Green Bay alleged Evers, PD have violated constitutional rights of thousands of indigent criminal defendants who have waited weeks and months for an appointed lawyer. Judge Tom Walsh will rule on defendants' motion to dismiss and the plaintiffs' motion for class certification. Resignation letter excerpts.

* Thompson: "It's the right thing. It's the right decision. ... I have to tell you, I have cried more over this decision than anything else. ... Truly, I love the public defender's office. I'm leaving with a heavy heart."

* CJ Ziegler: "Kelli not only effectively advocated for the public defender's office, but she has been a steadfast defender of constitutional rights for those in need of legal services. Job well done, Kelli!"

* Justice Dallet: "I think she loves her job but I also know that Kelli has done the work of training the next generation and has ensured it will be in good hands when she leaves."

* ex-county CJ Triggiano: "She's a dear friend. We've brainstormed the pandemic and backlogs together. It's going to be an incredible loss for that office and it will be interesting to see what she does next. She has a big heart."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/public-defender-kelli-thompson-reflects-on-12-years-overseeing-agency/70787632007/>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Exclusive: One-on-one sit down with U.S. Education Sec. Miguel Cardona ... Cardona toured Vel Phillips Memorial High School on Thursday. 3 Qs&As

* Cardona: "... this bus trip is really to promote our "Raise the Bar," lead the world strategy, where we're focusing on our plan to improve education across our country. It engages families that engages educators around academic excellence, mental health support for students, and really being innovative and giving them more opportunities - not only for college, but also for careers that exist. We also focus on making sure fixing a broken loan system and making higher education more accessible and more affordable to our students. Imagine if we unlock the potential of our country by opening doors to college for more students we'll be in better shape."

<https://www.channel3000.com/ada26f46-4dda-11ee-b0a7-cb970644c911.html>

- 5 Republican child care bills aim to improve daycare shortage by loosening some restrictions on providers, At public hearing, some say they worry teen workers, higher adult-to-child ratios, could worsen care. Testimony highlights.

<https://www.wpr.org/5-republican-child-care-bills-aim-improve-daycare-shortage-loosening-some-restrictions-providers>

- Bus driver shortage means some Waukesha students don't even get picked up until after school starts

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/09/07/waukesha-parents-concerned-about-bus-driver-shortage/70765086007/>

- What is the benefit of breakfast on school performance? ... article from the Frontiers in Human Neuroscience cites multiple studies which demonstrate that eating breakfast does have a positive effect on students. ... [ECSD's Smith] said that on top of breakfast improving academic performance, it can also improve mood.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/b7b5e3da-4db4-11ee-ae0e-fb610833a1ea.html>

- Evers visits Northwestern High School ... part of the governor's statewide Back to School tour. ... first gubernatorial visit to the Maple School District ... sat down at a lunch table to quiz seniors Lily Mickus, Grace Udeen, Jalynn Tuura, Ava Anderson and Jade Stillson about their career plans. ... felt a return to normalcy following the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, he said, there's been "a lot of good energy, no matter where I've been, small towns, big towns, small districts, big districts."... asked how the state can address the current teacher shortage. "We're not going to be able to replace teachers with widgets, and so it is important that we continue to encourage people, and one of the ways to do that is to provide teachers with the respect they deserve," Evers said. ... talked about the need to support and grow child care ... "I have a proposal out there for \$17 million dollars and we can afford it, and we should be using that to prop up and support our child care industry in the state of Wisconsin," Evers

said. Students, school officials comment.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/wisconsin-gov-tony-evers-visits-northwestern-high-school>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- WI's suicide numbers have reached historically high levels for the 2nd year in a row ... CDC is funding 24 jurisdictions, including Wisconsin, through its comprehensive suicide prevention program, with the goal of reducing the nation's suicide numbers by 20% by 2025. On Wednesday, Gov. Tony Evers announced that his office and [DHS] were joining the effort to reduce suicide among two at-risk populations [rural men 25+, adolescents 10-19] by 10% over the next five years. "I declared 2023 the Year of Mental Health because we cannot overstate the profound impact the past few years have had on our kids, families, and communities, and we know that Wisconsinites across our state are struggling perhaps now more than ever," Evers said in Wednesday's press release.

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2023/09/08/gov-tony-evers-plans-to-reduce-suicide-numbers-by-10-over-5-years/70779845007/>

LABOR [^top^](#)

- Democrats push an agenda to restore worker rights, Proposals face uphill battle, but backers say they show what they stand for: Rep. Shankland led presser for 10-bill collection Thursday to enshrine workers' rights in state law after a decade and a half of measures rolling back those rights. ... pointed to union organizing, activism and contract fights at Colectivo and Starbucks coffee shops, Leinenkugel brewery and UPS as well as the prospect of a looming job action by the UAW ... "Right now, union popularity is soaring, with seven out of 10 Americans having a positive view of labor unions, because labor unions are getting real results that improve both the economic and safety conditions for the workers they represent," Shankland said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/democrats-push-an-agenda-to-restore>

- The four-day workweek gains another prominent champion ... UAW President Shawn Fain laid out a 32-hour workweek as one of the many proposals for a new contract with the largest three American auto manufacturers, as well as a 40% increase in pay, boosted pensions and other items. The union already authorized a strike, and the contract runs out Sept. 14. ... A new survey by Bankrate found 81% of American workers support a four-day workweek and, of those, 54% would work longer hours to get it, according to the survey. About 37% would change jobs or industries and 10% would take a pay cut. About 27% would even stay in the office more. ... In March, Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif., introduced legislation that would alter the standard workweek from 40 hours to 32 hours, phased in over a three-year period. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., has also recently highlighted the four-day workweek. ... Pennsylvania state Rep. G. Roni Green working to introduce legislation that would reduce the official workweek for businesses with more than 500 employees to 32 hours without a reduction in pay. ... 4 Day Week Global has already completed several pilots involving the four-day workweek.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/09/08/four-day-work-week-pay-compensation-union-uaw.html>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Appeals court affirms circuit court decision in jail transfer dispute ... Because Jeremy Alquist completed his jail sentence before the first appeal brief was even filed, the issue is moot, the appeals court ruled Wednesday.

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/appeals-court-affirms-circuit-court-decision-in-jail-transfer-dispute/>

- Sexual assault survivors can now track their rape kits in most states, Public criticism about kit backlogs spurs push for more transparency.

<https://stateline.org/2023/09/08/sexual-assault-survivors-can-now-track-their-rape-kits-in-most-states/>

MEDIA [^top^](#)

- 'Convicting a Murderer,' DailyWire+ docuseries on Steven Avery case, premieres Friday ... will premiere Friday on X, formerly Twitter, beginning at 8 p.m. Central ... remain available to anyone on the platform "indefinitely."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/07/convicting-a-murderer-series-on-steven-avery-case-premieres-friday/70786913007/>

MILITARY [^top^](#)

- Bong Center staff confront stolen valor incident, An email, an expert and a piece of paper helped unravel a false Vietnam tale. ... resulted in a new policy requiring proof of military service for every program, donation, display and volunteer.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/bong-center-staff-confront-stolen-valor-incident>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- YWCA Rock County seeking nominations for 2023 Dorothy Height Diversity in the Workplace Award

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/ea53a888-d516-586e-bffc-cc1007427767.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Waukesha Celebrates Completing Milwaukee Water Pipeline, \$286M project will provide [radium-]safe water for suburban community, revenue for Milwaukee. ... "Milwaukee water was the right choice because of its closer connection, low rates and capacity. Just as important, Milwaukee is a national leader in ensuring safe drinking water. There is no better water," said Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly during a ceremony Thursday afternoon inside the new Waukesha Booster Pumping Station ... water will start flowing between Sept. 14 and 18 said Waukesha Water [guru] Duchniak, who [emceed] the event [and culminated 21-yr search for radium-free replacement water] ... "It's safe to say I didn't know what I was getting into 20 years ago," said Duchniak. ... "It's a partnership that has led us to today's celebration and I look forward to more partnerships, more working together and more celebrations," said Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Reilly and his Waukesha colleagues. Reilly also endorsed more future collaboration between the cities. ... "We are here because Jennifer Abele delivered results," said Johnson, praising the former city lobbyist and Milwaukee Water Works superintendent, who is widely credited with

negotiating the deal from the Milwaukee side. ... Waukesha is to pay Milwaukee at least \$3.2M/yr for the water and already made a \$2.5M one-time payment. The annual payments will rise to \$4.5M if Waukesha uses the full 8.2M gallons the deal allows, with an additional escalator available. Waukesha Exec. Farrow, WCBA's Kelley, Carroll prof. Piatt also spoke. Audience included US Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Allen, Water Works dir. Pauly, ex-Water Worksters Dettmer and Abele. Details and pics.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/waukesha-celebrates-completing-milwaukee>

- Construction for project to bring Lake Michigan water to Waukesha now complete, City will make switch to Lake Michigan water in coming days: Great Water Alliance groundbreaking ceremony Thursday, project details. Waukesha Mayor Reilly, water guru Duchniak, DNR's Elmore comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/construction-project-bring-lake-michigan-water-waukesha-now-complete>

- FDNY firefighters who were at Ground Zero on 9/11 to speak at Oshkosh's EAA Aviation Museum, Matt Nelson, Charles Blaich and Steven San Filippo were veteran members of the department who were on duty on 9/11.

<https://www.thenorthwestern.com/story/news/local/2023/09/06/fdny-firefighters-who-were-at-911-to-speak-in-oshkosh-at-eaa-aviation-museum/70731866007/>

- US Military Firefighters Grapple With Unknowns of PFAS Exposure ... Defense Department is interested in the outcomes of ongoing health studies by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry as well as toxicology assessments by the [EPA] and noted that the Pentagon supported the testicular cancer study by allowing use of the Department of Defense Serum Repository and including it in the Pentagon's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. ... not requested by the Pentagon in its annual budget, but instead are supported by extra money that Congress gives the department to manage research projects that members deem necessary to advance medical science and promote the health of the armed forces.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/like-a-russian-roulette-us-military>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- Leaders celebrate Couture's progress, workforce development ... soon to be Wisconsin's tallest residential building, local and national officials gathered Thursday to celebrate the progress on the building, the construction career pipeline it creates and what it all means for the future of Milwaukee. Building's core is built up to floor 33, floor decks to floor 30, precast panels up to 21, glass is at 16, inwall plumbing at level 10 and drywall level at eight, adding, on average, one floor per week. \$104.5M of estimated \$191M cost came from the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, which owns the main construction loan for the project - HIT's largest investment in its history.

* NABTU's McGarvey: "Behind me is a symphony. When you see the men and women who are building that building, it's some of the greatest music ever played."

* Findorff's Hornung: "We've put in hundreds of thousands of labor hours, with hundreds of thousands of labor hours to go. Over 38,000 yards of concrete have been poured to date."

* Developer Barrett: "As a Milwaukee guy, the crown jewel for me is The Couture," has created 2K+ construction-related jobs and, once completed, the project will create 150 permanent jobs.

* Mayor Johnson: "It doesn't matter if it's taking lead service lines out of the ground or adding peaks to our skyline, like we're seeing with The Couture, Milwaukee is on the upward swing. We're depending on the men and women in the unions to make that happen. ... It'll create stability in their lives, it'll create stability in the lives of their family, it'll create stability in their neighborhoods, which will create stability in our city. In the end, that helps us achieve the public safety that all of us want to see."

<https://biztimes.com/see-photos-leaders-celebrate-coutures-progress-workforce>

REGULATION [^top^](#)

- Should the DNR oversee all zoos? Activists and zoo owners disagree ... bill would allow privately owned zoos to forgo a license from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as long as it receives accreditation from the Zoological Association of America. A similar exemption is already in place for members of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association. Reviews Wed.'s Assembly committee hearing.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/zoo-owners-activists-square-off-over-dnr-oversight-for-private-zoos/70768235007/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- KISS' Gene Simmons visits Rhinelander to promote his Wisconsin-made vodka

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/kiss-gene-simmons-visits-rhinelander-to-promote-his-wisconsin-made-vodka/>

- Twisted Sister's Dee Snider to sign copies of new novel, 'Frats,' on morning after Friday concert with Bret Michaels ... at the Rock N Roll Land record store

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/entertainment/music/2023/09/07/twisted-sisters-dee-snider-to-sign-copies-of-his-new-book-on-saturday-after-concert-with-bret-michae/70786018007/>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Forest County Potawatomi embrace solar energy, spiritually and financially ... Since 2010, Hauber estimates, its solar panel installations and energy efficiency projects have saved the tribe 179 gigawatt hours of electricity and 3.594 million therms of natural gas, as well as prevented the emissions of 75,419 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. ... Potawatomi Casino Hotel in Milwaukee and the Wgema Campus, site of the former Concordia University in Milwaukee, were among the tribal buildings to undergo energy projects in recent years. Tribal government buildings in Forest County ... also have been reworked to improve energy efficiency.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/forest-county-potawatomi-embrace-solar-energy/70780397007/>

WORKPLACE SAFETY [^top^](#)

- USDOL fined Florence Hardwoods nearly \$200K following death of a teen this summer ... Officials found that at least three other children aged 15 and 16 were injured working for Florence Hardwoods between November 2021 and March 2023 --

one of those children was injured on two separate occasions. ... found the company employed nine underage workers 14-17 were illegally allowed to operate machinery. Seven were allowed to work outside legally permitted hours. ... "Any death of a child is too many," [Sec. Su] said. "That's why our Wage and Hour Division and Solicitor's Office took immediate steps to prevent the sale of 'hot goods' and to hold the company accountable for allowing children to perform hazardous and, in this case, deadly jobs. Illegal child labor is a stain on this country and will not be tolerated by this administration or this department."

<https://www.wpr.org/northern-wisconsin-sawmill-fined-nearly-200k-following-death-teen-summer>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: The most dangerous gas in America: Of late the globalist warming crowd has targeted the poor cow for the cause of the earth burning up before our very eyes. ... in the real world, there is no such thing as settled science, and scientific consensus was never meant to be taken as incontrovertible proof. ... It's all bunk, and the truth is out there if only people will look for it. Granted, it's hard to find sometimes. ... Nobel laureate John Clauser -- whose Nobel came just last year -- is trying to do just that by joining a growing group of scientific dissenters who say there is no climate crisis at all, at least not a human-made one. Clauser's dissent is the loudest and the latest, but the numbers are spiraling upward. ... If Nobel laureates can stand up and say the truth, so can presidential candidates. ... do it for all the poor maligned cows. Their moos are on the line, too.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/08/lakeland-times-our-view/>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Paul Fanlund: Stop blaming the mainstream media for Trump's resilience ... Through the years I have agreed with Bunch and Rubin -- believing that false equivalencies and so-called "bothsidesism" have been significant problems for American journalism, resulting in overheated coverage of Hillary Clinton's emails and Hunter Biden's legal problems. It is just that I think there actually is a lot of journalism in 2023 that identifies and labels lies and threats to our democracy. I think the national media did learn lessons from normalizing Trump's 2016 campaign. ... I actually think the media does do two things at once -- reporting the news of the day, some of it horse-race politics, while also exploring larger themes and trends about fascism, authoritarianism, racism and the many signs of climate catastrophe. ... Again, to me the biggest problem is that too many Americans, the ones who believe the distortions of Fox News and its even more extreme brethren, apparently are unwilling to read or listen to any serious journalism. When we figure out a way to get more people to listen, we may get somewhere.

<https://captimes.com/7ae82482-ee66-52a1-beb8-2534a9c3189c.html>

- John Nichols: The Wisconsin GOP's New Attack on Democracy Is Extreme Even for Them, Conservatives lost control of Wisconsin's Supreme Court with April's election of Justice Janet Protasiewicz. Now, they're scheming to impeach her.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/wisconsin-gop-supreme-court-impeachment/>

- Scott Walker: Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz must recuse herself in redistricting case: Wisconsin lawmakers are considering a potential vote on impeaching the newest member of the state Supreme Court.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/sep/7/wisconsin-supreme-court-justice-janet-protasiewicz/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Expect Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz to be impeached ... liberals could harness that anger to recall one or more of the conservative justices. That takes 340,000 signatures, but reproductive rights is a powerful motivator. Vos may fear that backlash or get enough pushback from national Republicans to back down from his threat. We'll see. But right now it looks to me like we're headed for impeachment.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/expect-justice-protasiewicz-to-be-impeached/>

- Dave Zweifel: Falling vaccination rates threaten our schools

<https://captimes.com/8e47bda4-cffa-581b-b6fa-c1e6a741a56a.html>

- Patrick McIlheran: DPI 'equity' speakers talk revolution; Wisconsin parents just want their kids to be able to read: If the system's so rotten, why shouldn't kids escape?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/equity-speakers-talk-of-revolution-wisconsin-parents-just-want-their-kids-to-read/>

- Rocketship WI's Kadeem Gill: More Special Education Funding Is Needed, State covers only 33% of the costs. That must be increased.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/op-ed-more-special-education-funding>

- Mike Nichols: The Journal Sentinel gets its comeuppance: Local paper's smear of Moms for Liberty noted in Wall Street Journal.

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/the-journal-sentinel-gets-its-comeuppance/>

- Ex-UWSP Foundation Pres. Bruce Froehlke: Story on Wisconsin alcohol addiction omits AA resources ... there was one remarkable element in the Wisconsin Watch report: the absence of Alcoholics Anonymous in its recommendations for treatment. ... [on United Way/DHS website] Under addiction recovery, one can explore treatment options, which funnels people to clinics, treatment centers and county health service offices. Nowhere is Alcoholics Anonymous (or Narcotics Anonymous) mentioned.

<https://captimes.com/6d056ca0-13eb-5769-9cc9-12ba4c8a8c55.html>

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TOP STORIES

Lawmakers advance GOP-backed income tax cut, but Evers promises to veto ...

The proposal would expand retirement exemptions and cut taxes by nearly 1% for WI's third income tax bracket ... "100 percent of this money is going to folks that need it the most," Macco, who chairs Wisconsin's Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, said of the proposal. ... "We have the money today, but I don't I don't have the confidence that we're going to have the money in three years," [W&M Dem Conley] said. "And I just think this needs more time to be vetted more deeply." ... "I'm not going to sign an irresponsible Republican tax cut that jeopardizes our state's financial stability well into the future and the investments we need to be making today to address the real, pressing challenges facing our state." Evers posted to social media on Wednesday. ... "The \$2.9 billion goes directly back to the people for an overpayment that was made, returning their surplus," [sponsor Steffen] said. "We will still have a billion dollars of surplus to discuss options further into the session, to discuss what are some mutually agreed upon priorities." Rep. Ohnstad-D joined GOP advancing the bill, but

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could change his mind on final passage, "I do have concerns about the sustainability of this tax cut," Ohnstad said. "But I also recognize that ... people in my district make 80% of what the median income is in the state of Wisconsin, and I also have thousands of retirees that are in my district." ... [also] voted along party lines to advance a ballot proposal that seeks to amend Wisconsin's Constitution to ... mandate approval by a two-thirds majority of the state Legislature in order to increase income, sales or franchise taxes in the future. By Lehr, WPR
<https://www.wpr.org/lawmakers-advance-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-evers-promises-veto>

GOP threatens to impeach justice over Dem donations, but conservatives also took GOP cash

... [Hagedorn and Bradley took RPW donations] totaling roughly \$150,000 and \$70,000 respectively. ... Karofsky's campaign [got \$1.3M+ from DPW. Kelly got \$1.2M+ from RPW, RNC]. ... Conservative majorities in the court approved rules [written in part by donor WMC, which spent \$2M electing now-CJ Ziegler and \$1.8M electing then-justice Gableman] allowing justices to hear cases involving their campaign donors in 2010 and rejected [retired judges'] request for clearer recusal standards in 2017. Protasiewicz vowed recusal on cases brought by DPW, but DPW did not bring the redistricting cases - though DPW stands to benefit from rulings. None of the sitting justices responded on whether they would recuse from cases involving their campaign supporters, none recused from last year's redistricting cases. Reviews WI maps' reputation for being gerrymandered, expanded GOP majorities despite losing statewide, Protasiewicz's 11-point win, "rigged" and "unfair" comments. Ziegler and Gableman did not recuse in WMC cases. Ziegler as county judge rule on cases involving her husband's bank and companies in which she held stock. Justice Bradley wrote incredulous opinion rejecting the 2017 request for recusal standards on donors' cases, but she blasted Protasiewicz for not recusing on restricting case that could help donor DPW.
 * CC/WI's Heck: "It's what I call selective outrage. It's incredibly hypocritical," noted was no GOP outrage when conservative justices heard numerous cases over the years involving their conservative donors, "The rules and parameters of recusal were put in place by the conservatives and by the Republicans. If they don't like the way the situation is now, all they have to do is look at their own behavior."

* Assembly Majority Leader August was asked if conservative justices should recuse from redistricting cases over taking RPW donations, "We're talking about this case, this justice, and I'll leave it at that." By Bauer, Venhuizen AP
<https://apnews.com/f1d1dfd476325a00e9b99d4735b4b5ee>

Rep. Dave Murphy questions whether UW-Madison complying with affirmative action admissions ban

... During a three-hour public hearing before the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities, GOP lawmakers held up copies of heavily redacted admissions criteria obtained from UW-Madison through an open records request and accused the university of not being transparent ... [UW's] Potts said the university had offered to let [chair Murphy, Senate chair Hutton] review the documents in person, cited "shared goal that we would not unintentionally provide an advantage to elected officials in their knowledge of our admissions process for their particular constituents to benefit from."

* Murphy: "That is the most ridiculous answer I have ever heard! I can't believe you're talking about advantaging legislators by letting them know what this criteria is about. We are the committee that has oversight over your agency!" asked Potts how lawmakers can know UW-Madison is "following the Supreme Court's [affirmative action] decision ... if there's no transparency, then that's pretty difficult to do."

* Potts: "the goal is to follow the law and being in compliance with the law."

* co-sponsor Rep. O'Connor said the guaranteed admissions legislation "could be labeled as an anti-DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) bill. ... I don't care about DEI in this situation. This is simply about not discriminating against the best of the best coming out of our high schools."

... would require state colleges and universities to admit high school graduates students in the top five percent of their class, it would be up to high school administrators to decide how to rank them. Rep. Wittke questioned 421 arbitrary class rankings. FdL Supt Fleig supported bill, suggested adding ranking criteria. UW prof. Odle study found offering direct admission to students, particularly those from minority groups and lower-income families, boosted applications but didn't impact enrollment. By Kremer, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-rep-dave-murphy-questions-whether-uw-madison-complying-affirmative-action-admissions-ban>

Senate chief clerk Queensland placed on administrative leave pending investigation

... chief clerk is a nonpartisan officer elected by the full Senate every two years. ... oversees the administration and record-keeping for the state Senate as well as serving as parliamentarian and chief operating officer. ... paid \$141,000 per year. ... "This is a personnel matter," Radday [for LeMahieu] said. "I can't comment further." LeMahieu said same. Queensland was not immediately available. Queensland's access to state buildings was revoked on Aug. 23 at the request Senate Sergeant at Arms Engel. GOP

source said GOP senators were told that Queensland was on leave pending investigation, not to ask questions about the situation or to take calls from Queensland, who was formerly Legis Council senior staff attorney. By Bice, Beck MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/07/wisconsin-senate-chief-clerk-placed-on-leave-pending-investigation/70785605007/>

Prosecutors charge WI man of assaulting officer during Jan. 6 attack at US Capitol

... Joseph Cattani, 40, of Colgate ... arrested Thursday in Wisconsin and charged in federal court in Washington, D.C. ... faces two felony counts of civil disorder and assaulting officers. ... misdemeanor counts of entering and remaining in a restricted building, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and demonstrating in a Capitol building. ... Online court records didn't list an attorney for him. ... Law enforcement officers have arrested more than 1,146 people across the country in connection with the incident at the Capitol. About 400 of them have been charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement. By AP

<https://apnews.com/162ff04360375a75549273d2b56d70cd>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Trump rallies with SD Gov. Noem, Allies hope is a VP tryout

<https://lacrossetribune.com/90d66dba-b56e-50c4-a256-5db7b9d6d325.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Pay raises for Wisconsin state employees still awaiting legislative approval ... On July 31, [DOA sent JCOER, who sent to LFB] a proposed pay plan to implement the [\$422M budget-funded] raises. ... [LFB] typically waits for the bureau to analyze a pay plan before adopting it, something that hasn't happened yet. In the past, the fiscal bureau has taken around a month to finish its review. ... Asked whether the committee might alter the plan, [JCOER member Born] said, "It's likely we will try to make sure we implement the things that we did in the budget." JCOER co-chair Kapenga did not respond. [LFB declined comment.] Reviews budget raise provisions.

<https://madison.com/cab2f9c2-4cc5-11ee-8cfc-6ba9a4d4dc30.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sup. Tony Staskunas Won't Seek Re-Election, The West Allis supervisor has served on the board since 2013: when he left the state Assembly, enabling Supv. Sanfelippo to run for Assembly.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/mke-county-sup-tony-staskunas-wont-seek>

- Vilas County judge rules election re-do for Presque Isle town chair, How the special election will be administered leaves questions yet to be answered ... The ruling comes roughly four months after [ex-town chair] MacLean filed a notice of an appeal of recount seven days after an April 12 recount that reaffirmed [ex-clerk] Walters's one-vote victory -- 242-241 -- in the April 4 election. ... it was found that Walters's son Jim had been working on town computers off-site at his Michigan-based tech company for the last 20 years. ... judge Martha Milanowski ordered a special election ... during an oral ruling lasting about an hour on Aug. 31 in Eagle River.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/05/vilas-county-judge-rules-election-re-do-for-presque-isle-town-chair/>

- ECC Admin. Schauf comments on conclusion of DHS investigation ... ready to move forward and put an investigation of the Department of Human Services finances behind them, after the board opted Tuesday to not take any action regarding her leadership.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/1fa438aa-4cf4-11ee-b57b-8767b1b1f6d0.html>

BANKING AND INVESTMENT [^top^](#)

- Reedsburg lawyer stole \$1.6M from client's trust to pay for home improvements, 2 trucks and a tractor ... Judge William M. Conley on Thursday ordered Kristin Lein, 61, to serve 45 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. She pleaded guilty in June

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/wisconsin-lawyer-gets-prison-time-for-embezzling-1-million-from-trust/70789951007/>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court, in public hearing, weighs eviction records ... Legal Action of Wisconsin ... asked the state Supreme Court in March 2022 to change court rules [re: 20-yr eviction record retention] ... records are retained regardless of whether an eviction was granted. Many landlords can access these records online ... to help "more Wisconsin families find and maintain safe and affordable rental housing." ... Once someone has an eviction on their record, there's not a lot that can be done to remove the record, according to Madison's Tenant Resource Center. ... Legal Action requested a similar change in 2021 that was not adopted because then-Director of State Courts Randy Koschnick determined a new record-retention policy would be too burdensome ... [despite furor over Protasiewicz recusal/impeachment, liberal court majority firing Koschnick and limiting CJ powers,] justices appeared cordial Thursday in the state Capitol hearing room as they questioned attorneys and listened to two hours of testimony advocating both for and against granting the rule change.

* LAW's Ayers: "It's the court's obligation to somehow use its power for good and, in this case, we believe that that is scrubbing these records. We're talking about human decency here, as well as court process. Individuals are just trying to access housing, which is a basic human right, and this will be impactful."

* UW Law Eviction Defense Clinic's Kube: "The stories we heard over and over and over again were varying degrees of, 'I got the five-day notice and I vacated. I had no idea this was on my record.' It is, 'I got evicted one time because I had an emergency expense for my child. I've had a perfect rental history since and this 8-year-old record

is still impeding me from finding housing."

* landlord groups atty. Giese: "Landlords, knowing that they won't have good access to somebody's past business record, are going to have to raise the security deposit, double it perhaps to be sure they're going to get their rent paid. They're going to have to engage in a tighter screening for those tenants. That's going to hurt tenants, especially tenants who have never been evicted. It's also going to hurt the small landlords. ... In these big counties like Dane and Milwaukee, there is a form you fill out where you check a box if you've been evicted or not, and that is the end of the story."

* Justice Hagedorn: "It just feels to me like you're making a really dramatic policy argument that is asking us to favor certain folks over others and proposing to hide information from the public, including those who would have a pretty reasonable interest in that information when making business decisions."

* LAW's Lundin: "What makes eviction records different from other court records, including criminal records, is that they impact a basic human need of having shelter. ... We're only asking that the state not be the one to put this information out there. There are plenty of private market solutions to this that landlords have come up with."

* Dane Co Clerk of Courts Esqueda: "We had 1,700 eviction cases (in Dane County) filed so far this year. I wouldn't be surprised if the vast majority of those wound up having sealing and redaction motions filed on them," the only way to complete the rule change would be to consider "the nuclear option": taking down CCAP altogether.

* Ayers acknowledged administrative burden, "We also believe that there should be a balancing test and when it ultimately comes down to it, we look at equity and what is fairest. ... If we have to take a step back, we believe that at a minimum not having free access online could be (a) potential."

<https://captimes.com/d7e6660e-1e6c-54c2-9c74-51a0ff5fa6d2.html>

- New Wisconsin Supreme Court meets for first time in hearing on eviction records rule change

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/07/new-wisconsin-supreme-court-meets-for>

- State Public Defender Kelli Thompson reflects on 12 years overseeing agency ... revealed she'll resign effective Oct. 9 in as low-key a way as possible. There was a press announcement and letter released Sept. 1 ... deputy, Katie York [will serve interim], with the board conducting a search to fill the position on a full-time basis. In August 2022, a suit filed in Green Bay alleged Evers, PD have violated constitutional rights of thousands of indigent criminal defendants who have waited weeks and months for an appointed lawyer. Judge Tom Walsh will rule on defendants' motion to dismiss and the plaintiffs' motion for class certification. Resignation letter excerpts.

* Thompson: "It's the right thing. It's the right decision. ... I have to tell you, I have cried more over this decision than anything else. ... Truly, I love the public defender's office. I'm leaving with a heavy heart."

* CJ Ziegler: "Kelli not only effectively advocated for the public defender's office, but she has been a steadfast defender of constitutional rights for those in need of legal services. Job well done, Kelli!"

* Justice Dallet: "I think she loves her job but I also know that Kelli has done the work of training the next generation and has ensured it will be in good hands when she leaves."

* ex-county CJ Triggiano: "She's a dear friend. We've brainstormed the pandemic and backlogs together. It's going to be an incredible loss for that office and it will be interesting to see what she does next. She has a big heart."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/public-defender-kelli-thompson-reflects-on-12-years-overseeing-agency/70787632007/>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Exclusive: One-on-one sit down with U.S. Education Sec. Miguel Cardona ... Cardona toured Vel Phillips Memorial High School on Thursday. 3 Qs&As

* Cardona: "... this bus trip is really to promote our "Raise the Bar," lead the world strategy, where we're focusing on our plan to improve education across our country. It engages families that engages educators around academic excellence, mental health support for students, and really being innovative and giving them more opportunities - not only for college, but also for careers that exist. We also focus on making sure fixing a broken loan system and making higher education more accessible and more affordable to our students. Imagine if we unlock the potential of our country by opening doors to college for more students we'll be in better shape."

<https://www.channel3000.com/ada26f46-4dda-11ee-b0a7-cb970644c911.html>

- 5 Republican child care bills aim to improve daycare shortage by loosening some restrictions on providers, At public hearing, some say they worry teen workers, higher adult-to-child ratios, could worsen care. Testimony highlights.

<https://www.wpr.org/5-republican-child-care-bills-aim-improve-daycare-shortage-loosening-some-restrictions-providers>

- Bus driver shortage means some Waukesha students don't even get picked up until after school starts

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/09/07/waukesha-parents-concerned-about-bus-driver-shortage/70765086007/>

- What is the benefit of breakfast on school performance? ... article from the Frontiers in Human Neuroscience cites multiple studies which demonstrate that eating breakfast does have a positive effect on students. ... [ECSD's Smith] said that on top of breakfast improving academic performance, it can also improve mood.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/b7b5e3da-4db4-11ee-ae0e-fb610833a1ea.html>

- Evers visits Northwestern High School ... part of the governor's statewide Back to School tour. ... first gubernatorial visit to the Maple School District ... sat down at a lunch table to quiz seniors Lily Mickus, Grace Udeen, Jalynn Tuura, Ava Anderson and Jade Stillson about their career plans. ... felt a return to normalcy following the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, he said, there's been "a lot of good energy, no matter where I've been, small towns, big towns, small districts, big districts."... asked how the state can address the current teacher shortage. "We're not going to be able to replace teachers with widgets, and so it is important that we continue to encourage people, and one of the ways to do that is to provide teachers with the respect they deserve," Evers said. ... talked about the need to support and grow child care ... "I have a proposal out there for \$17 million dollars and we can afford it, and we should be using that to prop up and support our child care industry in the state of Wisconsin," Evers

said. Students, school officials comment.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/wisconsin-gov-tony-evers-visits-northwestern-high-school>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- WI's suicide numbers have reached historically high levels for the 2nd year in a row ... CDC is funding 24 jurisdictions, including Wisconsin, through its comprehensive suicide prevention program, with the goal of reducing the nation's suicide numbers by 20% by 2025. On Wednesday, Gov. Tony Evers announced that his office and [DHS] were joining the effort to reduce suicide among two at-risk populations [rural men 25+, adolescents 10-19] by 10% over the next five years. "I declared 2023 the Year of Mental Health because we cannot overstate the profound impact the past few years have had on our kids, families, and communities, and we know that Wisconsinites across our state are struggling perhaps now more than ever," Evers said in Wednesday's press release.

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2023/09/08/gov-tony-evers-plans-to-reduce-suicide-numbers-by-10-over-5-years/70779845007/>

LABOR [^top^](#)

- Democrats push an agenda to restore worker rights, Proposals face uphill battle, but backers say they show what they stand for: Rep. Shankland led presser for 10-bill collection Thursday to enshrine workers' rights in state law after a decade and a half of measures rolling back those rights. ... pointed to union organizing, activism and contract fights at Colectivo and Starbucks coffee shops, Leinenkugel brewery and UPS as well as the prospect of a looming job action by the UAW ... "Right now, union popularity is soaring, with seven out of 10 Americans having a positive view of labor unions, because labor unions are getting real results that improve both the economic and safety conditions for the workers they represent," Shankland said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/democrats-push-an-agenda-to-restore>

- The four-day workweek gains another prominent champion ... UAW President Shawn Fain laid out a 32-hour workweek as one of the many proposals for a new contract with the largest three American auto manufacturers, as well as a 40% increase in pay, boosted pensions and other items. The union already authorized a strike, and the contract runs out Sept. 14. ... A new survey by Bankrate found 81% of American workers support a four-day workweek and, of those, 54% would work longer hours to get it, according to the survey. About 37% would change jobs or industries and 10% would take a pay cut. About 27% would even stay in the office more. ... In March, Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif., introduced legislation that would alter the standard workweek from 40 hours to 32 hours, phased in over a three-year period. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., has also recently highlighted the four-day workweek. ... Pennsylvania state Rep. G. Roni Green working to introduce legislation that would reduce the official workweek for businesses with more than 500 employees to 32 hours without a reduction in pay. ... 4 Day Week Global has already completed several pilots involving the four-day workweek.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/09/08/four-day-work-week-pay-compensation-union-uaw.html>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Appeals court affirms circuit court decision in jail transfer dispute ... Because Jeremy Alquist completed his jail sentence before the first appeal brief was even filed, the issue is moot, the appeals court ruled Wednesday.

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/appeals-court-affirms-circuit-court-decision-in-jail-transfer-dispute/>

- Sexual assault survivors can now track their rape kits in most states, Public criticism about kit backlogs spurs push for more transparency.

<https://stateline.org/2023/09/08/sexual-assault-survivors-can-now-track-their-rape-kits-in-most-states/>

MEDIA [^top^](#)

- 'Convicting a Murderer,' DailyWire+ docuseries on Steven Avery case, premieres Friday ... will premiere Friday on X, formerly Twitter, beginning at 8 p.m. Central ... remain available to anyone on the platform "indefinitely."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/07/convicting-a-murderer-series-on-steven-avery-case-premieres-friday/70786913007/>

MILITARY [^top^](#)

- Bong Center staff confront stolen valor incident, An email, an expert and a piece of paper helped unravel a false Vietnam tale. ... resulted in a new policy requiring proof of military service for every program, donation, display and volunteer.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/bong-center-staff-confront-stolen-valor-incident>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- YWCA Rock County seeking nominations for 2023 Dorothy Height Diversity in the Workplace Award

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/ea53a888-d516-586e-bffc-cc1007427767.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Waukesha Celebrates Completing Milwaukee Water Pipeline, \$286M project will provide [radium-]safe water for suburban community, revenue for Milwaukee. ... "Milwaukee water was the right choice because of its closer connection, low rates and capacity. Just as important, Milwaukee is a national leader in ensuring safe drinking water. There is no better water," said Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly during a ceremony Thursday afternoon inside the new Waukesha Booster Pumping Station ... water will start flowing between Sept. 14 and 18 said Waukesha Water [guru] Duchniak, who [emceed] the event [and culminated 21-yr search for radium-free replacement water] ... "It's safe to say I didn't know what I was getting into 20 years ago," said Duchniak. ... "It's a partnership that has led us to today's celebration and I look forward to more partnerships, more working together and more celebrations," said Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Reilly and his Waukesha colleagues. Reilly also endorsed more future collaboration between the cities. ... "We are here because Jennifer Abele delivered results," said Johnson, praising the former city lobbyist and Milwaukee Water Works superintendent, who is widely credited with

negotiating the deal from the Milwaukee side. ... Waukesha is to pay Milwaukee at least \$3.2M/yr for the water and already made a \$2.5M one-time payment. The annual payments will rise to \$4.5M if Waukesha uses the full 8.2M gallons the deal allows, with an additional escalator available. Waukesha Exec. Farrow, WCBA's Kelley, Carroll prof. Piatt also spoke. Audience included US Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Allen, Water Works dir. Pauly, ex-Water Worksters Dettmer and Abele. Details and pics.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/waukesha-celebrates-completing-milwaukee>

- Construction for project to bring Lake Michigan water to Waukesha now complete, City will make switch to Lake Michigan water in coming days: Great Water Alliance groundbreaking ceremony Thursday, project details. Waukesha Mayor Reilly, water guru Duchniak, DNR's Elmore comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/construction-project-bring-lake-michigan-water-waukesha-now-complete>

- FDNY firefighters who were at Ground Zero on 9/11 to speak at Oshkosh's EAA Aviation Museum, Matt Nelson, Charles Blaich and Steven San Filippo were veteran members of the department who were on duty on 9/11.

<https://www.thenorthwestern.com/story/news/local/2023/09/06/fdny-firefighters-who-were-at-911-to-speak-in-oshkosh-at-eaa-aviation-museum/70731866007/>

- US Military Firefighters Grapple With Unknowns of PFAS Exposure ... Defense Department is interested in the outcomes of ongoing health studies by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry as well as toxicology assessments by the [EPA] and noted that the Pentagon supported the testicular cancer study by allowing use of the Department of Defense Serum Repository and including it in the Pentagon's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. ... not requested by the Pentagon in its annual budget, but instead are supported by extra money that Congress gives the department to manage research projects that members deem necessary to advance medical science and promote the health of the armed forces.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/like-a-russian-roulette-us-military>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- Leaders celebrate Couture's progress, workforce development ... soon to be Wisconsin's tallest residential building, local and national officials gathered Thursday to celebrate the progress on the building, the construction career pipeline it creates and what it all means for the future of Milwaukee. Building's core is built up to floor 33, floor decks to floor 30, precast panels up to 21, glass is at 16, inwall plumbing at level 10 and drywall level at eight, adding, on average, one floor per week. \$104.5M of estimated \$191M cost came from the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, which owns the main construction loan for the project - HIT's largest investment in its history.

* NABTU's McGarvey: "Behind me is a symphony. When you see the men and women who are building that building, it's some of the greatest music ever played."

* Findorff's Hornung: "We've put in hundreds of thousands of labor hours, with hundreds of thousands of labor hours to go. Over 38,000 yards of concrete have been poured to date."

* Developer Barrett: "As a Milwaukee guy, the crown jewel for me is The Couture," has created 2K+ construction-related jobs and, once completed, the project will create 150 permanent jobs.

* Mayor Johnson: "It doesn't matter if it's taking lead service lines out of the ground or adding peaks to our skyline, like we're seeing with The Couture, Milwaukee is on the upward swing. We're depending on the men and women in the unions to make that happen. ... It'll create stability in their lives, it'll create stability in the lives of their family, it'll create stability in their neighborhoods, which will create stability in our city. In the end, that helps us achieve the public safety that all of us want to see."

<https://biztimes.com/see-photos-leaders-celebrate-coutures-progress-workforce>

REGULATION [^top^](#)

- Should the DNR oversee all zoos? Activists and zoo owners disagree ... bill would allow privately owned zoos to forgo a license from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as long as it receives accreditation from the Zoological Association of America. A similar exemption is already in place for members of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association. Reviews Wed.'s Assembly committee hearing.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/zoo-owners-activists-square-off-over-dnr-oversight-for-private-zoos/70768235007/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- KISS' Gene Simmons visits Rhinelander to promote his Wisconsin-made vodka

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/kiss-gene-simmons-visits-rhinelander-to-promote-his-wisconsin-made-vodka/>

- Twisted Sister's Dee Snider to sign copies of new novel, 'Frats,' on morning after Friday concert with Bret Michaels ... at the Rock N Roll Land record store

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/entertainment/music/2023/09/07/twisted-sisters-dee-snider-to-sign-copies-of-his-new-book-on-saturday-after-concert-with-bret-michae/70786018007/>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Forest County Potawatomi embrace solar energy, spiritually and financially ... Since 2010, Hauber estimates, its solar panel installations and energy efficiency projects have saved the tribe 179 gigawatt hours of electricity and 3.594 million therms of natural gas, as well as prevented the emissions of 75,419 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. ... Potawatomi Casino Hotel in Milwaukee and the Wgema Campus, site of the former Concordia University in Milwaukee, were among the tribal buildings to undergo energy projects in recent years. Tribal government buildings in Forest County ... also have been reworked to improve energy efficiency.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/forest-county-potawatomi-embrace-solar-energy/70780397007/>

WORKPLACE SAFETY [^top^](#)

- USDOL fined Florence Hardwoods nearly \$200K following death of a teen this summer ... Officials found that at least three other children aged 15 and 16 were injured working for Florence Hardwoods between November 2021 and March 2023 --

one of those children was injured on two separate occasions. ... found the company employed nine underage workers 14-17 were illegally allowed to operate machinery. Seven were allowed to work outside legally permitted hours. ... "Any death of a child is too many," [Sec. Su] said. "That's why our Wage and Hour Division and Solicitor's Office took immediate steps to prevent the sale of 'hot goods' and to hold the company accountable for allowing children to perform hazardous and, in this case, deadly jobs. Illegal child labor is a stain on this country and will not be tolerated by this administration or this department."

<https://www.wpr.org/northern-wisconsin-sawmill-fined-nearly-200k-following-death-teen-summer>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: The most dangerous gas in America: Of late the globalist warming crowd has targeted the poor cow for the cause of the earth burning up before our very eyes. ... in the real world, there is no such thing as settled science, and scientific consensus was never meant to be taken as incontrovertible proof. ... It's all bunk, and the truth is out there if only people will look for it. Granted, it's hard to find sometimes. ... Nobel laureate John Clauser -- whose Nobel came just last year -- is trying to do just that by joining a growing group of scientific dissenters who say there is no climate crisis at all, at least not a human-made one. Clauser's dissent is the loudest and the latest, but the numbers are spiraling upward. ... If Nobel laureates can stand up and say the truth, so can presidential candidates. ... do it for all the poor maligned cows. Their moos are on the line, too.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/08/lakeland-times-our-view/>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Paul Fanlund: Stop blaming the mainstream media for Trump's resilience ... Through the years I have agreed with Bunch and Rubin -- believing that false equivalencies and so-called "bothsidesism" have been significant problems for American journalism, resulting in overheated coverage of Hillary Clinton's emails and Hunter Biden's legal problems. It is just that I think there actually is a lot of journalism in 2023 that identifies and labels lies and threats to our democracy. I think the national media did learn lessons from normalizing Trump's 2016 campaign. ... I actually think the media does do two things at once -- reporting the news of the day, some of it horse-race politics, while also exploring larger themes and trends about fascism, authoritarianism, racism and the many signs of climate catastrophe. ... Again, to me the biggest problem is that too many Americans, the ones who believe the distortions of Fox News and its even more extreme brethren, apparently are unwilling to read or listen to any serious journalism. When we figure out a way to get more people to listen, we may get somewhere.

<https://captimes.com/7ae82482-ee66-52a1-beb8-2534a9c3189c.html>

- John Nichols: The Wisconsin GOP's New Attack on Democracy Is Extreme Even for Them, Conservatives lost control of Wisconsin's Supreme Court with April's election of Justice Janet Protasiewicz. Now, they're scheming to impeach her.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/wisconsin-gop-supreme-court-impeachment/>

- Scott Walker: Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz must recuse herself in redistricting case: Wisconsin lawmakers are considering a potential vote on impeaching the newest member of the state Supreme Court.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/sep/7/wisconsin-supreme-court-justice-janet-protasiewicz/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Expect Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz to be impeached ... liberals could harness that anger to recall one or more of the conservative justices. That takes 340,000 signatures, but reproductive rights is a powerful motivator. Vos may fear that backlash or get enough pushback from national Republicans to back down from his threat. We'll see. But right now it looks to me like we're headed for impeachment.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/expect-justice-protasiewicz-to-be-impeached/>

- Dave Zweifel: Falling vaccination rates threaten our schools

<https://captimes.com/8e47bda4-cffa-581b-b6fa-c1e6a741a56a.html>

- Patrick McIlheran: DPI 'equity' speakers talk revolution; Wisconsin parents just want their kids to be able to read: If the system's so rotten, why shouldn't kids escape?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/equity-speakers-talk-of-revolution-wisconsin-parents-just-want-their-kids-to-read/>

- Rocketship WI's Kadeem Gill: More Special Education Funding Is Needed, State covers only 33% of the costs. That must be increased.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/op-ed-more-special-education-funding>

- Mike Nichols: The Journal Sentinel gets its comeuppance: Local paper's smear of Moms for Liberty noted in Wall Street Journal.

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/the-journal-sentinel-gets-its-comeuppance/>

- Ex-UWSP Foundation Pres. Bruce Froehlke: Story on Wisconsin alcohol addiction omits AA resources ... there was one remarkable element in the Wisconsin Watch report: the absence of Alcoholics Anonymous in its recommendations for treatment. ... [on United Way/DHS website] Under addiction recovery, one can explore treatment options, which funnels people to clinics, treatment centers and county health service offices. Nowhere is Alcoholics Anonymous (or Narcotics Anonymous) mentioned.

<https://captimes.com/6d056ca0-13eb-5769-9cc9-12ba4c8a8c55.html>

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From: WisPolitics.com
To: [Madden, Zach A - GOV](#)
Subject: FRI News Summary: Revised GOP-backed income tax cut advances through Assembly committee as Evers promises veto
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:41:53 AM

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FRI News Summary -- 8 Sept. 2023

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<https://www.wispolitics.com/2023/fri-news-summary-revised-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-advances-through-assembly-committee-as-evers-promises-veto/>

STORY TOPICS

- [White house](#)
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TOP STORIES

Lawmakers advance GOP-backed income tax cut, but Evers promises to veto ...

The proposal would expand retirement exemptions and cut taxes by nearly 1% for WI's third income tax bracket ... "100 percent of this money is going to folks that need it the most," Macco, who chairs Wisconsin's Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, said of the proposal. ... "We have the money today, but I don't I don't have the confidence that we're going to have the money in three years," [W&M Dem Conley] said. "And I just think this needs more time to be vetted more deeply." ... "I'm not going to sign an irresponsible Republican tax cut that jeopardizes our state's financial stability well into the future and the investments we need to be making today to address the real, pressing challenges facing our state." Evers posted to social media on Wednesday. ... "The \$2.9 billion goes directly back to the people for an overpayment that was made, returning their surplus," [sponsor Steffen] said. "We will still have a billion dollars of surplus to discuss options further into the session, to discuss what are some mutually agreed upon priorities." Rep. Ohnstad-D joined GOP advancing the bill, but

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could change his mind on final passage, "I do have concerns about the sustainability of this tax cut," Ohnstad said. "But I also recognize that ... people in my district make 80% of what the median income is in the state of Wisconsin, and I also have thousands of retirees that are in my district." ... [also] voted along party lines to advance a ballot proposal that seeks to amend Wisconsin's Constitution to ... mandate approval by a two-thirds majority of the state Legislature in order to increase income, sales or franchise taxes in the future. By Lehr, WPR
<https://www.wpr.org/lawmakers-advance-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-evers-promises-veto>

GOP threatens to impeach justice over Dem donations, but conservatives also took GOP cash

... [Hagedorn and Bradley took RPW donations] totaling roughly \$150,000 and \$70,000 respectively. ... Karofsky's campaign [got \$1.3M+ from DPW. Kelly got \$1.2M+ from RPW, RNC]. ... Conservative majorities in the court approved rules [written in part by donor WMC, which spent \$2M electing now-CJ Ziegler and \$1.8M electing then-justice Gableman] allowing justices to hear cases involving their campaign donors in 2010 and rejected [retired judges'] request for clearer recusal standards in 2017. Protasiewicz vowed recusal on cases brought by DPW, but DPW did not bring the redistricting cases - though DPW stands to benefit from rulings. None of the sitting justices responded on whether they would recuse from cases involving their campaign supporters, none recused from last year's redistricting cases. Reviews WI maps' reputation for being gerrymandered, expanded GOP majorities despite losing statewide, Protasiewicz's 11-point win, "rigged" and "unfair" comments. Ziegler and Gableman did not recuse in WMC cases. Ziegler as county judge rule on cases involving her husband's bank and companies in which she held stock. Justice Bradley wrote incredulous opinion rejecting the 2017 request for recusal standards on donors' cases, but she blasted Protasiewicz for not recusing on restricting case that could help donor DPW.
 * CC/WI's Heck: "It's what I call selective outrage. It's incredibly hypocritical," noted was no GOP outrage when conservative justices heard numerous cases over the years involving their conservative donors, "The rules and parameters of recusal were put in place by the conservatives and by the Republicans. If they don't like the way the situation is now, all they have to do is look at their own behavior."

* Assembly Majority Leader August was asked if conservative justices should recuse from redistricting cases over taking RPW donations, "We're talking about this case, this justice, and I'll leave it at that." By Bauer, Venhuizen AP
<https://apnews.com/f1d1dfd476325a00e9b99d4735b4b5ee>

Rep. Dave Murphy questions whether UW-Madison complying with affirmative action admissions ban

... During a three-hour public hearing before the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities, GOP lawmakers held up copies of heavily redacted admissions criteria obtained from UW-Madison through an open records request and accused the university of not being transparent ... [UW's] Potts said the university had offered to let [chair Murphy, Senate chair Hutton] review the documents in person, cited "shared goal that we would not unintentionally provide an advantage to elected officials in their knowledge of our admissions process for their particular constituents to benefit from."

* Murphy: "That is the most ridiculous answer I have ever heard! I can't believe you're talking about advantaging legislators by letting them know what this criteria is about. We are the committee that has oversight over your agency!" asked Potts how lawmakers can know UW-Madison is "following the Supreme Court's [affirmative action] decision ... if there's no transparency, then that's pretty difficult to do."

* Potts: "the goal is to follow the law and being in compliance with the law."

* co-sponsor Rep. O'Connor said the guaranteed admissions legislation "could be labeled as an anti-DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) bill. ... I don't care about DEI in this situation. This is simply about not discriminating against the best of the best coming out of our high schools."

... would require state colleges and universities to admit high school graduates students in the top five percent of their class, it would be up to high school administrators to decide how to rank them. Rep. Wittke questioned 421 arbitrary class rankings. FdL Supt Fleig supported bill, suggested adding ranking criteria. UW prof. Odle study found offering direct admission to students, particularly those from minority groups and lower-income families, boosted applications but didn't impact enrollment. By Kremer, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-rep-dave-murphy-questions-whether-uw-madison-complying-affirmative-action-admissions-ban>

Senate chief clerk Queensland placed on administrative leave pending investigation

... chief clerk is a nonpartisan officer elected by the full Senate every two years. ... oversees the administration and record-keeping for the state Senate as well as serving as parliamentarian and chief operating officer. ... paid \$141,000 per year. ... "This is a personnel matter," Radday [for LeMahieu] said. "I can't comment further." LeMahieu said same. Queensland was not immediately available. Queensland's access to state buildings was revoked on Aug. 23 at the request Senate Sergeant at Arms Engel. GOP

source said GOP senators were told that Queensland was on leave pending investigation, not to ask questions about the situation or to take calls from Queensland, who was formerly Legis Council senior staff attorney. By Bice, Beck MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/07/wisconsin-senate-chief-clerk-placed-on-leave-pending-investigation/70785605007/>

Prosecutors charge WI man of assaulting officer during Jan. 6 attack at US Capitol

... Joseph Cattani, 40, of Colgate ... arrested Thursday in Wisconsin and charged in federal court in Washington, D.C. ... faces two felony counts of civil disorder and assaulting officers. ... misdemeanor counts of entering and remaining in a restricted building, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and demonstrating in a Capitol building. ... Online court records didn't list an attorney for him. ... Law enforcement officers have arrested more than 1,146 people across the country in connection with the incident at the Capitol. About 400 of them have been charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement. By AP

<https://apnews.com/162ff04360375a75549273d2b56d70cd>

STORY TOPICS
#####

WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Trump rallies with SD Gov. Noem, Allies hope is a VP tryout

<https://lacrossetribune.com/90d66dba-b56e-50c4-a256-5db7b9d6d325.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Pay raises for Wisconsin state employees still awaiting legislative approval ... On July 31, [DOA sent JCOER, who sent to LFB] a proposed pay plan to implement the [\$422M budget-funded] raises. ... [LFB] typically waits for the bureau to analyze a pay plan before adopting it, something that hasn't happened yet. In the past, the fiscal bureau has taken around a month to finish its review. ... Asked whether the committee might alter the plan, [JCOER member Born] said, "It's likely we will try to make sure we implement the things that we did in the budget." JCOER co-chair Kapenga did not respond. [LFB declined comment.] Reviews budget raise provisions.

<https://madison.com/cab2f9c2-4cc5-11ee-8cfc-6ba9a4d4dc30.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sup. Tony Staskunas Won't Seek Re-Election, The West Allis supervisor has served on the board since 2013: when he left the state Assembly, enabling Supv. Sanfelippo to run for Assembly.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/mke-county-sup-tony-staskunas-wont-seek>

- Vilas County judge rules election re-do for Presque Isle town chair, How the special election will be administered leaves questions yet to be answered ... The ruling comes roughly four months after [ex-town chair] MacLean filed a notice of an appeal of recount seven days after an April 12 recount that reaffirmed [ex-clerk] Walters's one-vote victory -- 242-241 -- in the April 4 election. ... it was found that Walters's son Jim had been working on town computers off-site at his Michigan-based tech company for the last 20 years. ... judge Martha Milanowski ordered a special election ... during an oral ruling lasting about an hour on Aug. 31 in Eagle River.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/05/vilas-county-judge-rules-election-re-do-for-presque-isle-town-chair/>

- ECC Admin. Schauf comments on conclusion of DHS investigation ... ready to move forward and put an investigation of the Department of Human Services finances behind them, after the board opted Tuesday to not take any action regarding her leadership.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/1fa438aa-4cf4-11ee-b57b-8767b1b1f6d0.html>

BANKING AND INVESTMENT [^top^](#)

- Reedsburg lawyer stole \$1.6M from client's trust to pay for home improvements, 2 trucks and a tractor ... Judge William M. Conley on Thursday ordered Kristin Lein, 61, to serve 45 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. She pleaded guilty in June

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/wisconsin-lawyer-gets-prison-time-for-embezzling-1-million-from-trust/70789951007/>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court, in public hearing, weighs eviction records ... Legal Action of Wisconsin ... asked the state Supreme Court in March 2022 to change court rules [re: 20-yr eviction record retention] ... records are retained regardless of whether an eviction was granted. Many landlords can access these records online ... to help "more Wisconsin families find and maintain safe and affordable rental housing." ... Once someone has an eviction on their record, there's not a lot that can be done to remove the record, according to Madison's Tenant Resource Center. ... Legal Action requested a similar change in 2021 that was not adopted because then-Director of State Courts Randy Koschnick determined a new record-retention policy would be too burdensome ... [despite furor over Protasiewicz recusal/impeachment, liberal court majority firing Koschnick and limiting CJ powers,] justices appeared cordial Thursday in the state Capitol hearing room as they questioned attorneys and listened to two hours of testimony advocating both for and against granting the rule change.

* LAW's Ayers: "It's the court's obligation to somehow use its power for good and, in this case, we believe that that is scrubbing these records. We're talking about human decency here, as well as court process. Individuals are just trying to access housing, which is a basic human right, and this will be impactful."

* UW Law Eviction Defense Clinic's Kube: "The stories we heard over and over and over again were varying degrees of, 'I got the five-day notice and I vacated. I had no idea this was on my record.' It is, 'I got evicted one time because I had an emergency expense for my child. I've had a perfect rental history since and this 8-year-old record

is still impeding me from finding housing."

* landlord groups atty. Giese: "Landlords, knowing that they won't have good access to somebody's past business record, are going to have to raise the security deposit, double it perhaps to be sure they're going to get their rent paid. They're going to have to engage in a tighter screening for those tenants. That's going to hurt tenants, especially tenants who have never been evicted. It's also going to hurt the small landlords. ... In these big counties like Dane and Milwaukee, there is a form you fill out where you check a box if you've been evicted or not, and that is the end of the story."

* Justice Hagedorn: "It just feels to me like you're making a really dramatic policy argument that is asking us to favor certain folks over others and proposing to hide information from the public, including those who would have a pretty reasonable interest in that information when making business decisions."

* LAW's Lundin: "What makes eviction records different from other court records, including criminal records, is that they impact a basic human need of having shelter. ... We're only asking that the state not be the one to put this information out there. There are plenty of private market solutions to this that landlords have come up with."

* Dane Co Clerk of Courts Esqueda: "We had 1,700 eviction cases (in Dane County) filed so far this year. I wouldn't be surprised if the vast majority of those wound up having sealing and redaction motions filed on them," the only way to complete the rule change would be to consider "the nuclear option": taking down CCAP altogether.

* Ayers acknowledged administrative burden, "We also believe that there should be a balancing test and when it ultimately comes down to it, we look at equity and what is fairest. ... If we have to take a step back, we believe that at a minimum not having free access online could be (a) potential."

<https://captimes.com/d7e6660e-1e6c-54c2-9c74-51a0ff5fa6d2.html>

- New Wisconsin Supreme Court meets for first time in hearing on eviction records rule change

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/07/new-wisconsin-supreme-court-meets-for>

- State Public Defender Kelli Thompson reflects on 12 years overseeing agency ... revealed she'll resign effective Oct. 9 in as low-key a way as possible. There was a press announcement and letter released Sept. 1 ... deputy, Katie York [will serve interim], with the board conducting a search to fill the position on a full-time basis. In August 2022, a suit filed in Green Bay alleged Evers, PD have violated constitutional rights of thousands of indigent criminal defendants who have waited weeks and months for an appointed lawyer. Judge Tom Walsh will rule on defendants' motion to dismiss and the plaintiffs' motion for class certification. Resignation letter excerpts.

* Thompson: "It's the right thing. It's the right decision. ... I have to tell you, I have cried more over this decision than anything else. ... Truly, I love the public defender's office. I'm leaving with a heavy heart."

* CJ Ziegler: "Kelli not only effectively advocated for the public defender's office, but she has been a steadfast defender of constitutional rights for those in need of legal services. Job well done, Kelli!"

* Justice Dallet: "I think she loves her job but I also know that Kelli has done the work of training the next generation and has ensured it will be in good hands when she leaves."

* ex-county CJ Triggiano: "She's a dear friend. We've brainstormed the pandemic and backlogs together. It's going to be an incredible loss for that office and it will be interesting to see what she does next. She has a big heart."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/public-defender-kelli-thompson-reflects-on-12-years-overseeing-agency/70787632007/>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Exclusive: One-on-one sit down with U.S. Education Sec. Miguel Cardona ... Cardona toured Vel Phillips Memorial High School on Thursday. 3 Qs&As

* Cardona: "... this bus trip is really to promote our "Raise the Bar," lead the world strategy, where we're focusing on our plan to improve education across our country. It engages families that engages educators around academic excellence, mental health support for students, and really being innovative and giving them more opportunities - not only for college, but also for careers that exist. We also focus on making sure fixing a broken loan system and making higher education more accessible and more affordable to our students. Imagine if we unlock the potential of our country by opening doors to college for more students we'll be in better shape."

<https://www.channel3000.com/ada26f46-4dda-11ee-b0a7-cb970644c911.html>

- 5 Republican child care bills aim to improve daycare shortage by loosening some restrictions on providers, At public hearing, some say they worry teen workers, higher adult-to-child ratios, could worsen care. Testimony highlights.

<https://www.wpr.org/5-republican-child-care-bills-aim-improve-daycare-shortage-loosening-some-restrictions-providers>

- Bus driver shortage means some Waukesha students don't even get picked up until after school starts

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/09/07/waukesha-parents-concerned-about-bus-driver-shortage/70765086007/>

- What is the benefit of breakfast on school performance? ... article from the Frontiers in Human Neuroscience cites multiple studies which demonstrate that eating breakfast does have a positive effect on students. ... [ECSD's Smith] said that on top of breakfast improving academic performance, it can also improve mood.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/b7b5e3da-4db4-11ee-ae0e-fb610833a1ea.html>

- Evers visits Northwestern High School ... part of the governor's statewide Back to School tour. ... first gubernatorial visit to the Maple School District ... sat down at a lunch table to quiz seniors Lily Mickus, Grace Udeen, Jalynn Tuura, Ava Anderson and Jade Stillson about their career plans. ... felt a return to normalcy following the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, he said, there's been "a lot of good energy, no matter where I've been, small towns, big towns, small districts, big districts."... asked how the state can address the current teacher shortage. "We're not going to be able to replace teachers with widgets, and so it is important that we continue to encourage people, and one of the ways to do that is to provide teachers with the respect they deserve," Evers said. ... talked about the need to support and grow child care ... "I have a proposal out there for \$17 million dollars and we can afford it, and we should be using that to prop up and support our child care industry in the state of Wisconsin," Evers

said. Students, school officials comment.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/wisconsin-gov-tony-evers-visits-northwestern-high-school>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- WI's suicide numbers have reached historically high levels for the 2nd year in a row ... CDC is funding 24 jurisdictions, including Wisconsin, through its comprehensive suicide prevention program, with the goal of reducing the nation's suicide numbers by 20% by 2025. On Wednesday, Gov. Tony Evers announced that his office and [DHS] were joining the effort to reduce suicide among two at-risk populations [rural men 25+, adolescents 10-19] by 10% over the next five years. "I declared 2023 the Year of Mental Health because we cannot overstate the profound impact the past few years have had on our kids, families, and communities, and we know that Wisconsinites across our state are struggling perhaps now more than ever," Evers said in Wednesday's press release.

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2023/09/08/gov-tony-evers-plans-to-reduce-suicide-numbers-by-10-over-5-years/70779845007/>

LABOR [^top^](#)

- Democrats push an agenda to restore worker rights, Proposals face uphill battle, but backers say they show what they stand for: Rep. Shankland led presser for 10-bill collection Thursday to enshrine workers' rights in state law after a decade and a half of measures rolling back those rights. ... pointed to union organizing, activism and contract fights at Colectivo and Starbucks coffee shops, Leinenkugel brewery and UPS as well as the prospect of a looming job action by the UAW ... "Right now, union popularity is soaring, with seven out of 10 Americans having a positive view of labor unions, because labor unions are getting real results that improve both the economic and safety conditions for the workers they represent," Shankland said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/democrats-push-an-agenda-to-restore>

- The four-day workweek gains another prominent champion ... UAW President Shawn Fain laid out a 32-hour workweek as one of the many proposals for a new contract with the largest three American auto manufacturers, as well as a 40% increase in pay, boosted pensions and other items. The union already authorized a strike, and the contract runs out Sept. 14. ... A new survey by Bankrate found 81% of American workers support a four-day workweek and, of those, 54% would work longer hours to get it, according to the survey. About 37% would change jobs or industries and 10% would take a pay cut. About 27% would even stay in the office more. ... In March, Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif., introduced legislation that would alter the standard workweek from 40 hours to 32 hours, phased in over a three-year period. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., has also recently highlighted the four-day workweek. ... Pennsylvania state Rep. G. Roni Green working to introduce legislation that would reduce the official workweek for businesses with more than 500 employees to 32 hours without a reduction in pay. ... 4 Day Week Global has already completed several pilots involving the four-day workweek.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/09/08/four-day-work-week-pay-compensation-union-uaw.html>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Appeals court affirms circuit court decision in jail transfer dispute ... Because Jeremy Alquist completed his jail sentence before the first appeal brief was even filed, the issue is moot, the appeals court ruled Wednesday.

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/appeals-court-affirms-circuit-court-decision-in-jail-transfer-dispute/>

- Sexual assault survivors can now track their rape kits in most states, Public criticism about kit backlogs spurs push for more transparency.

<https://stateline.org/2023/09/08/sexual-assault-survivors-can-now-track-their-rape-kits-in-most-states/>

MEDIA [^top^](#)

- 'Convicting a Murderer,' DailyWire+ docuseries on Steven Avery case, premieres Friday ... will premiere Friday on X, formerly Twitter, beginning at 8 p.m. Central ... remain available to anyone on the platform "indefinitely."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/07/convicting-a-murderer-series-on-steven-avery-case-premieres-friday/70786913007/>

MILITARY [^top^](#)

- Bong Center staff confront stolen valor incident, An email, an expert and a piece of paper helped unravel a false Vietnam tale. ... resulted in a new policy requiring proof of military service for every program, donation, display and volunteer.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/bong-center-staff-confront-stolen-valor-incident>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- YWCA Rock County seeking nominations for 2023 Dorothy Height Diversity in the Workplace Award

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/ea53a888-d516-586e-bffc-cc1007427767.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Waukesha Celebrates Completing Milwaukee Water Pipeline, \$286M project will provide [radium-]safe water for suburban community, revenue for Milwaukee. ... "Milwaukee water was the right choice because of its closer connection, low rates and capacity. Just as important, Milwaukee is a national leader in ensuring safe drinking water. There is no better water," said Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly during a ceremony Thursday afternoon inside the new Waukesha Booster Pumping Station ... water will start flowing between Sept. 14 and 18 said Waukesha Water [guru] Duchniak, who [emceed] the event [and culminated 21-yr search for radium-free replacement water] ... "It's safe to say I didn't know what I was getting into 20 years ago," said Duchniak. ... "It's a partnership that has led us to today's celebration and I look forward to more partnerships, more working together and more celebrations," said Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Reilly and his Waukesha colleagues. Reilly also endorsed more future collaboration between the cities. ... "We are here because Jennifer Abele delivered results," said Johnson, praising the former city lobbyist and Milwaukee Water Works superintendent, who is widely credited with

negotiating the deal from the Milwaukee side. ... Waukesha is to pay Milwaukee at least \$3.2M/yr for the water and already made a \$2.5M one-time payment. The annual payments will rise to \$4.5M if Waukesha uses the full 8.2M gallons the deal allows, with an additional escalator available. Waukesha Exec. Farrow, WCBA's Kelley, Carroll prof. Piatt also spoke. Audience included US Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Allen, Water Works dir. Pauly, ex-Water Worksters Dettmer and Abele. Details and pics.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/waukesha-celebrates-completing-milwaukee>

- Construction for project to bring Lake Michigan water to Waukesha now complete, City will make switch to Lake Michigan water in coming days: Great Water Alliance groundbreaking ceremony Thursday, project details. Waukesha Mayor Reilly, water guru Duchniak, DNR's Elmore comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/construction-project-bring-lake-michigan-water-waukesha-now-complete>

- FDNY firefighters who were at Ground Zero on 9/11 to speak at Oshkosh's EAA Aviation Museum, Matt Nelson, Charles Blaich and Steven San Filippo were veteran members of the department who were on duty on 9/11.

<https://www.thenorthwestern.com/story/news/local/2023/09/06/fdny-firefighters-who-were-at-911-to-speak-in-oshkosh-at-eaa-aviation-museum/70731866007/>

- US Military Firefighters Grapple With Unknowns of PFAS Exposure ... Defense Department is interested in the outcomes of ongoing health studies by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry as well as toxicology assessments by the [EPA] and noted that the Pentagon supported the testicular cancer study by allowing use of the Department of Defense Serum Repository and including it in the Pentagon's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. ... not requested by the Pentagon in its annual budget, but instead are supported by extra money that Congress gives the department to manage research projects that members deem necessary to advance medical science and promote the health of the armed forces.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/like-a-russian-roulette-us-military>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- Leaders celebrate Couture's progress, workforce development ... soon to be Wisconsin's tallest residential building, local and national officials gathered Thursday to celebrate the progress on the building, the construction career pipeline it creates and what it all means for the future of Milwaukee. Building's core is built up to floor 33, floor decks to floor 30, precast panels up to 21, glass is at 16, inwall plumbing at level 10 and drywall level at eight, adding, on average, one floor per week. \$104.5M of estimated \$191M cost came from the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, which owns the main construction loan for the project - HIT's largest investment in its history.

* NABTU's McGarvey: "Behind me is a symphony. When you see the men and women who are building that building, it's some of the greatest music ever played."

* Findorff's Hornung: "We've put in hundreds of thousands of labor hours, with hundreds of thousands of labor hours to go. Over 38,000 yards of concrete have been poured to date."

* Developer Barrett: "As a Milwaukee guy, the crown jewel for me is The Couture," has created 2K+ construction-related jobs and, once completed, the project will create 150 permanent jobs.

* Mayor Johnson: "It doesn't matter if it's taking lead service lines out of the ground or adding peaks to our skyline, like we're seeing with The Couture, Milwaukee is on the upward swing. We're depending on the men and women in the unions to make that happen. ... It'll create stability in their lives, it'll create stability in the lives of their family, it'll create stability in their neighborhoods, which will create stability in our city. In the end, that helps us achieve the public safety that all of us want to see."

<https://biztimes.com/see-photos-leaders-celebrate-coutures-progress-workforce>

REGULATION [^top^](#)

- Should the DNR oversee all zoos? Activists and zoo owners disagree ... bill would allow privately owned zoos to forgo a license from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as long as it receives accreditation from the Zoological Association of America. A similar exemption is already in place for members of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association. Reviews Wed.'s Assembly committee hearing.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/zoo-owners-activists-square-off-over-dnr-oversight-for-private-zoos/70768235007/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- KISS' Gene Simmons visits Rhinelander to promote his Wisconsin-made vodka

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/kiss-gene-simmons-visits-rhinelander-to-promote-his-wisconsin-made-vodka/>

- Twisted Sister's Dee Snider to sign copies of new novel, 'Frats,' on morning after Friday concert with Bret Michaels ... at the Rock N Roll Land record store

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/entertainment/music/2023/09/07/twisted-sisters-dee-snider-to-sign-copies-of-his-new-book-on-saturday-after-concert-with-bret-michae/70786018007/>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Forest County Potawatomi embrace solar energy, spiritually and financially ... Since 2010, Hauber estimates, its solar panel installations and energy efficiency projects have saved the tribe 179 gigawatt hours of electricity and 3.594 million therms of natural gas, as well as prevented the emissions of 75,419 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. ... Potawatomi Casino Hotel in Milwaukee and the Wgema Campus, site of the former Concordia University in Milwaukee, were among the tribal buildings to undergo energy projects in recent years. Tribal government buildings in Forest County ... also have been reworked to improve energy efficiency.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/forest-county-potawatomi-embrace-solar-energy/70780397007/>

WORKPLACE SAFETY [^top^](#)

- USDOL fined Florence Hardwoods nearly \$200K following death of a teen this summer ... Officials found that at least three other children aged 15 and 16 were injured working for Florence Hardwoods between November 2021 and March 2023 --

one of those children was injured on two separate occasions. ... found the company employed nine underage workers 14-17 were illegally allowed to operate machinery. Seven were allowed to work outside legally permitted hours. ... "Any death of a child is too many," [Sec. Su] said. "That's why our Wage and Hour Division and Solicitor's Office took immediate steps to prevent the sale of 'hot goods' and to hold the company accountable for allowing children to perform hazardous and, in this case, deadly jobs. Illegal child labor is a stain on this country and will not be tolerated by this administration or this department."

<https://www.wpr.org/northern-wisconsin-sawmill-fined-nearly-200k-following-death-teen-summer>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: The most dangerous gas in America: Of late the globalist warming crowd has targeted the poor cow for the cause of the earth burning up before our very eyes. ... in the real world, there is no such thing as settled science, and scientific consensus was never meant to be taken as incontrovertible proof. ... It's all bunk, and the truth is out there if only people will look for it. Granted, it's hard to find sometimes. ... Nobel laureate John Clauser -- whose Nobel came just last year -- is trying to do just that by joining a growing group of scientific dissenters who say there is no climate crisis at all, at least not a human-made one. Clauser's dissent is the loudest and the latest, but the numbers are spiraling upward. ... If Nobel laureates can stand up and say the truth, so can presidential candidates. ... do it for all the poor maligned cows. Their moos are on the line, too.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/08/lakeland-times-our-view/>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Paul Fanlund: Stop blaming the mainstream media for Trump's resilience ... Through the years I have agreed with Bunch and Rubin -- believing that false equivalencies and so-called "bothsidesism" have been significant problems for American journalism, resulting in overheated coverage of Hillary Clinton's emails and Hunter Biden's legal problems. It is just that I think there actually is a lot of journalism in 2023 that identifies and labels lies and threats to our democracy. I think the national media did learn lessons from normalizing Trump's 2016 campaign. ... I actually think the media does do two things at once -- reporting the news of the day, some of it horse-race politics, while also exploring larger themes and trends about fascism, authoritarianism, racism and the many signs of climate catastrophe. ... Again, to me the biggest problem is that too many Americans, the ones who believe the distortions of Fox News and its even more extreme brethren, apparently are unwilling to read or listen to any serious journalism. When we figure out a way to get more people to listen, we may get somewhere.

<https://captimes.com/7ae82482-ee66-52a1-beb8-2534a9c3189c.html>

- John Nichols: The Wisconsin GOP's New Attack on Democracy Is Extreme Even for Them, Conservatives lost control of Wisconsin's Supreme Court with April's election of Justice Janet Protasiewicz. Now, they're scheming to impeach her.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/wisconsin-gop-supreme-court-impeachment/>

- Scott Walker: Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz must recuse herself in redistricting case: Wisconsin lawmakers are considering a potential vote on impeaching the newest member of the state Supreme Court.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/sep/7/wisconsin-supreme-court-justice-janet-protasiewicz/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Expect Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz to be impeached ... liberals could harness that anger to recall one or more of the conservative justices. That takes 340,000 signatures, but reproductive rights is a powerful motivator. Vos may fear that backlash or get enough pushback from national Republicans to back down from his threat. We'll see. But right now it looks to me like we're headed for impeachment.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/expect-justice-protasiewicz-to-be-impeached/>

- Dave Zweifel: Falling vaccination rates threaten our schools

<https://captimes.com/8e47bda4-cffa-581b-b6fa-c1e6a741a56a.html>

- Patrick McIlheran: DPI 'equity' speakers talk revolution; Wisconsin parents just want their kids to be able to read: If the system's so rotten, why shouldn't kids escape?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/equity-speakers-talk-of-revolution-wisconsin-parents-just-want-their-kids-to-read/>

- Rocketship WI's Kadeem Gill: More Special Education Funding Is Needed, State covers only 33% of the costs. That must be increased.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/op-ed-more-special-education-funding>

- Mike Nichols: The Journal Sentinel gets its comeuppance: Local paper's smear of Moms for Liberty noted in Wall Street Journal.

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/the-journal-sentinel-gets-its-comeuppance/>

- Ex-UWSP Foundation Pres. Bruce Froehle: Story on Wisconsin alcohol addiction omits AA resources ... there was one remarkable element in the Wisconsin Watch report: the absence of Alcoholics Anonymous in its recommendations for treatment. ... [on United Way/DHS website] Under addiction recovery, one can explore treatment options, which funnels people to clinics, treatment centers and county health service offices. Nowhere is Alcoholics Anonymous (or Narcotics Anonymous) mentioned.

<https://captimes.com/6d056ca0-13eb-5769-9cc9-12ba4c8a8c55.html>

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From: WisPolitics.com
To: [Becker, Kelly - GOV](#)
Subject: FRI News Summary: Revised GOP-backed income tax cut advances through Assembly committee as Evers promises veto
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 10:42:00 AM

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FRI News Summary -- 8 Sept. 2023

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STORY TOPICS

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TOP STORIES

Lawmakers advance GOP-backed income tax cut, but Evers promises to veto ...

The proposal would expand retirement exemptions and cut taxes by nearly 1% for WI's third income tax bracket ... "100 percent of this money is going to folks that need it the most," Macco, who chairs Wisconsin's Assembly Committee on Ways and Means, said of the proposal. ... "We have the money today, but I don't I don't have the confidence that we're going to have the money in three years," [W&M Dem Conley] said. "And I just think this needs more time to be vetted more deeply." ... "I'm not going to sign an irresponsible Republican tax cut that jeopardizes our state's financial stability well into the future and the investments we need to be making today to address the real, pressing challenges facing our state." Evers posted to social media on Wednesday. ... "The \$2.9 billion goes directly back to the people for an overpayment that was made, returning their surplus," [sponsor Steffen] said. "We will still have a billion dollars of surplus to discuss options further into the session, to discuss what are some mutually agreed upon priorities." Rep. Ohnstad-D joined GOP advancing the bill, but

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could change his mind on final passage, "I do have concerns about the sustainability of this tax cut," Ohnstad said. "But I also recognize that ... people in my district make 80% of what the median income is in the state of Wisconsin, and I also have thousands of retirees that are in my district." ... [also] voted along party lines to advance a ballot proposal that seeks to amend Wisconsin's Constitution to ... mandate approval by a two-thirds majority of the state Legislature in order to increase income, sales or franchise taxes in the future. By Lehr, WPR
<https://www.wpr.org/lawmakers-advance-gop-backed-income-tax-cut-evers-promises-veto>

GOP threatens to impeach justice over Dem donations, but conservatives also took GOP cash

... [Hagedorn and Bradley took RPW donations] totaling roughly \$150,000 and \$70,000 respectively. ... Karofsky's campaign [got \$1.3M+ from DPW. Kelly got \$1.2M+ from RPW, RNC]. ... Conservative majorities in the court approved rules [written in part by donor WMC, which spent \$2M electing now-CJ Ziegler and \$1.8M electing then-justice Gableman] allowing justices to hear cases involving their campaign donors in 2010 and rejected [retired judges'] request for clearer recusal standards in 2017. Protasiewicz vowed recusal on cases brought by DPW, but DPW did not bring the redistricting cases - though DPW stands to benefit from rulings. None of the sitting justices responded on whether they would recuse from cases involving their campaign supporters, none recused from last year's redistricting cases. Reviews WI maps' reputation for being gerrymandered, expanded GOP majorities despite losing statewide, Protasiewicz's 11-point win, "rigged" and "unfair" comments. Ziegler and Gableman did not recuse in WMC cases. Ziegler as county judge rule on cases involving her husband's bank and companies in which she held stock. Justice Bradley wrote incredulous opinion rejecting the 2017 request for recusal standards on donors' cases, but she blasted Protasiewicz for not recusing on restricting case that could help donor DPW.
 * CC/WI's Heck: "It's what I call selective outrage. It's incredibly hypocritical," noted was no GOP outrage when conservative justices heard numerous cases over the years involving their conservative donors, "The rules and parameters of recusal were put in place by the conservatives and by the Republicans. If they don't like the way the situation is now, all they have to do is look at their own behavior."

* Assembly Majority Leader August was asked if conservative justices should recuse from redistricting cases over taking RPW donations, "We're talking about this case, this justice, and I'll leave it at that." By Bauer, Venhuizen AP
<https://apnews.com/f1d1dfd476325a00e9b99d4735b4b5ee>

Rep. Dave Murphy questions whether UW-Madison complying with affirmative action admissions ban

... During a three-hour public hearing before the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities, GOP lawmakers held up copies of heavily redacted admissions criteria obtained from UW-Madison through an open records request and accused the university of not being transparent ... [UW's] Potts said the university had offered to let [chair Murphy, Senate chair Hutton] review the documents in person, cited "shared goal that we would not unintentionally provide an advantage to elected officials in their knowledge of our admissions process for their particular constituents to benefit from."

* Murphy: "That is the most ridiculous answer I have ever heard! I can't believe you're talking about advantaging legislators by letting them know what this criteria is about. We are the committee that has oversight over your agency!" asked Potts how lawmakers can know UW-Madison is "following the Supreme Court's [affirmative action] decision ... if there's no transparency, then that's pretty difficult to do."

* Potts: "the goal is to follow the law and being in compliance with the law."

* co-sponsor Rep. O'Connor said the guaranteed admissions legislation "could be labeled as an anti-DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) bill. ... I don't care about DEI in this situation. This is simply about not discriminating against the best of the best coming out of our high schools."

... would require state colleges and universities to admit high school graduates students in the top five percent of their class, it would be up to high school administrators to decide how to rank them. Rep. Wittke questioned 421 arbitrary class rankings. FdL Supt Fleig supported bill, suggested adding ranking criteria. UW prof. Odle study found offering direct admission to students, particularly those from minority groups and lower-income families, boosted applications but didn't impact enrollment. By Kremer, WPR

<https://www.wpr.org/republican-rep-dave-murphy-questions-whether-uw-madison-complying-affirmative-action-admissions-ban>

Senate chief clerk Queensland placed on administrative leave pending investigation

... chief clerk is a nonpartisan officer elected by the full Senate every two years. ... oversees the administration and record-keeping for the state Senate as well as serving as parliamentarian and chief operating officer. ... paid \$141,000 per year. ... "This is a personnel matter," Radday [for LeMahieu] said. "I can't comment further." LeMahieu said same. Queensland was not immediately available. Queensland's access to state buildings was revoked on Aug. 23 at the request Senate Sergeant at Arms Engel. GOP

source said GOP senators were told that Queensland was on leave pending investigation, not to ask questions about the situation or to take calls from Queensland, who was formerly Legis Council senior staff attorney. By Bice, Beck MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/07/wisconsin-senate-chief-clerk-placed-on-leave-pending-investigation/70785605007/>

Prosecutors charge WI man of assaulting officer during Jan. 6 attack at US Capitol

... Joseph Cattani, 40, of Colgate ... arrested Thursday in Wisconsin and charged in federal court in Washington, D.C. ... faces two felony counts of civil disorder and assaulting officers. ... misdemeanor counts of entering and remaining in a restricted building, disorderly conduct in a Capitol building and demonstrating in a Capitol building. ... Online court records didn't list an attorney for him. ... Law enforcement officers have arrested more than 1,146 people across the country in connection with the incident at the Capitol. About 400 of them have been charged with assaulting or impeding law enforcement. By AP

<https://apnews.com/162ff04360375a75549273d2b56d70cd>

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STORY TOPICS

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WHITE HOUSE [^top^](#)

- Trump rallies with SD Gov. Noem, Allies hope is a VP tryout

<https://lacrossetribune.com/90d66dba-b56e-50c4-a256-5db7b9d6d325.html>

STATE GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Pay raises for Wisconsin state employees still awaiting legislative approval ... On July 31, [DOA sent JCOER, who sent to LFB] a proposed pay plan to implement the [\$422M budget-funded] raises. ... [LFB] typically waits for the bureau to analyze a pay plan before adopting it, something that hasn't happened yet. In the past, the fiscal bureau has taken around a month to finish its review. ... Asked whether the committee might alter the plan, [JCOER member Born] said, "It's likely we will try to make sure we implement the things that we did in the budget." JCOER co-chair Kapenga did not respond. [LFB declined comment.] Reviews budget raise provisions.

<https://madison.com/cab2f9c2-4cc5-11ee-8cfc-6ba9a4d4dc30.html>

LOCAL GOVERNMENT [^top^](#)

- Sup. Tony Staskunas Won't Seek Re-Election, The West Allis supervisor has served on the board since 2013: when he left the state Assembly, enabling Supv. Sanfelippo to run for Assembly.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/mke-county-sup-tony-staskunas-wont-seek>

- Vilas County judge rules election re-do for Presque Isle town chair, How the special election will be administered leaves questions yet to be answered ... The ruling comes roughly four months after [ex-town chair] MacLean filed a notice of an appeal of recount seven days after an April 12 recount that reaffirmed [ex-clerk] Walters's one-vote victory -- 242-241 -- in the April 4 election. ... it was found that Walters's son Jim had been working on town computers off-site at his Michigan-based tech company for the last 20 years. ... judge Martha Milanowski ordered a special election ... during an oral ruling lasting about an hour on Aug. 31 in Eagle River.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/05/vilas-county-judge-rules-election-re-do-for-presque-isle-town-chair/>

- ECC Admin. Schauf comments on conclusion of DHS investigation ... ready to move forward and put an investigation of the Department of Human Services finances behind them, after the board opted Tuesday to not take any action regarding her leadership.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/1fa438aa-4cf4-11ee-b57b-8767b1b1f6d0.html>

BANKING AND INVESTMENT [^top^](#)

- Reedsburg lawyer stole \$1.6M from client's trust to pay for home improvements, 2 trucks and a tractor ... Judge William M. Conley on Thursday ordered Kristin Lein, 61, to serve 45 months in prison, followed by three years of supervised release. She pleaded guilty in June

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/wisconsin-lawyer-gets-prison-time-for-embezzling-1-million-from-trust/70789951007/>

COURTS [^top^](#)

- WI Supreme Court, in public hearing, weighs eviction records ... Legal Action of Wisconsin ... asked the state Supreme Court in March 2022 to change court rules [re: 20-yr eviction record retention] ... records are retained regardless of whether an eviction was granted. Many landlords can access these records online ... to help "more Wisconsin families find and maintain safe and affordable rental housing." ... Once someone has an eviction on their record, there's not a lot that can be done to remove the record, according to Madison's Tenant Resource Center. ... Legal Action requested a similar change in 2021 that was not adopted because then-Director of State Courts Randy Koschnick determined a new record-retention policy would be too burdensome ... [despite furor over Protasiewicz recusal/impeachment, liberal court majority firing Koschnick and limiting CJ powers,] justices appeared cordial Thursday in the state Capitol hearing room as they questioned attorneys and listened to two hours of testimony advocating both for and against granting the rule change.

* LAW's Ayers: "It's the court's obligation to somehow use its power for good and, in this case, we believe that that is scrubbing these records. We're talking about human decency here, as well as court process. Individuals are just trying to access housing, which is a basic human right, and this will be impactful."

* UW Law Eviction Defense Clinic's Kube: "The stories we heard over and over and over again were varying degrees of, 'I got the five-day notice and I vacated. I had no idea this was on my record.' It is, 'I got evicted one time because I had an emergency expense for my child. I've had a perfect rental history since and this 8-year-old record

is still impeding me from finding housing."

* landlord groups atty. Giese: "Landlords, knowing that they won't have good access to somebody's past business record, are going to have to raise the security deposit, double it perhaps to be sure they're going to get their rent paid. They're going to have to engage in a tighter screening for those tenants. That's going to hurt tenants, especially tenants who have never been evicted. It's also going to hurt the small landlords. ... In these big counties like Dane and Milwaukee, there is a form you fill out where you check a box if you've been evicted or not, and that is the end of the story."

* Justice Hagedorn: "It just feels to me like you're making a really dramatic policy argument that is asking us to favor certain folks over others and proposing to hide information from the public, including those who would have a pretty reasonable interest in that information when making business decisions."

* LAW's Lundin: "What makes eviction records different from other court records, including criminal records, is that they impact a basic human need of having shelter. ... We're only asking that the state not be the one to put this information out there. There are plenty of private market solutions to this that landlords have come up with."

* Dane Co Clerk of Courts Esqueda: "We had 1,700 eviction cases (in Dane County) filed so far this year. I wouldn't be surprised if the vast majority of those wound up having sealing and redaction motions filed on them," the only way to complete the rule change would be to consider "the nuclear option": taking down CCAP altogether.

* Ayers acknowledged administrative burden, "We also believe that there should be a balancing test and when it ultimately comes down to it, we look at equity and what is fairest. ... If we have to take a step back, we believe that at a minimum not having free access online could be (a) potential."

<https://captimes.com/d7e6660e-1e6c-54c2-9c74-51a0ff5fa6d2.html>

- New Wisconsin Supreme Court meets for first time in hearing on eviction records rule change

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/07/new-wisconsin-supreme-court-meets-for>

- State Public Defender Kelli Thompson reflects on 12 years overseeing agency ... revealed she'll resign effective Oct. 9 in as low-key a way as possible. There was a press announcement and letter released Sept. 1 ... deputy, Katie York [will serve interim], with the board conducting a search to fill the position on a full-time basis. In August 2022, a suit filed in Green Bay alleged Evers, PD have violated constitutional rights of thousands of indigent criminal defendants who have waited weeks and months for an appointed lawyer. Judge Tom Walsh will rule on defendants' motion to dismiss and the plaintiffs' motion for class certification. Resignation letter excerpts.

* Thompson: "It's the right thing. It's the right decision. ... I have to tell you, I have cried more over this decision than anything else. ... Truly, I love the public defender's office. I'm leaving with a heavy heart."

* CJ Ziegler: "Kelli not only effectively advocated for the public defender's office, but she has been a steadfast defender of constitutional rights for those in need of legal services. Job well done, Kelli!"

* Justice Dallet: "I think she loves her job but I also know that Kelli has done the work of training the next generation and has ensured it will be in good hands when she leaves."

* ex-county CJ Triggiano: "She's a dear friend. We've brainstormed the pandemic and backlogs together. It's going to be an incredible loss for that office and it will be interesting to see what she does next. She has a big heart."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/08/public-defender-kelli-thompson-reflects-on-12-years-overseeing-agency/70787632007/>

EDUCATION [^top^](#)

- Exclusive: One-on-one sit down with U.S. Education Sec. Miguel Cardona ... Cardona toured Vel Phillips Memorial High School on Thursday. 3 Qs&As

* Cardona: "... this bus trip is really to promote our "Raise the Bar," lead the world strategy, where we're focusing on our plan to improve education across our country. It engages families that engages educators around academic excellence, mental health support for students, and really being innovative and giving them more opportunities - not only for college, but also for careers that exist. We also focus on making sure fixing a broken loan system and making higher education more accessible and more affordable to our students. Imagine if we unlock the potential of our country by opening doors to college for more students we'll be in better shape."

<https://www.channel3000.com/ada26f46-4dda-11ee-b0a7-cb970644c911.html>

- 5 Republican child care bills aim to improve daycare shortage by loosening some restrictions on providers, At public hearing, some say they worry teen workers, higher adult-to-child ratios, could worsen care. Testimony highlights.

<https://www.wpr.org/5-republican-child-care-bills-aim-improve-daycare-shortage-loosening-some-restrictions-providers>

- Bus driver shortage means some Waukesha students don't even get picked up until after school starts

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2023/09/07/waukesha-parents-concerned-about-bus-driver-shortage/70765086007/>

- What is the benefit of breakfast on school performance? ... article from the Frontiers in Human Neuroscience cites multiple studies which demonstrate that eating breakfast does have a positive effect on students. ... [ECSD's Smith] said that on top of breakfast improving academic performance, it can also improve mood.

<https://www.leadertelegram.com/b7b5e3da-4db4-11ee-ae0e-fb610833a1ea.html>

- Evers visits Northwestern High School ... part of the governor's statewide Back to School tour. ... first gubernatorial visit to the Maple School District ... sat down at a lunch table to quiz seniors Lily Mickus, Grace Udeen, Jalynn Tuura, Ava Anderson and Jade Stillson about their career plans. ... felt a return to normalcy following the COVID-19 pandemic. This year, he said, there's been "a lot of good energy, no matter where I've been, small towns, big towns, small districts, big districts."... asked how the state can address the current teacher shortage. "We're not going to be able to replace teachers with widgets, and so it is important that we continue to encourage people, and one of the ways to do that is to provide teachers with the respect they deserve," Evers said. ... talked about the need to support and grow child care ... "I have a proposal out there for \$17 million dollars and we can afford it, and we should be using that to prop up and support our child care industry in the state of Wisconsin," Evers

said. Students, school officials comment.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/wisconsin-gov-tony-evers-visits-northwestern-high-school>

HEALTH CARE [^top^](#)

- WI's suicide numbers have reached historically high levels for the 2nd year in a row ... CDC is funding 24 jurisdictions, including Wisconsin, through its comprehensive suicide prevention program, with the goal of reducing the nation's suicide numbers by 20% by 2025. On Wednesday, Gov. Tony Evers announced that his office and [DHS] were joining the effort to reduce suicide among two at-risk populations [rural men 25+, adolescents 10-19] by 10% over the next five years. "I declared 2023 the Year of Mental Health because we cannot overstate the profound impact the past few years have had on our kids, families, and communities, and we know that Wisconsinites across our state are struggling perhaps now more than ever," Evers said in Wednesday's press release.

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2023/09/08/gov-tony-evers-plans-to-reduce-suicide-numbers-by-10-over-5-years/70779845007/>

LABOR [^top^](#)

- Democrats push an agenda to restore worker rights, Proposals face uphill battle, but backers say they show what they stand for: Rep. Shankland led presser for 10-bill collection Thursday to enshrine workers' rights in state law after a decade and a half of measures rolling back those rights. ... pointed to union organizing, activism and contract fights at Colectivo and Starbucks coffee shops, Leinenkugel brewery and UPS as well as the prospect of a looming job action by the UAW ... "Right now, union popularity is soaring, with seven out of 10 Americans having a positive view of labor unions, because labor unions are getting real results that improve both the economic and safety conditions for the workers they represent," Shankland said.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/democrats-push-an-agenda-to-restore>

- The four-day workweek gains another prominent champion ... UAW President Shawn Fain laid out a 32-hour workweek as one of the many proposals for a new contract with the largest three American auto manufacturers, as well as a 40% increase in pay, boosted pensions and other items. The union already authorized a strike, and the contract runs out Sept. 14. ... A new survey by Bankrate found 81% of American workers support a four-day workweek and, of those, 54% would work longer hours to get it, according to the survey. About 37% would change jobs or industries and 10% would take a pay cut. About 27% would even stay in the office more. ... In March, Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif., introduced legislation that would alter the standard workweek from 40 hours to 32 hours, phased in over a three-year period. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., has also recently highlighted the four-day workweek. ... Pennsylvania state Rep. G. Roni Green working to introduce legislation that would reduce the official workweek for businesses with more than 500 employees to 32 hours without a reduction in pay. ... 4 Day Week Global has already completed several pilots involving the four-day workweek.

<https://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/news/2023/09/08/four-day-work-week-pay-compensation-union-uaw.html>

LAW AND ORDER [^top^](#)

- Appeals court affirms circuit court decision in jail transfer dispute ... Because Jeremy Alquist completed his jail sentence before the first appeal brief was even filed, the issue is moot, the appeals court ruled Wednesday.

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/appeals-court-affirms-circuit-court-decision-in-jail-transfer-dispute/>

- Sexual assault survivors can now track their rape kits in most states, Public criticism about kit backlogs spurs push for more transparency.

<https://stateline.org/2023/09/08/sexual-assault-survivors-can-now-track-their-rape-kits-in-most-states/>

MEDIA [^top^](#)

- 'Convicting a Murderer,' DailyWire+ docuseries on Steven Avery case, premieres Friday ... will premiere Friday on X, formerly Twitter, beginning at 8 p.m. Central ... remain available to anyone on the platform "indefinitely."

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/2023/09/07/convicting-a-murderer-series-on-steven-avery-case-premieres-friday/70786913007/>

MILITARY [^top^](#)

- Bong Center staff confront stolen valor incident, An email, an expert and a piece of paper helped unravel a false Vietnam tale. ... resulted in a new policy requiring proof of military service for every program, donation, display and volunteer.

<https://www.superiortelegram.com/news/local/bong-center-staff-confront-stolen-valor-incident>

NON-PROFITS [^top^](#)

- YWCA Rock County seeking nominations for 2023 Dorothy Height Diversity in the Workplace Award

<https://www.beloitdailynews.com/ea53a888-d516-586e-bffc-cc1007427767.html>

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY [^top^](#)

- Waukesha Celebrates Completing Milwaukee Water Pipeline, \$286M project will provide [radium-]safe water for suburban community, revenue for Milwaukee. ... "Milwaukee water was the right choice because of its closer connection, low rates and capacity. Just as important, Milwaukee is a national leader in ensuring safe drinking water. There is no better water," said Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly during a ceremony Thursday afternoon inside the new Waukesha Booster Pumping Station ... water will start flowing between Sept. 14 and 18 said Waukesha Water [guru] Duchniak, who [emceed] the event [and culminated 21-yr search for radium-free replacement water] ... "It's safe to say I didn't know what I was getting into 20 years ago," said Duchniak. ... "It's a partnership that has led us to today's celebration and I look forward to more partnerships, more working together and more celebrations," said Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson of Reilly and his Waukesha colleagues. Reilly also endorsed more future collaboration between the cities. ... "We are here because Jennifer Abele delivered results," said Johnson, praising the former city lobbyist and Milwaukee Water Works superintendent, who is widely credited with

negotiating the deal from the Milwaukee side. ... Waukesha is to pay Milwaukee at least \$3.2M/yr for the water and already made a \$2.5M one-time payment. The annual payments will rise to \$4.5M if Waukesha uses the full 8.2M gallons the deal allows, with an additional escalator available. Waukesha Exec. Farrow, WCBA's Kelley, Carroll prof. Piatt also spoke. Audience included US Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Allen, Water Works dir. Pauly, ex-Water Worksters Dettmer and Abele. Details and pics.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/waukesha-celebrates-completing-milwaukee>

- Construction for project to bring Lake Michigan water to Waukesha now complete, City will make switch to Lake Michigan water in coming days: Great Water Alliance groundbreaking ceremony Thursday, project details. Waukesha Mayor Reilly, water guru Duchniak, DNR's Elmore comment.

<https://www.wpr.org/construction-project-bring-lake-michigan-water-waukesha-now-complete>

- FDNY firefighters who were at Ground Zero on 9/11 to speak at Oshkosh's EAA Aviation Museum, Matt Nelson, Charles Blaich and Steven San Filippo were veteran members of the department who were on duty on 9/11.

<https://www.thenorthwestern.com/story/news/local/2023/09/06/fdny-firefighters-who-were-at-911-to-speak-in-oshkosh-at-eaa-aviation-museum/70731866007/>

- US Military Firefighters Grapple With Unknowns of PFAS Exposure ... Defense Department is interested in the outcomes of ongoing health studies by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry as well as toxicology assessments by the [EPA] and noted that the Pentagon supported the testicular cancer study by allowing use of the Department of Defense Serum Repository and including it in the Pentagon's Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs. ... not requested by the Pentagon in its annual budget, but instead are supported by extra money that Congress gives the department to manage research projects that members deem necessary to advance medical science and promote the health of the armed forces.

<https://wisconsinexaminer.com/2023/09/08/like-a-russian-roulette-us-military>

REAL ESTATE [^top^](#)

- Leaders celebrate Couture's progress, workforce development ... soon to be Wisconsin's tallest residential building, local and national officials gathered Thursday to celebrate the progress on the building, the construction career pipeline it creates and what it all means for the future of Milwaukee. Building's core is built up to floor 33, floor decks to floor 30, precast panels up to 21, glass is at 16, inwall plumbing at level 10 and drywall level at eight, adding, on average, one floor per week. \$104.5M of estimated \$191M cost came from the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust, which owns the main construction loan for the project - HIT's largest investment in its history.

* NABTU's McGarvey: "Behind me is a symphony. When you see the men and women who are building that building, it's some of the greatest music ever played."

* Findorff's Hornung: "We've put in hundreds of thousands of labor hours, with hundreds of thousands of labor hours to go. Over 38,000 yards of concrete have been poured to date."

* Developer Barrett: "As a Milwaukee guy, the crown jewel for me is The Couture," has created 2K+ construction-related jobs and, once completed, the project will create 150 permanent jobs.

* Mayor Johnson: "It doesn't matter if it's taking lead service lines out of the ground or adding peaks to our skyline, like we're seeing with The Couture, Milwaukee is on the upward swing. We're depending on the men and women in the unions to make that happen. ... It'll create stability in their lives, it'll create stability in the lives of their family, it'll create stability in their neighborhoods, which will create stability in our city. In the end, that helps us achieve the public safety that all of us want to see."

<https://biztimes.com/see-photos-leaders-celebrate-coutures-progress-workforce>

REGULATION [^top^](#)

- Should the DNR oversee all zoos? Activists and zoo owners disagree ... bill would allow privately owned zoos to forgo a license from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, as long as it receives accreditation from the Zoological Association of America. A similar exemption is already in place for members of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association. Reviews Wed.'s Assembly committee hearing.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/zoo-owners-activists-square-off-over-dnr-oversight-for-private-zoos/70768235007/>

TOURISM [^top^](#)

- KISS' Gene Simmons visits Rhinelander to promote his Wisconsin-made vodka

<https://rivernewsonline.com/news/2023/sep/08/kiss-gene-simmons-visits-rhinelander-to-promote-his-wisconsin-made-vodka/>

- Twisted Sister's Dee Snider to sign copies of new novel, 'Frats,' on morning after Friday concert with Bret Michaels ... at the Rock N Roll Land record store

<https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/entertainment/music/2023/09/07/twisted-sisters-dee-snider-to-sign-copies-of-his-new-book-on-saturday-after-concert-with-bret-michae/70786018007/>

TRIBES [^top^](#)

- Forest County Potawatomi embrace solar energy, spiritually and financially ... Since 2010, Hauber estimates, its solar panel installations and energy efficiency projects have saved the tribe 179 gigawatt hours of electricity and 3.594 million therms of natural gas, as well as prevented the emissions of 75,419 metric tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. ... Potawatomi Casino Hotel in Milwaukee and the Wgema Campus, site of the former Concordia University in Milwaukee, were among the tribal buildings to undergo energy projects in recent years. Tribal government buildings in Forest County ... also have been reworked to improve energy efficiency.

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/local/wisconsin/2023/09/08/forest-county-potawatomi-embrace-solar-energy/70780397007/>

WORKPLACE SAFETY [^top^](#)

- USDOL fined Florence Hardwoods nearly \$200K following death of a teen this summer ... Officials found that at least three other children aged 15 and 16 were injured working for Florence Hardwoods between November 2021 and March 2023 --

one of those children was injured on two separate occasions. ... found the company employed nine underage workers 14-17 were illegally allowed to operate machinery. Seven were allowed to work outside legally permitted hours. ... "Any death of a child is too many," [Sec. Su] said. "That's why our Wage and Hour Division and Solicitor's Office took immediate steps to prevent the sale of 'hot goods' and to hold the company accountable for allowing children to perform hazardous and, in this case, deadly jobs. Illegal child labor is a stain on this country and will not be tolerated by this administration or this department."

<https://www.wpr.org/northern-wisconsin-sawmill-fined-nearly-200k-following-death-teen-summer>

EDITORIALS [^top^](#)

- LT editorial: The most dangerous gas in America: Of late the globalist warming crowd has targeted the poor cow for the cause of the earth burning up before our very eyes. ... in the real world, there is no such thing as settled science, and scientific consensus was never meant to be taken as incontrovertible proof. ... It's all bunk, and the truth is out there if only people will look for it. Granted, it's hard to find sometimes. ... Nobel laureate John Clauser -- whose Nobel came just last year -- is trying to do just that by joining a growing group of scientific dissenters who say there is no climate crisis at all, at least not a human-made one. Clauser's dissent is the loudest and the latest, but the numbers are spiraling upward. ... If Nobel laureates can stand up and say the truth, so can presidential candidates. ... do it for all the poor maligned cows. Their moos are on the line, too.

<https://lakelandtimes.com/news/2023/sep/08/lakeland-times-our-view/>

COLUMNS [^top^](#)

- Paul Fanlund: Stop blaming the mainstream media for Trump's resilience ... Through the years I have agreed with Bunch and Rubin -- believing that false equivalencies and so-called "bothsidesism" have been significant problems for American journalism, resulting in overheated coverage of Hillary Clinton's emails and Hunter Biden's legal problems. It is just that I think there actually is a lot of journalism in 2023 that identifies and labels lies and threats to our democracy. I think the national media did learn lessons from normalizing Trump's 2016 campaign. ... I actually think the media does do two things at once -- reporting the news of the day, some of it horse-race politics, while also exploring larger themes and trends about fascism, authoritarianism, racism and the many signs of climate catastrophe. ... Again, to me the biggest problem is that too many Americans, the ones who believe the distortions of Fox News and its even more extreme brethren, apparently are unwilling to read or listen to any serious journalism. When we figure out a way to get more people to listen, we may get somewhere.

<https://captimes.com/7ae82482-ee66-52a1-beb8-2534a9c3189c.html>

- John Nichols: The Wisconsin GOP's New Attack on Democracy Is Extreme Even for Them, Conservatives lost control of Wisconsin's Supreme Court with April's election of Justice Janet Protasiewicz. Now, they're scheming to impeach her.

<https://www.thenation.com/article/politics/wisconsin-gop-supreme-court-impeachment/>

- Scott Walker: Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz must recuse herself in redistricting case: Wisconsin lawmakers are considering a potential vote on impeaching the newest member of the state Supreme Court.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2023/sep/7/wisconsin-supreme-court-justice-janet-protasiewicz/>

- Dave Cieslewicz: Expect Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Janet Protasiewicz to be impeached ... liberals could harness that anger to recall one or more of the conservative justices. That takes 340,000 signatures, but reproductive rights is a powerful motivator. Vos may fear that backlash or get enough pushback from national Republicans to back down from his threat. We'll see. But right now it looks to me like we're headed for impeachment.

<https://isthmus.com/opinion/citizen-dave/expect-justice-protasiewicz-to-be-impeached/>

- Dave Zweifel: Falling vaccination rates threaten our schools

<https://captimes.com/8e47bda4-cffa-581b-b6fa-c1e6a741a56a.html>

- Patrick McIlheran: DPI 'equity' speakers talk revolution; Wisconsin parents just want their kids to be able to read: If the system's so rotten, why shouldn't kids escape?

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/equity-speakers-talk-of-revolution-wisconsin-parents-just-want-their-kids-to-read/>

- Rocketship WI's Kadeem Gill: More Special Education Funding Is Needed, State covers only 33% of the costs. That must be increased.

<https://urbanmilwaukee.com/2023/09/07/op-ed-more-special-education-funding>

- Mike Nichols: The Journal Sentinel gets its comeuppance: Local paper's smear of Moms for Liberty noted in Wall Street Journal.

<https://www.badgerinstitute.org/the-journal-sentinel-gets-its-comeuppance/>

- Ex-UWSP Foundation Pres. Bruce Froehlke: Story on Wisconsin alcohol addiction omits AA resources ... there was one remarkable element in the Wisconsin Watch report: the absence of Alcoholics Anonymous in its recommendations for treatment. ... [on United Way/DHS website] Under addiction recovery, one can explore treatment options, which funnels people to clinics, treatment centers and county health service offices. Nowhere is Alcoholics Anonymous (or Narcotics Anonymous) mentioned.

<https://captimes.com/6d056ca0-13eb-5769-9cc9-12ba4c8a8c55.html>

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BY CAITLIN OPRYSKO

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DOJ DROPS RAFIEKIAN CASE: “The Justice Department has [quietly abandoned one of the last prosecutions](#) stemming from investigations into alleged foreign influence over **Donald Trump**’s 2016 presidential campaign,” our **Josh Gerstein** reports, adding one more blemish to the department’s record of prosecuting alleged illegal foreign influence campaigns.

— “In a court filing Monday, prosecutors indicated they’re giving up their long-running quest to convict **Bijan Rafiekian**, a California businessman and former business partner of Trump ally **Michael Flynn**, on charges of acting as an unregistered foreign agent for Turkey amid Trump’s successful White House bid seven years ago.”

— “It’s a bitter pill for prosecutors who convinced a jury in Alexandria, Va., [to return two felony guilty verdicts](#) against Rafiekian — better known as Kian — following a week-long trial in 2019 and only about four hours of deliberations,”

only to have U.S. District Court Judge **Anthony Trenga** — who presided over the trial — [toss the convictions](#) months later.

— That set off three more years of additional litigation that seemed likely to culminate in a new trial that was set to begin next month prior to prosecutors' move today.

MERCURY RACKS UP PLANT-BASED CLIENTS: Major food companies are rushing to hire **Mercury Public Affairs** this summer to lobby on plant-based food policy, a surge of new business that coincides with the hiring of a top lobbyist specializing in the issue and a growing Midwest practice in the firm led by a top former Democratic lawmaker ahead of the next farm bill.

— Lawmakers are still hammering out legislative text for the massive package, which sets policy and funding levels for everything from commodities to conservation, forestry, nutrition and food stamps — with less than three weeks to go until the current one expires.

— Plant-based food advocates had a relatively small lobbying footprint during negotiations over the 2018 farm bill and [found the final version “lacking” in support for the industry](#). This time around, [household names angling to bolster their investments](#) in the plant-based market have joined the fight, and one lobbyist appears to have become their go-to.

— **Shannon Campagna**, who joined Mercury earlier this summer, has registered to lobby on plant-based food issues for seven new clients since July, according to disclosure filings. The clients include some of the biggest brands in food: **Kellogg's**, **Kraft Heinz** and **Nestlé USA**. Campagna's client roster also includes **Conagra Brands**, whose labels include **Duncan Hines**, **Hebrew National** and **Duke's**; **Upfield Foods**, the plant-based food company; and the food processing giant **ADM**.

— The brands followed Campagna to Mercury from her previous lobbying firm, **Van Scoyoc Associates**, where she represented most of them under the umbrella of a coalition called the **Alliance for Plant Based Inclusion**. Campagna, a former in-house lobbyist for the grocery chain **Safeway** and **Mars Inc.**, was also the first federal lobbyist for the main industry trade group **Plant Based Foods Association** back in 2017.

— In addition to Campagna’s experience representing the plant-based industry in Washington, Mercury has another major draw for agriculture clients: Former Rep. **Cheri Bustos**, a longtime member of the Agriculture Committee, joined Mercury earlier this year to stand up the firm’s presence in the Midwest, and grow its food and agriculture practice with Campagna.

— Bustos is a former member of Democratic leadership as well as the 2018 farm bill conference committee and Appropriations Committee, though she’s still under the federally mandated “cooling off” period barring her from lobbying her former colleagues on the Hill.

Happy Monday and welcome back to PI. What’s going on out there? Drop me a line: coprysko@politico.com. And be sure to follow me on the platform formerly known as Twitter: [@caitlinoprysko](https://twitter.com/caitlinoprysko).

A message from Children's Hospital Association:

What makes children’s hospitals different? Designed to meet children's needs, with care provided by specially trained experts, children's hospitals are the primary facilities for specialized care for children and teens – no matter their financial situation. **Across the country, children’s hospitals are making it possible for children and their families to experience life’s important moments – from the everyday to the extraordinary.** To find out more about the work children’s hospitals are doing, visit madepossible.org.

FIRST IN PI — VENABLE ADDS UTILITIES LOBBYIST: **Rich Ward** has jumped to **Venable**, where he’ll be a senior policy adviser, after 11 years with the **Edison Electric Institute**. Ward was most recently senior director for government relations at the trade group, which represents investor-owned utilities, helping develop the group’s lobbying strategy on issues from cybersecurity to grid resiliency. Prior to joining EEI, Ward served as communications adviser for Senate Minority Leader [Mitch McConnell](https://www.mitchmcconnell.com/) and was a press aide for former President **George W. Bush**.

LESSONS LEARNED: “Lobbyists for the tech industry are hedging their bets as Washington gears up to consider new AI laws this fall — not just pressuring

Congress, but also [fanning out to state capitals to stave off more serious restrictions](#) nationwide,” prompting concerns from consumer advocates, **POLITICO’s Brendan Bordelon** reports.

— “The new lobbying campaigns are driven by concern that states often act faster than Washington on tech issues, and can sometimes impose far tougher rules on companies. If they’re successful, tech lobbyists could nip tough AI regulations in the bud and neutralize the threat of new rules from state capitols — regardless of where Washington ends up.”

— “Lobbyists are quick to note that their early focus on the states shouldn’t be seen as a preference for state-level AI rules over a single federal law. As with privacy, tech companies fear a possible ‘patchwork’ of contradictory state AI laws, which they claim would slow innovation and cause an avalanche of compliance costs. In their ideal world, Congress would act quickly to set nationwide rules on automated systems.”

— “But Capitol Hill’s historic paralysis on tech issues has inspired the industry to look beyond Washington, and lobbyists believe the states will move on AI with or without Congress,” and tech lobbyists are comparing the playbook to Silicon Valley’s successful playbook for state data privacy fights.

— “As we’ve seen with privacy, I don’t think it’s a question of whether [states] act,” **Chandler Morse**, vice president of corporate affairs at the software giant **Workday** told Brendan. “I think it’s a question of what’s the timing on their action.”

LOCAL OFFICIALS PRESS LAWMAKERS ON TRUCK SIZE: More than 1,500 local government leaders are warning Congress not to greenlight any policy changes that would allow for any increases in length or weight of freight trucks due to already fragile transportation infrastructure.

— “Much of our transportation infrastructure that connects people to jobs, schools and leisure is in disrepair, in part because local and rural roads and bridges are older and not built to the same standards as Interstates,” the officials [told lawmakers in a letter](#) organized by the **Coalition Against Bigger Trucks**.

— The officials complain that “many of us are unable to keep up with our

current maintenance schedules and replacement costs because of underfunded budgets.” According to the signatories, which include mayors, state legislators, city councilmembers, county commissioners and engineers, transportation leaders and public works officials, “longer and heavier trucks would cause significantly more damage to our transportation infrastructure, costing us billions of dollars that local government budgets simply cannot afford.”

HOWARD HANGS A SHINGLE: Paul Howard is striking out on his own after 11 years at **Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer**, most recently as managing director. Howard has launched **Howard Law & Policy Group PLLC**, which will focus on financial services and insurance clients, Howard said in an email. He’s already signed up **Lloyd’s of London**, with plans to add to the list and hire another staffer in the next six months.

— Howard told PI that his decision to hang a shingle stems from a desire for greater flexibility after having spent the past two decades working at larger lobbying firms. “There’s a fair amount of change going on right now in the legal industry, to say nothing of the ever-changing dynamics on Capitol Hill, and I believe my new venture will allow me to be nimble enough in my practice to keep client service front and center,” he said.

SPOTTED at **Del Frisco’s** on Friday night for a birthday dinner for **Kenny Hodge** of **Jeffrey J. Kimbell & Associates** and **Jakob Johnsen** of Rep. [Hal Rogers](#)’ (R-Ky.) office, per a PI tipster: **Tim Daniels** of **Tyson Foods**, **Jett Thompson** of Rep. [Stephanie Bice](#)’s (R-Okla.) office, **Warner Allison** of Rep. [Warren Davidson](#)’s (R-Ohio) office, **Jonathan Day** of Rep. [Joe Wilson](#)’s (R-S.C.) office, **Alex Pinson** of **DLA Piper**, **Jordan Evich** of **Monument Advocacy**, and **Sterling McHale** of **Shield AI**.

JOBS REPORT

— The **Climate Leadership Council** has hired **Scott Nystrom** as director of policy and research. He most recently co-led **FTI Consulting**’s North American economic impact group.

— **COEFFICIENT** has hired **Erica Thomas** as vice president and **Jenna Peth** as director of policy and advocacy. Thomas was most recently director of the **Information Technology Industry Council**’s **Green Grid Association** and

Peth was most recently a director of governmental issues at **Van Ness Feldman**.

— **Eric Bergren** has joined the **Todd Strategy Group**. Bergren has nearly three decades of experience on the Hill, including spending 13 years as chief of staff to Rep. [Brett Guthrie](#) (R-Ky.), who now chairs the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee. Before that, he spent 14 years working for former Rep. **Ron Lewis** (R-Ky.).

— **Kea Sherman** has joined Van Ness Feldman as policy counsel based in the New Orleans office. She was previously a principal at **Sherman Strategic Affairs**.

— **Udochi Onwubiko** is joining **Demos** as director of economic justice. She was most recently a labor policy adviser to Vice President **Kamala Harris** and a senior policy adviser in the Wage and Hour Division at DOL.

— **Adam Jorde** is now a senior government affairs adviser at **Wilkinson Barker Knauer**. He previously was head of government affairs at **Twilio** and is a [Kevin Cramer](#) and [John Thune](#) alum.

— **Michelle Baker** is joining **Forbes Tate Partners** as a public affairs partner. She previously was executive vice president and managing director of corporate strategic initiatives at **Ketchum**.

— **Career Education Colleges and Universities** hired **Jed Brinton** as senior vice president and general counsel and **Corey Perry** as director of state relations. Brinton was most recently a partner at **Zobrist Law Group** and is a Trump Education Department alum, and Perry was previously director of government affairs at **The Learning Experience**.

— **Kent Robertson** is now managing partner at **DrivePath Advisors**. He most recently was general manager for public affairs at **Chevron**, where he spent almost 17 years.

— **Tom Bonier** is CEO of **TARA Group**. He was previously CEO of **TargetSmart**, the progressive data company and subsidiary of TARA Group, and will continue to serve as senior adviser there. **Lindsey Schuh Cortés**,

previously of **Statara Solutions**, is succeeding Bonier.

— **Robyn Shapiro** has joined the antitrust division at the Department of Justice as deputy chief of staff, Morning Tech reports. Shapiro was most recently director of communications at the **American Economic Liberties Project**.

— **Nicole Isaac** is now vice president of global public policy at **Cisco**. She most recently was at **Google**, and is a **Meta**, **LinkedIn** and Obama White House alum.

— **BCom** is adding **Tanner Holcomb** as a digital strategy director, **Nigeria Boone** as a digital strategist and **Rochelle Drouin** to the paid media practice. Holcomb and Boone are both **DCCC** alums.

— **Connor Vargo** is joining the **Transportation Communications Union** as legislative representative. He previously was senior legislative assistant for Rep. [Seth Magaziner](#) (D-R.I.).

— **Tony Ficarrota** is rejoining the **Network Advertising Initiative** as vice president and general counsel. He most recently was assistant general counsel at the **Interactive Advertising Bureau**.

— **Maxwell Young** has joined **Pfizer**, leading its executive, digital and policy communications. He was previously communications director for New York Mayor **Eric Adams**.

— **Bruce Haynes** is now senior vice president for corporate and external affairs at **Charles River Laboratories**. He most recently was partner and global co-chair of crisis communications and issues management at **FGS Global**.



NEW JOINT FUNDRAISERS

None.

NEW PACS

COMPETITIVE MARKETS PAC (Super PAC)

JERSEY DESERVES BETTER PAC (Super PAC)

Nucleen (Super PAC)

Secure Future USA (Super PAC)

TAB PAC (Super PAC)

NEW LOBBYING REGISTRATIONS

Advanced Policy Consulting, LLC: Cormedix Inc.

Dentons Global Advisors Government Relations LLC: Psa Systems

Hanka Advisor LLC: P3 Mobility On Behalf Of Nw 33 Innovation Corridor
Council Of Governments

Holland & Knight LLP: Relativity Space

Marshall & Popp, LLC: JP Morgan Chase Holdings, LLC

Revere Federal Strategies: Albedo Space Corp.

Salinas Strategies LLC: International Council Of Shopping Centers

Thomas Capitol Partners Inc.: Korea International Trade Association

NEW LOBBYING TERMINATIONS

Autoimmune Association: Autoimmune Association

Onfido Inc.: Onfido Inc.

Relation Strategy, LLC: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld (Obo Chickahominy Indian Tribe)

Relation Strategy, LLC: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld (Obo Gila River Indian Community)

Rock & Associates: Veterinary Pharmacies Of America, Inc.

A message from Children's Hospital Association:

Children's hospitals play a central role in advancing the health of all children – from prevention to critical care. Of the 6,000 hospitals across the country, only 200 are children's hospitals and these specialized hospitals and health systems educate and train the majority of pediatricians and pediatric specialists.

Children's hospitals are where the most complex pediatric care happens and are often the only location in an entire state or region of the country where the sickest children can receive the lifesaving care they need.

Because of children's hospitals, key moments are made possible in our children's lives – from first dances to family camping trips, birthdays to graduations – children's hospitals are on the front line of children's health care, treating children across the country regardless of circumstances or ability to

pay. [Learn more.](#)

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