



For Immediate Release  
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Statement in support of the Wisconsin Idea Partnership

State Representative Steve Doyle (D-Onalaska) and UW system Board of Regents Member Brent Smith released the following statement in support of the Wisconsin Idea Partnership.

“We are both strong advocates of the UW System and have seen the dramatic increase in the quality of the student body at UW-La Crosse. The UW system has worked together with UW-Madison in partnership for the last 40 years. We do not want to see this progress undone by the proposal to split the UW-Madison from the UW-System.

A separate system of governance for UW-Madison will result in competition for resources, duplication within the system, and ultimately will mean added cost. With less funds available to higher education, it seems imperative that all campuses work together, not separately, for these resources.

At the very least, any proposal to split UW-Madison from the rest of the system should be considered as a stand alone bill, not part of an already enormous budget. There has been some discussion about making changes to the original proposal and we would welcome the chance to look at all the possible alternatives to this monumental change in the current unified, well established system.

We are pleased that there is widespread support of the Wisconsin Idea Partnership from Chambers of Commerce, County Boards and Business Leaders from around the state. We are happy to add our names to this growing list of supporters of the Wisconsin Idea Partnership.”

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