



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Katrina Shankland

ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC LEADER
71st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Media Release

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Rep. Shankland: Statement on JFC Republicans' UW System Cuts

MADISON – Today, Republicans on the Joint Finance Committee announced their plan for the UW System budget, which includes steep cuts to the UW System. In response, Rep. Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) released the following statement:

“The Republicans’ steep cuts to the UW System are outrageous. Wisconsin already lags other Midwestern states in higher education funding, and today our state is facing one of the largest cuts to higher education in the nation. Republicans are perpetrating this devastating cut even though this budget spends billions of dollars more than Governor Doyle’s last budget. That’s *billions* worth of spending in corporate giveaways and special interests that are a higher priority for Republicans than our public universities.

“This is a matter of priorities: Republicans voted to give raises to the governor’s office and millions of our tax dollars to private schools, but they are deliberately cutting \$250 million from our universities. Students deserve to have access to a high quality, affordable education that will prepare them to compete in a global information economy. Instead of making college more accessible and affordable, Republicans have chosen to gut the UW System and make it more difficult for students to enter the workforce and pursue a career.

“Hard-working families and business owners rely on the UW System to educate our future workforce and strengthen our local economy. Wisconsin’s pipeline of UW graduates produces highly skilled, productive, and creative leaders. I am extremely disappointed that Republicans have chosen to sever the pipeline between students, employers, and family-supporting jobs that make our economy strong.”

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Rep. Katrina Shankland (D-Stevens Point) represents the 71st Assembly District in Portage County and serves as the Assistant Assembly Democratic Leader.