

July 17, 2007

Green Bay Press Gazette  
Attn: Opinion Page / Letter to the Editor  
P.O. Box 23430  
Green Bay, WI 54305-3430

Green Bay, WI 54305

Dear Editor:

A recent writer attacked me as “anti-education” with the claim I was cutting funding to K-12 schools and the UW system.

If you ask your boss for a \$3 an hour raise and he agrees to give you \$1, is it fair to tell your friends and relatives your boss just stuck it to you and gave you a \$2 an hour pay cut? Telling people you were cut something that you never had in the first place is the scam of “Madison Math.” It’s not just misleading; it’s dishonest.

The Assembly budget increases state aid to K-12 schools by \$464 million over the previous budget. It’s more than the Governor proposed giving to schools. But, since it’s less than the Senate proposed to give them, they are calling it a cut.

The Assembly budget increases state aid to the UW by \$62 million over the previous budget. That’s a 3% increase. But, since it’s less than the Governor and Senate proposed giving them, they are calling it a cut.

Make sure when you read about state funding cuts that you verify the numbers first. Most often a “cut” isn’t really a “cut.” It’s just a case of “Madison Math.”

Sincerely,



Rep. Karl Van Roy  
State Representative  
90<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

(Source – Non-Partisan Legislative Fiscal Bureau)