

Hope, Sam

From: Hope, Sam
Sent: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 7:56 AM
To: Craig, David
Subject: FW: Media Advisory
Attachments: GND 1 Pager FINAL.pdf; Daniel Turner and Kent Lassman - What the Green New Deal Could Cost a Typical Household (002).pdf; Press Conference Run of Show 02.26.2020.docx

-----Original Message-----

From: Hope, Sam <Sam.Hope@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2020 7:22 PM
To: Craig, David <David.Craig@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: FW: Media Advisory

From: Eric Searing [eric@will-law.org]
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 4:05 PM
To: Hope, Sam; Brodhagen, Mary; Koenen, Kyle; Zimmerman, Alec
Subject: FW: Media Advisory

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We will be joined by Cindy Leitner from the Wisconsin Dairy Alliance and Kent Lassman the President & CEO of CEI. The President of Allis-Roller would also love to show anyone's boss around the shop floor at the end of the press conference too.

Thank you,

Eric

Eric Searing
Director of External Relations
Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty
330 E. Kilbourn Ave., Suite 725
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(O) 414-727-7417
(M) 414-688-7270
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ericsearing/>

Follow us @WILawLiberty<https://twitter.com/WI_Law_Liberty>, like us on Facebook<<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Wisconsin-Institute-for-Law-Liberty/191561687596446>> and visit our Website<<http://www.will-law.org/>>! We are a 501(c)(3) corporation.

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From: Brian Reisinger [mailto:br@platform-communications.com]
Sent: Monday, February 24, 2020 3:38 PM
To: Eric Searing <eric@will-law.org>
Subject: Media Advisory

Policymakers to discuss study showing harm to Wisconsin jobs, agriculture as Green New Deal becomes a central issue in 2020 election
[<http://i1.cmail19.com/ei/j/E4/DFA/1D9/061252/csfinal/WILLLogoBlackLong.png>]<<https://platformcommunications.cmail19.com/t/j-l-cuijic-juirthiitr-r/>>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 24, 2020

Contact: Brian Reisinger

b<mailto:info@rapidimagingtech.com>r@platform-communications.com<mailto:br@platform-communications.com>

Media Advisory: Senate Majority Leader Fitzgerald and Metro Milwaukee Legislators to Join WILL, National Experts for Press Conference on Impact of Green New Deal

Policymakers to discuss harm to Wisconsin jobs, agriculture as Green New Deal becomes a central issue in 2020

Milwaukee, Wis. - Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald and metro Milwaukee-area legislators will join the Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty, the Competitive Enterprise Institute, Power the Future and local business owners in the manufacturing and agricultural sectors for a press conference to discuss the impact the Green New Deal would have on Wisconsin as it becomes a bigger issue in 2020.

Who: Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald, Metro Milwaukee-Area Legislators, WILL, National Experts, Area Businesses

What: Press conference on the impact of the Green New Deal on Wisconsin

When: 12:50 pm on Wednesday, Feb. 26, 2020

Where:

Allis-Roller

5801 W Franklin Drive

Franklin, WI 53132

RSVP: Media should RSVP to Brian Reisinger at b<mailto:info@rapidimagingtech.com>r@platform-communications.com<mailto:br@platform-communications.com> or Collin Roth at Collin@will-law.org<mailto:Collin@will-law.org>

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[YouTube]<<https://platformcommunications.cmail19.com/t/j-l-cuijic-juirthiitr-t/>>

[Website]<<https://platformcommunications.cmail19.com/t/j-l-cuijic-juirthiitr-i/>>

Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty

330 E. Kilbourn Ave., Suite 725

Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Milwaukee, WI 53202

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Hope, Sam

From: Eric Searing <eric@will-law.org>
Sent: Thursday, February 20, 2020 11:07 AM
To: Hope, Sam
Subject: RE: Invitation to Senator Craig

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Great! Thanks Sam. We are working on talking points and details now.

Eric Searing
Director of External Relations
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From: Hope, Sam [mailto:Sam.Hope@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 5:44 PM
To: Eric Searing <eric@will-law.org>
Subject: RE: Invitation to Senator Craig

Eric,

Sen. Craig is in. Please let me know any additional details.

Thanks,

Sam Hope
Office of Senator David Craig
28th Senate District
608-266-5400
Sam.Hope@legis.wisconsin.gov

From: Eric Searing <eric@will-law.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 3:32 PM
To: Hope, Sam <Sam.Hope@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Cc: Brian Reisinger <br@platform-communications.com>
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We are just waiting on finalization of some of the report details, but will be happy to provide Senator Craig with more information once we have it available. Please let me know if he can attend.

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Hope, Sam

From: Gibbs, Adam
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2020 10:13 AM
Cc: Taylor, Chad
Subject: FW: **Co-Sponsorship LRB-5405/1 – Duration of Short-Term Health Coverage
Attachments: Duration of Short Term Health Care Coverage FINAL bill.pdf

Importance: High

All,

Please see the co-sponsor memo below on the Short-term Insurance Legislation below. As you can see there is a short deadline. Senator Craig would appreciate any feedback or support you may offer on the bill.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Adam

Adam Gibbs | Chief of Staff | (608) 266-5400
Office of Wisconsin State Senator David Craig



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From: Sen.Craig <Sen.Craig@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 03, 2020 10:07 AM
To: *Legislative All Assembly <ALLASM@legis.wisconsin.gov>; *Legislative All Senate <ALLSEN@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: **Co-Sponsorship LRB-5405/1 – Duration of Short-Term Health Coverage

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

TO: All Legislature
FROM: Senator David Craig
Representative Adam Neylon
RE: Co-Sponsorship LRB-5405/1 – Duration of Short-Term Health Coverage
DATE: February 3, 2020

SHORT DEADLINE: February 5, 2020 at NOON

In conjunction with the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ObamaCare), the eligibility for individuals covered by Short-Term Limited Duration (STLD) health insurance plans was reduced from twelve to three months. While newly limited in duration, these plans were specifically exempted from many of the requirements of ObamaCare including hidden taxes, expensive mandates, and onerous regulations. Because these plans now exist outside of the ObamaCare framework, they are generally far less expensive, more customizable, and better suited to the individual needs of customers in the private insurance marketplace – especially those who fall ill and need continuity of coverage. The problem, however, is that a three month duration does not provide an effective stop-gap between enrollment periods and thus does not provide adequate, continuous coverage for patients in need.

To remedy this, the federal government instituted a rule in 2018 which returned coverage under STLD plans to the pre-ObamaCare duration of twelve months while permitting renewals for up to 36 months. Analyses show these STLD health plans to cost between 70-90 percent less than those available in the ObamaCare system. These plans present a lower-cost alternative for not only young, healthy people, but also for sick individuals who require a continuity of coverage in their time of need.

This bill seeks to provide greater access to health insurance for those in need of short-term health care coverage due to ineligibility for a long-term group health plan and/or inability to afford the more expensive health care plans under the ObamaCare system. This bill defines short-term, limited-duration insurance using the federal government's definition, increasing the allowable duration of short-term health plans to 36 months, including renewals and extensions.

With the increasing cost of health care, combined with the failed ObamaCare plan, free market healthcare reforms like this are necessary now more than ever and further allow customizable plans to fit the needs of the individual or family as opposed to a government-sponsored “one size fits all” health plan.

Should you wish to be added on as a co-sponsor of this legislation, please reply to this email prior to NOON, Wednesday, February 5, 2020. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Chad Taylor in Senator Craig's office (6-5400).

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill defines short-term, limited-duration insurance using the federal government's definition. Under the bill, if the federal government defines short-term, limited-duration insurance to have shorter initial and aggregate durations than current law and if the federal law no longer preempts the state law, the commissioner shall define short-term, limited-duration insurance as insurance that complies with current state law. Under current state law, an insurer is not required to renew short-term coverage, which is coverage that is marketed and designed to provide short-term coverage as a bridge between health coverage with an initial term of not more than 12 months and an aggregate term of all consecutive periods of coverage that does not exceed 18 months. The current federal regulation defines short-term, limited-duration to have an initial expiration date that is less than 12 months after the effective date and an aggregate duration, including renewals or extensions, of no longer than 36 months.



State of Wisconsin
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5405/1
TJD:klm

2019 BILL

1 **AN ACT to amend** 632.7495 (4) (intro.) and 632.7495 (5) of the statutes; **relating**
2 **to:** short-term health coverage.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill defines short-term, limited-duration insurance using the federal government's definition. Under the bill, if the federal government defines short-term, limited-duration insurance to have shorter initial and aggregate durations than current law and if the federal law no longer preempts the state law, the commissioner shall define short-term, limited-duration insurance as insurance that complies with current state law. Under current state law, an insurer is not required to renew short-term coverage, which is coverage that is marketed and designed to provide short-term coverage as a bridge between health coverage with an initial term of not more than 12 months and an aggregate term of all consecutive periods of coverage that does not exceed 18 months. The current federal regulation defines short-term, limited-duration to have an initial expiration date that is less than 12 months after the effective date and an aggregate duration, including renewals or extensions, of no longer than 36 months.

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

3 **SECTION 1.** 632.7495 (4) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

BILL**SECTION 1**

1 632.7495 (4) (intro.) Except as the commissioner may provide by rule under
2 sub. (5) and notwithstanding subs. (1) and (2) and s. 631.36 (4), an insurer is not
3 required to renew individual health benefit plan coverage that is short-term,
4 limited-duration insurance, as defined in 45 CFR 144.103. If the federal
5 government defines short-term, limited-duration insurance to have a shorter initial
6 term than 12 months and aggregate duration of less than 18 months and if the
7 federal law no longer preempts state law, the commissioner shall define short-term,
8 limited-duration insurance to be insurance that complies with all of the following:

9 **SECTION 2.** 632.7495 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 632.7495 (5) The commissioner shall promulgate rules governing disclosures
11 related to, and may promulgate rules setting standards for, the sale of individual
12 health benefit plans that an insurer is not required to renew under sub. (4), except
13 that the commissioner may not set a different initial or aggregate duration for
14 short-term, limited-duration insurance than is specified in sub. (4).

15

(END)

Hope, Sam

From: CJ Szafir <cj@will-law.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2020 9:35 AM
To: Gibbs, Adam
Cc: Taylor, Chad
Subject: RE: Short-term duration / CC

Got it. We'll be in touch.

From: Gibbs, Adam [mailto:Adam.Gibbs@legis.wisconsin.gov]
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2020 9:34 AM
To: CJ Szafir
Cc: Taylor, Chad
Subject: RE: Short-term duration / CC

CJ,

Attached is the draft of the STLD legislation with draft co-sponsor memo. Happy to discuss the merits or questions.

Brief benefits:

- Expands access to free-market, lower-cost plans
- Benefits those with pre-existing conditions by extending coverage
- Affects an estimated 50,000 Wisconsinites who purchase these plans

Happy to discuss further.

Adam

Adam Gibbs | Chief of Staff | (608) 266-5400
Office of Wisconsin State Senator David Craig



BE ADVISED: Emails sent to and from this account may be subject to open records requests and should not be considered private.

From: CJ Szafir <cj@will-law.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2020 8:05 PM
To: Gibbs, Adam <Adam.Gibbs@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: RE: Short-term duration / CC

Excellent. Thank you.

From: Gibbs, Adam <Adam.Gibbs@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2020 8:01 PM

To: CJ Szafir
Subject: RE: Short-term duration / CC

Dave is signing on to Course Choice. I'll get you a draft of Short-term bill and memo tomorrow AM.

Thanks!

Adam Gibbs
Chief of Staff
Sen. David Craig

----- Original message -----

From: CJ Szafir <cj@will-law.org>
Date: 1/29/20 7:43 PM (GMT-06:00)
To: "Gibbs, Adam" <Adam.Gibbs@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: Short-term duration / CC

Adam - Two things. We're happy to work on the short-term duration bill. Let me know if there's a draft. Here is what we wrote in RW a few months back: <https://rightwisconsin.com/2019/01/14/evers-could-limit-less-expensive-health-insurance-option-for-wisconsinites>

Second, any update on Course Choice?

CJ Szafir
Executive Vice President
WILL

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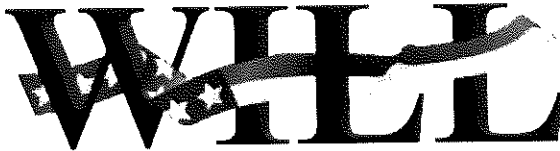
CJ Szafir
Executive Vice President
WILL

Hope, Sam

From: Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty <info@will-law.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Gibbs, Adam
Subject: WILL Asks WI Supreme Court to Review Stay in WEC Case

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

For more information, contact:
Collin Roth | WILL Director of Communication
collin@will-law.org | 414-727-7418



WISCONSIN INSTITUTE
FOR LAW & LIBERTY

WILL Asks WI Supreme Court to Review Stay in WEC Case

Seeks to enforce Circuit Court order while appeal is pending

The News: The Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty (WILL) filed a petition today asking the Supreme Court of Wisconsin to review the stay issued by the Court of Appeals in a lawsuit against the Wisconsin Elections Commission (WEC). Known as a petition for supervisory writ, WILL is asking the Supreme Court to review the Court of Appeals' stay because the lower court failed to offer any reasoning or rationale.

The Quote: WILL President and General Counsel Rick Esenberg said, "The Court of Appeals is required to provide some explanation when issuing a stay. To date, the Court of Appeals has provided nothing. Whatever reasoning may follow, we're asking the Supreme Court to consider whether a stay is warranted at all."

Background: On January 13, the Wisconsin Supreme Court split 3-3 on whether to grant WILL's motion to bypass the Court of Appeals (Justice Dan Kelly recused). In the immediate aftermath, the Court of Appeals issued a stay, halting Judge Malloy's December 17 court order requiring the Wisconsin Elections Commission to immediately comply with state law.

Recently, the Wisconsin Supreme Court unanimously concluded that the Court of Appeals must explain its stays. To date, the Court of Appeals has offered no reason or explanation for why it issued the stay in the WEC lawsuit.

Why It Matters: WILL sued the Wisconsin Elections Commission, on behalf of three Wisconsin voters, because the state agency was ignoring state law by leaving old and outdated voter registrations on the voter rolls. Judge Malloy's decision should remain in effect because Wisconsin deserves clean elections in 2020 and unelected bureaucrats at state agencies must understand that they cannot change state law and ignore a court order.

Read More:

- "[What You Need to Know About WILL's Lawsuit Against the Wisconsin Elections Commission](#)," January 7, 2020
- "[WILL Sues Wisconsin Elections Commission](#)," November 13, 2019



Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty | 330 East Kilbourn Avenue, Suite 725, Milwaukee, WI 53202

[Unsubscribe adam.gibbs@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:adam.gibbs@legis.wisconsin.gov)

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Hope, Sam

From: RightWisconsin <RightWisconsin@RightWisconsin.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 15, 2020 8:38 AM
To: Gibbs, Adam
Subject: So the President was in town

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

RightWisconsin Daily Update

[View this email in your browser](#)



RIGHTWisconsin

Is Milwaukee Trump Town?

Dear Adam,

President Donald Trump took a break from fighting impeachment, blowing up bad guys, picking good judges and changing the White House light bulbs to come to Milwaukee on Tuesday.

Thanks to a couple of RightWisconsin occasional contributors, we have a sense in pictures what it was like to be there. If you were one of the lucky ones to get inside, you got the full rally treatment: a few protesters, a speech devoid of any structural coherence, verbal pokes at Trump's political enemies, a complaint about the news media, and even a shout-out to Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Dan Kelly. It was not exactly presidential, but then a Trump experience never is.

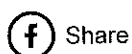
We hope everyone that attended the rallies, or the watch parties hosted by local Republican Party organizations, had a great time and got home safely.

We're a long way from 2016 when Wisconsin's Republicans voted against Trump in the presidential primary in a last-ditch effort to try to stop him. And it was interesting to see Rep. Mike Gallagher and Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner on the stage with the president, neither of whom supported the president's use of emergency powers to take money from the defense budget to use towards "the wall."

On the other hand, as one of our friends pointed out, having a former House Impeachment Manager, Rep. Sensenbrenner, on the stage is world-class trolling of the Democrats.

The Republican Party of Wisconsin is now a wholly owned subsidiary of Trump, inc., for good or for ill. Tuesday night's rally was Trump coming to take possession. We'll see if the GOP fares better than Trump University.

James Wigderson
Editor
RightWisconsin



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On RightWisconsin Right Now:

COURT RULES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION VIOLATED LAW IN VIRTUAL CLASSROOM TIME CASE

by [James Wigderson](#)

“There is not a legitimate government interest in denying Choice Schools the opportunity to use ‘virtual learning’ as Public schools do,” Bohren said.

[READ MORE](#)

THE TRUMP RALLY IN MILWAUKEE IN PHOTOS

by [RightWisconsin](#)

The crowd thoroughly enjoying themselves as they did ‘the wave’ and openly laughed several times with President Trump as he went off script.

[READ MORE](#)

APPEALS COURT ORDERS STAY IN WISCONSIN VOTER REGISTRATION CASE

by [Benjamin Yount](#)

“What is true yesterday is true today. The Wisconsin Elections Commission isn’t following state law and we look forward to making that case in the Court of Appeals,” Esenberg said.

[READ MORE](#)

DODGE COUNTY VOTERS SHOULD CALL FOR SNOW FOR JUDGE

by [Rohn Bishop](#)

When Snow argued, and won, her case before the Supreme Court, Abrahamson actually voted against Snow in the decision.

[READ MORE](#)

SHERIFF ENDORSES SEMPFF FOR DODGE COUNTY JUDGE

by [Dale Schmidt](#)

James Sempff is honest and will admit when he makes mistakes. That is true integrity. He is an excellent prosecutor who takes protecting the citizens seriously.

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Hope, Sam

From: WisPolitics-Publishing
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2020 5:02 PM
To: WisPolitics Notification Services
Subject: MON PM Update: Judge finds Dem Elections Commission members in contempt in voter list case



MON PM Update -- 13 Jan. 2020

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- An Ozaukee County judge today found the three Dem members of the Elections Commission in contempt for failing to strike the registrations of as many as 209,000 voters who may have moved.

The state Department of Justice had urged Judge Paul Malloy to hold off issuing any sanction while an appeal of his order works its way through the courts.

But Malloy fined Commissioners Mark Thompsen, Ann Jacobs and Julie Glancey each \$250 per day until the Wisconsin Elections Commission complies with his December order; the order mandated the deactivation of voters who may have moved but did not respond to an October mailing enquiring about their status.

Malloy also issued a \$50 per day fine to the Elections Commission until it is in compliance with his order.

"I can't be any clearer than this: they need to follow my order," he said.

Thompsen, Jacobs and Glancey blocked a motion during WEC's December meeting to comply with Malloy's order. At the time, the trio noted that Malloy had ruled but not yet issued a formal order. They also cited a potential appeal by the state Department of Justice that could result in a stay of the deactivation order.

Assistant Attorney General Karla Keckhaver today argued commissioners were right to not deactivate voters, because a pending appeal of the case to the state Supreme Court, as well as a federal suit alleging deactivation would violate due process rights, could result in a stay of that order.

That appeal, as well as a request to stay the order, was originally filed in a Madison-based appellate

court. But the request for a stay was declined after the conservative Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty petitioned the state Supreme Court to directly take the appeal. The justices have yet to act on the bypass petition or the request for a stay.

WILL President Rick Esenberg urged Malloy to act while the appeal is pending.

"What's happened here is the defendants are trying to help themselves to the relief that this court denied and that the court of appeals and Wisconsin Supreme Court have not granted them," he said.

Malloy sided with Esenberg, noting an appeal by itself "does not stay the enforcement of an order unless it's expressly provided somewhere by law."

Malloy also knocked "condescending" comments made by an unnamed commissioner in a radio interview. He alleged the official said Malloy's order was "one guy's interpretation of the statute."

"Sure, it's one guy's interpretation, but he's a judge, that's what he's paid to do," he said. "What happens to our justice system if people say that's just one guy's interpretation? What happens when people no longer come to court when they are subpoenaed? Our justice system will cease to work."

-- Keckhaver indicated DOJ would "immediately" appeal once Malloy's ruling from the bench is drafted into a formal order.

She also asked for a stay pending the appeal, but Malloy denied the request.

A DOJ spokeswoman said the agency believed the fine would be effective starting today, but couldn't say for certain until Malloy signs the order.

In issuing his verdict, Malloy opted for punitive measures that were far less harsh than the \$12,000 per day fine WILL sought.

A WEC spokesman told WisPolitics.com he believed the trio were sued in their official capacity and would not be personally responsible for paying the fine.

Commissioner Bob Spindell, a recent appointee of Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald who has lobbied for deactivating registrations, attended the hearing today. Speaking with reporters afterward, he indicated action can be taken "within a couple of days" of the commission's scheduled meeting tomorrow.

But he was noncommittal when asked if he believed the contempt finding would motivate the commission to act.

"I believe that our Democratic colleagues should follow the court's order, but we'll see," he said.

Despite today's order, Jacobs said she continues to believe the commission was correct not to comply with Malloy's ruling until the appeals process plays out. She also expressed concern about how reliable the information is from the database being used to identify possible movers.

"I remain profoundly concerned that we are taking people off the voter rolls who don't belong off the voter rolls, and we're doing it through the use of unreliable data, unapplicable statutes and doing it at a time when we have ballots out there, we have voters out there and we have elections coming up,"

she said.

Thomsen and Glancey didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

-- State schools Superintendent Carolyn Stanford Taylor said she talked now about her decision to not seek a full term as state superintendent in 2021 to give those interested in the office time to get organized.

Her decision not to run creates the first open DPI race since 2009. Then-Deputy Superintendent Tony Evers won the race that year to succeed two-term incumbent Libby Burmaster, who opted not to seek reelection.

Stanford Taylor, 62, plans to retire after her term is up in 2021, an agency spokesman said.

"Every child in this state deserves the chance, the opportunity, and the supports to become a success," Stanford Taylor said. "This will only happen if we -- educators, the governor, legislators, parents, and community members -- work together to make sure every student has what they need to learn when they need it."

In her announcement, Stanford Taylor said she promised Evers she would complete the final 2.5 years of his term as state superintendent when he appointed her to replace him a year ago.

Prior to her appointment, she had served as assistant state superintendent for the Division of Learning Support. Stanford Taylor, who first joined DPI in 2001, was the first female African American to serve as an assistant state superintendent.

Evers praised Stanford Taylor as "a dedicated and thoughtful leader committed to ensuring that every kid has the opportunity to succeed." He added she will be "an invaluable partner in helping to guide our next steps with an eye towards equity and inclusion" through the remainder of her term.

See the release:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/200113DPI.pdf>

-- Mike Huebsch, tapped for the Public Service Commission by Scott Walker after stints as DOA secretary and as Republican Assembly speaker, is retiring more than a year before his term is up.

Huebsch's departure will be effective Feb. 3 after 25 years of public service. His six-year term was set to expire March 1, 2021, and his departure means appointees of Gov. Tony Evers will now control the commission.

An agency spokesman said Huebsch will be fully vested in the state pension system when he leaves the PSC.

"I want to humbly thank the people of the state of Wisconsin for allowing me to serve," said Huebsch, 55. "I have been truly blessed for the opportunities and trust afforded to me by the people of this great state. I thank you."

An Evers appointee to replace Huebsch would be subject to Senate confirmation. His pick to lead the

three-member PSC -- Chair Cameron Valcq -- was confirmed by the Senate last year.

Huebsch was elected to the state Assembly in 1994 and became DOA secretary upon Walker's inauguration in January 2011. He served in that role until Walker appointed him to the PSC in 2015.

See the release:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/2020/psc-commissioner-huebsch-announces-retirement/>

-- Progressives today announced a new effort dubbed A Better Wisconsin Together to serve as a hub for message development, testing and communications ahead of the 2020 elections.

The group also will be the new home for the liberal advocacy group One Wisconsin Now, which will merge as a project of A Better Wisconsin Together.

The overall effort, organized as 501(c)(4), will include rapid response and earned media as well as digital, TV and radio ads. The group will have an affiliated 527 organization that will focus on elections and independent political activities.

The board overseeing the new group is chaired by Michelle McGrorty, a veteran operative. She most recently worked for EMILY's List before leaving this year to consult domestically and internationally. Her past work in the state includes leading Greater Wisconsin.

"With so much at stake in Wisconsin in 2020, A Better Wisconsin Together is bringing together what's worked for progressives in the past along with new ideas and tactics using the best research and communications tools available," McGrorty said.

Garrick Delzell, a national consultant for progressive organizations and campaigns, will serve as the group's interim director and issue campaign senior adviser.

One Wisconsin Now Deputy Director Mike Browne and Digital Director Cody Oliphant are going to work for the new organization. OWN Director Analiese Eicher recently announced her departure from the group.

See the release:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/200113ABWT.pdf>

-- Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign has added a second staffer in Wisconsin as it prepares to open an office in Madison next week.

Rebecca Lynch, who has been working as the political director for the Working Families Party, was hired to fill the same role with the Massachusetts senator's Wisconsin campaign.

She joins senior strategist Jake Hajdu on Warren's Wisconsin staff.

The campaign plans to open the Madison office Jan. 21 with state Rep. Greta Neubauer, D-Racine in attendance.

-- Dem De Pere Ald. Jonathon Hansen announced today he will seek the state Senate seat

being vacated by his uncle, Dave Hansen.

Dave Hansen, D-Green Bay, announced last week he won't seek reelection after serving in the state Senate since 2000.

Jonathon Hansen, who won a seat on the De Pere City Council in 2017, said in his announcement he hopes to carry on his uncle's legacy by finding "pragmatic solutions" to help the district.

"I will work to ban taxpayer dollars from going to companies that ship jobs overseas or out-of-state, oppose corporate welfare, fight to protect family farms, and reduce property taxes by closing the 'dark store' loophole," he said.

See the release:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/200113Hansen.pdf>

-- The political arm of the House Freedom Caucus has put \$74,962 behind a digital ad supporting Republican Tom Tiffany in the special election for Wisconsin's 7th CD, according to a filing with the FEC.

House Freedom Action didn't immediately respond to a message today seeking details of the buy. The filing didn't include any details on the digital ad.

The group, which backs conservative candidates for Congress, has endorsed Tiffany, a state senator from Minocqua.

Tiffany faces Jason Church, a former aide to U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson, in the Feb. 18 primary. The general election is May 12.

-- The Assembly will attempt to override one of Gov. Tony Evers' vetoes during Wednesday's floor session.

AB 76 would've prohibited the Department of Health Services from requiring nursing assistants to have more clinical supervised practical training than the federally required minimum. Federal law currently requires no less than 75 hours of training for nurses with at least 16 hours of supervised practical training. Current Wisconsin law requires 120 hours of training, with at least 32 hours of supervised practical training and the first 16 hours as classroom training before any direct contact with clients.

Evers vetoed the bill in November, saying he objects "to providing less training for those who care for our state's most vulnerable citizens."

"There are better ways to address the shortage of nurse aides than reducing the quality of training programs," Evers said in his veto statement.

Assembly Rules Committee members today added AB 76, along with a Senate companion bill to AB 361 and several ceremonial joint resolutions, to the floor agenda. Assembly Majority Leader Rep. Jim Steineke, R-Kaukauna, estimated there would be a little under seven hours of total floor debate time.

AB 76 passed the Assembly 66-31 with Dem Reps. Don Vruwink, of Milton, Beth Meyers, of Bayfield,

and Steve Doyle, of Onalaska, siding with Republicans. The bill passed the Senate by voice vote. All three Dems didn't immediately return calls seeking comment on the override.

The Assembly and Senate both need a two-thirds majority vote to override a gov's veto. This would be the first attempt at a veto override for the bill.

Steineke also said the Assembly's next floor session will take place Jan. 22 ahead of the gov's State of the State address that same day. He did not say how much time there will be between the floor session and Evers' address.

A spokesman for Evers didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

See the more:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Jan.-15th-Finalized-Calendar.pdf>

https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/related/veto_messages/ab76.pdf

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/related/enrolled/ab76>

-- Dem lawmakers today are circulating a bill that would prohibit presidential and vice presidential candidates from receiving event permits until they pay all outstanding debts.

The bill also would allow municipalities to charge candidates ahead of events for police and sanitation costs.

Sen. Jeff Smith, of Brunswick, and Rep. Amanda Stuck, of Appleton, introduced the Recovery of Unsettled Municipal Payments Act in response to the cities of Eau Claire and Green Bay still having outstanding debts from presidential visits in the 2016 election.

They said the Trump campaign was "the biggest offender," owing Eau Claire \$47,398 and Green Bay \$9,380.

"It's one thing to ask for our vote, it's another to ask us to pick up your tab," Smith said in a statement. "Pay up or don't come back!"

See more:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/200113PRESIDENT.pdf>

-- Legislative Republicans today revealed their Tougher on Crime initiative meant to punish repeat offenders and gather more data on reducing crime in the state.

The initiative's Assembly leader Rep. Joe Sanfelippo, of New Berlin, today said at a West Allis news conference that "this is the beginning" and "not the end" of the rollout for GOP criminal justice reform. He said this will be a major GOP priority for the remainder of the Legislative session.

"There are probably a dozen solid ideas in the works now but that could grow," Sanfelippo said. "Criminal justice reform has been a topic of the Evers administration since the beginning, but we have very different ideas on what that reform should look like."

Sanfelippo said Wisconsin's crime rate has risen by 24 percent since 2008, while the overall U.S. crime rate has dropped by 14 percent.

Gov. Tony Evers and Dem lawmakers last week revealed their own criminal justice reform bill package. Dem priorities include incarceration limits for non-criminal supervision violations and an increase of vocational and educational programs.

Today, GOP lawmakers highlighted a bill that would change witness intimidation charges from a misdemeanor to a felony and another that would implement a mandatory minimum prison sentence for individuals convicted of shoplifting at least three times.

Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald, of Juneau, said the initiative is "here to draw a line in the sand" and point out criminal justice reform differences between GOP leadership and Evers' administration.

An Evers spokeswoman didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

Jan. 23: WisPolitics.com Luncheon with AG Josh Kaul

Join WisPolitics.com for lunch at The Madison Club, 5 East Wilson St., Madison, on Thursday Jan. 23 with Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul to discuss his work fighting drug addiction, gun violence, water pollution and more.

Kaul, a Democrat, won election to a four-year term in November 2018 and started his job leading the Wisconsin Department of Justice in January 2019. See more on Kaul: <https://www.doj.state.wi.us/exec-profile/josh-kaul>

Check-in and lunch begins at 11:30 a.m., with the program going from noon to 1 p.m. WisPolitics.com subscribers and members as well as Madison Club members and their guests receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons of \$19 per person. Price for general public is \$25 per person.

This luncheon is sponsored by: Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-with-attorney-general-josh-kaul-tickets-83015085355>

BILLS CIRCULATING

LRB-5125 and LRB-5311: Modifying administrative rules relating to the use of wood to contain bear bait in stumps.

LRB-4711/1: Joint Resolution proclaiming February 2020 as Noonan Syndrome Awareness Month in Wisconsin.

LRB-3979/1: The deadline for a landlord to return a security deposit and providing a penalty.

LRB-5249/p2: The Recovery of Unsettled Municipal Payments Act

LRB-2596: Guardian training requirements

LRB-4822/1: Authorizing certain overseas and military voters to vote absentee by electronic transmission and granting rule-making authority.

LRB-5041/1: School expenditure transparency and creating a computerized uniform school budget and accounting system

LRB-0326: Nomination signature requirements for state treasurer and secretary of state and circulating or signing nomination papers for more than one candidate for the same office.

LRB-3811 and 5255: Recognizing and Honoring Hmong-Lao Veterans Day.

BILLS INTRODUCED

<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/proposaltext/2017/REG/top>

AJR 116: Proclaiming January 2020 as human trafficking awareness and prevention month. Referred to Committee on Rules.

AJR 117: Proclaiming February 2020 to be American Heart Month in Wisconsin.

Track bills for free:

<https://notify.legis.wisconsin.gov/>

TOP HEADLINES

WPR: Milwaukee Considering Universal Basic Income Pilot Program
<https://www.wpr.org/milwaukee-considering-universal-basic-income-pilot-program>

WPR: As Rains Intensify, Sewage Surges Into Wisconsin Waters
<https://www.wpr.org/rains-intensify-sewage-surges-wisconsin-waters>

Journal Sentinel: Milwaukee County exec race thrown into disarray over nomination paper snafu
<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/investigations/daniel-bice/2020/01/13/milwaukee-county-exec-candidates-could-bumped-over-nomination-snafu/4448449002/>

State Journal: Front Page podcast: Energy and environment reporter Chris Hubbuch discusses access to renewables in Minnesota and Wisconsin
https://madison.com/wsj/news/local/front-page-podcast-energy-and-environment-reporter-chris-hubbuch-discusses/article_948e7bb4-6ab0-5609-bcd9-2640fd81f624.html

NYT: American history textbooks can differ across the country, in ways that are shaded by partisan politics.
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/01/12/us/texas-vs-california-history-textbooks.html>

WSJ: Iran Warns Protesters as It Grapples With Unrest Over Plane Crash
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/iran-warns-protesters-as-it-grapples-with-unrest-over-plane-crash-11578921377>

Politico: Sanders surges as progressives flock to him over Warren
<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/01/13/sanders-progressives-flock-warren-098065>

Politico: How Schumer might get the last laugh on impeachment trial
<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/01/13/chuck-schumer-trump-impeachment-trial-097296>

TUESDAY'S CALENDAR

<https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/>

- 9:55 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Rural Development executive session. Members are to take up bills related to health care at recreational and educational camps.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1531787>

- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Mental Health public hearing on AB 639, relating to a pilot program for reimbursement of certain costs relating to hospitalization for purposes of emergency detention; and Clearinghouse Rule 19-018, relating to mental health day treatment services for children.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1533269>

- 10 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Family Law executive session on AB 672, relating to legal custody and physical placement factors for a child of a service member.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1533434>

- 10 a.m.: Senate Committee on Local Government, Small Business, Tourism and Workforce Development executive session on SB 584, relating to the way town board vacancies are filled; public notice requirements for governmental meetings; appointment and removal procedures for certain town officeholders; a process for an applicant to appeal a permit denial to the governing body of a city, village, or town; wages paid to an elected town officer who also serves as a town employee; and the term of appointed town assessors; and SB 452, relating to loans and repayment assistance by a political subdivision for certain improvements to properties and collection of the debt by special charge.

<https://elections.wi.gov/about/meetings/2020/january>

- 10 a.m.: Elections Commission meeting. Members are to consider ballot access issues and challenges and certify candidates for the 2020 spring election. The commission will also discuss election security and receive a litigation update.

<https://elections.wi.gov/about/meetings/2020/january>

- 10:30 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Energy and Utilities public hearing on AB 665, relating to authorizing the Wisconsin Propane Education and Research Council to levy an assessment; and AB 712, relating to making various changes to statutes administered by the Public Service Commission and requiring investor-owned energy utilities to fund a consumer advocate.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1533393>

- 10:30 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Workforce Development executive session on AB 45, relating to creating individual and corporate income and franchise tax deductions for tuition paid for apprenticeship programs; and AB 72, relating to requiring certain occupational areas to be included in the youth apprenticeship program.

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1534135>

- 10:30 a.m.: Assembly Committee on Transportation public hearing on AB 696
Relating to: penalties for violations related to the motor vehicle liability insurance requirement, proof of financial responsibility, requirements for registering motor vehicles, operating a vehicle without an operator's license or after suspension or revocation of an operating privilege; AB 652, relating to regulation of all-terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles, and all-terrain vehicle projects.
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1534112>

- 11:45 a.m.: Milwaukee Rotary Club. Guest speaker is Sara Walker, regional director of investments at BMO Wealth Management, who will discuss the current economic outlook. Rotary meetings are open to members, invited guests and media.
<https://www.wispolitics.com/2020/milwaukee-rotary-club-91/>

- 1 p.m.: Senate Committee on Government Operations, Technology and Consumer Protection executive session on AB 132, relating to caller ID spoofing; AB 395, relating to the issuance by the Department of Revenue of retail alcohol beverage permits for motor vehicle racetrack grounds, authorizing caterers to make retail sales of alcohol beverages on racetrack grounds, and hours for retail sales by brewers; 436, relating to the distribution of the Wisconsin Blue Book and highway maps.
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1533818>

- 1:05 p.m.: Senate Committee on Government Operations, Technology and Consumer Protection public hearing on AB 49, relating to the authority of the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands to delegate authority to invest trust fund monies, other bills.
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/raw/cid/1533819>

- 7 p.m.: President Trump Milwaukee rally.
<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/events/milwaukee-wi-jan-14-2020>

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| [Quorum Call](#) | [DC Wrap](#)

Hope, Sam

From: WisPolitics-Publishing
Sent: Thursday, January 09, 2020 4:53 PM
To: WisPolitics Notification Services
Subject: THU PM Update: Evers calls on Legislature to address homelessness, drinking water contamination, other issues

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged



THU PM Update -- 9 Jan. 2020

Exclusively for WisPolitics Subscribers - DO NOT FORWARD

From WisPolitics.com ...

-- Gov. Tony Evers today assigned the GOP-controlled Legislature "homework" for the upcoming year, calling on lawmakers to address a range of topics including homelessness, contaminated drinking water and the so-called "dark store" loophole.

Evers, a former teacher and state superintendent, in a letter to lawmakers identified a number of already-introduced bills he wants to see passed by the end of the session.

But Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald slammed the missive as "condescending" and said it "won't help him grow support for an agenda with Senate Republicans."

"The tone of this letter is ridiculous," tweeted the Juneau Republican.

Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, meanwhile, tweeted "#condescending is a polite term for what it is" in response to a tweet from Sen. David Craig, R-Big Bend, about the letter.

Evers opened the letter by referencing a similar communication Assembly Republicans sent him last January outlining 11 legislative goals. The gov highlighted five -- income tax reductions, enhancing high-speed internet, support for K-12 education, addressing the debt level in the transportation fund and infrastructure investments -- in which "we were able to make significant progress."

He then highlighted the already-introduced bills for the upcoming year. Those include measures to cap the price of insulin, close the so-called "dark store" loophole, create PFAS standards to address contamination of drinking water, prevent a future backlog of sexual assault kits, address homelessness and alleviate the burden on local governments caused by "unexpected" special

elections.

Evers also called for lawmakers to introduce bills to address sexual assault and harassment in the Wisconsin National Guard and surprise medical billing, update the state's election laws to comply with federal law and help the agriculture industry, among other things.

And he warned the Legislature against adjourning "without making meaningful progress on the issues Wisconsinites care about."

"Given the many opportunities we have to work together on the pressing issues facing our state, I am hopeful that the legislature (sic) will remain in session as long as is necessary to accomplish these important goals," he said.

See the letter:

https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/WIGOV/2020/01/09/file_attachments/1355569/Evers_Leg%20Homework.pdf

See Fitzgerald's tweet:

<https://twitter.com/SenFitzgerald/status/1215332342031478785>

See Vos' tweet:

<https://twitter.com/repvos/status/1215379775780343808>

-- In announcing his plans to pass on a reelection bid this fall, Dem state Sen. Dave Hansen said he's retiring now because it's time to begin the next chapter of his life after 40 years in public office.

Hansen was first elected to the state Senate in 2000 after serving on the Brown County Board of Supervisors. He noted in his announcement that he turned 72 last month and "as much as it has become a cliché in politics, I truly am retiring to spend more time with my family."

Republicans have regularly targeted Hansen but fell short each time, often as he outperformed the top of the ticket.

"I have no fears about my chances for reelection having survived an attempted recall in 2011 and winning handily in a district that Republicans told me they gerrymandered specifically to defeat me," Hansen said. "I believe had I chosen to run again I would win."

Still, his retirement likely improves GOP chances of winning the seat as they seek to expand their 19-14 majority. Dem Sen. Patty Schachtner, of Somerset, is a top target this fall after winning a special election in January 2018 for a Senate seat that Donald Trump won by 17 points in 2016.

The president also won Hansen's district by more than 10 points as he beat Hillary Clinton in the Green Bay-area seat with 52.1 percent of the vote.

Republican Eric Wimberger, who lost to Hansen in 2016, has already filed to seek the seat again. Republicans have also mentioned Julia Thomas, a designer who owns a glass milk bottle delivery company, as a possible candidate.

State Rep. John Nygren, who sought to run against Hansen in the 2011 recalls, but failed to qualify

for the ballot, said he'd look at a run.

Still, seeking a state Senate seat would mean giving up the Assembly co-chairmanship of the Joint Finance Committee, a post he'd held since 2013.

"It's a high bar to get me to make that leap," said Nygren, R-Marinette.

State Rep. John Macco, who unsuccessfully challenged Hansen in 2012 before winning his Assembly seat in 2014, didn't immediately return a call seeking comment on whether he's interested in a run.

See Hansen's statement:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/200109-Hansen.pdf>

-- State Rep. Bob Kulp today announced he won't seek reelection in 2020.

The Stratford Republican won his seat in a November 2013 special election and has since represented the district containing sections of Marathon, Clark and Wood counties.

In a Facebook post, Kulp wrote it was "one of the great honors of my lifetime" to be a member of the Assembly but said it's "time to make way for someone new to bring their best to this job."

"I have nearly one year left in this current term, and I expect to finish as strong and I will continue to intercede and advocate on behalf of the people in the 69th Assembly District until January 2021!" he wrote.

President Trump won the heavily Republican seat with 60.4 percent of the vote in 2016.

Kulp and Hansen's announcements today, plus Neenah Republican Rep. Mike Rohrkaste's announcement in October, makes three legislators who have announced they won't run.

See the Facebook post:

<https://www.facebook.com/708627758/posts/10157002233617759/>

-- The Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty today slammed AG Josh Kaul's request for state Supreme Court to stay a ruling directing the Elections Commission to deactivate the registrations of voters who may have moved.

In a filing responding to the DOJ emergency request for a stay, WILL said the request was "the latest in a number of attempts by the Defendants to do everything in their power to avoid complying with clear election law until the upcoming elections have passed."

"The Defendants' gambit this time around is to frighten this Court with a parade of horrors into temporarily exempting the Defendants from their statutory obligations until it is too late for (the plaintiffs) to obtain the relief they have been seeking since October, 2019: clean voter rolls in advance of the upcoming elections," the filing said.

WILL in its filing asked the high court to deny the motion.

Kaul yesterday asked the Supreme Court to take one of two actions: put on hold the Ozaukee County

judge's order, or direct the appeals court to rule on DOJ's request for a stay by Friday.

That came after the 4th District Court of Appeals on Monday declined to act on Kaul's request for a stay, saying it was waiting for the Supreme Court to indicate whether it planned to take over the entire case.

See the filing:

<https://www.wispolitics.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/200109-WILL-Response-to-DOJ-Emergency-Motion.pdf>

-- Data on the scope of human trafficking "is inconsistent across the state and more incomplete than previously believed," according to a Department of Justice assessment released today.

The 2019 Law Enforcement Assessment of Sex Trafficking in Wisconsin surveyed law enforcement agencies across the state to gather information on their practices and policies when dealing with human trafficking incidents.

"As the report shows, there has been an increased recognition of the prevalence of human trafficking," Attorney General Josh Kaul said in a statement. "We must continue working to raise awareness about this terrible crime and investing in efforts to fight it."

Kaul said the report will better the state's understanding of how law enforcement agencies handle human trafficking.

The report also found:

*Human trafficking is indeed happening in the state but any exact quantity is unknown due to differences in policy between law enforcement agencies.

*Many officers report a need for training on the difference between prostitution and sex trafficking.

*Over 90 percent of police chiefs and sheriffs refer suspected sex trafficking child victims to local welfare agencies.

See more:

<https://www.doj.state.wi.us/news-releases/ag-kaul-releases-2019-law-enforcement-assessment-sex-trafficking-wisconsin>

[https://www.doj.state.wi.us/sites/default/files/news-media/1.9.20 HT Data Report.pdf](https://www.doj.state.wi.us/sites/default/files/news-media/1.9.20_HT_Data_Report.pdf)

-- Lawmakers from both parties raised concerns in a public hearing today over a bill that would increase penalties for individuals found guilty of disorderly conduct if they wore a mask to conceal their identity.

But the bill's author Rep. Gary Tauchen, R-Bonduel, said he wants this bill in place to help protect Milwaukee's reputation during the Democratic National Convention in July.

Tauchen recalled witnessing protests of the 1999 World Trade Organization where Seattle "looked like a warzone" while people in masks burned buildings and broke windows throughout the downtown

area.

"Their goal was destruction and anarchy and essentially they shut down a large part of the city," Tauchen said. "With the DNC coming to Milwaukee, I don't want that to be the case in Milwaukee or in Wisconsin."

Current law states that crimes of disorderly conduct are punishable as a Class B misdemeanor, which could yield a fine of up to \$1,000 and a maximum 90 days in prison. The Legislative Council said a judge currently has the authority to consider wearing a mask an "aggravating factor" when determining punishment. But they may not go beyond Class B misdemeanor sentencing.

AB 617 raises the punishment to a Class A misdemeanor, up to a \$10,000 fine and six months in prison, if the individual is found to have worn a mask to conceal their identity in the act. The bill creates exceptions for masks worn for religious purposes, or those worn because of a holiday or for weather protection.

Rep. David Crowley, D-Milwaukee, raised concerns of some "unintended consequences" of innocent people swept up in the crowd still receiving these stricter punishments. He said something similar happened to him at 16 years old.

"In my own experience, just being in the vicinity could lead you to some type of charge," Crowley said.

But Tauchen said his experiences found only "the bad actors wore the masks so they wouldn't be recognized." He said he just wants the state "to look good" during the "worldwide event" that'll be the 2020 DNC.

Meanwhile, Rep. Shae Sortwell, R-Two Rivers, said he had concerns that a law punishing people for concealing their faces in protest could be abused by the government. He mentioned a recent similar action by the Chinese government to crack down on democracy protests in Hong Kong.

"We shouldn't pretend our government is so virtuous that they won't abuse their power," Sortwell said. "We've done huge atrocities at times."

Sortwell also mentioned the 1773 Boston Tea Party, during which American colonists disguised their identity and "committed disorderly conduct" by dumping 342 British East India Company tea crates in the Boston Harbor in protest.

See more:
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2019/related/proposals/ab617>

Jan. 23: WisPolitics.com Luncheon with AG Josh Kaul

Join WisPolitics.com for lunch at The Madison Club, 5 East Wilson St., Madison, on Thursday Jan. 23 with Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul to discuss his work fighting drug addiction, gun violence, water pollution and more.

Kaul, a Democrat, won election to a four-year term in November 2018 and started his job leading the Wisconsin Department of Justice in January 2019. See more on Kaul:

<https://www.doj.state.wi.us/exec-profile/josh-kaul>

Check-in and lunch begins at 11:30 a.m., with the program going from noon to 1 p.m. WisPolitics.com subscribers and members as well as Madison Club members and their guests receive discounted pricing for WisPolitics luncheons of \$19 per person. Price for general public is \$25 per person.

This luncheon is sponsored by: Husch Blackwell, American Family Insurance, Xcel Energy, Walmart, AARP Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Hospital Association.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wispolitics-luncheon-with-attorney-general-josh-kaul-tickets-83015085355>

BILLS CIRCULATING

LRB-3937 and LRB-5245: Waiver of fees for admission to state parks on Earth Day.

LRB-4208 and 5218: Constitutional Amendment to Establish Personhood.

BILLS INTRODUCED

<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/proposaltext/2017/REG/top>

SB 674: Traffic violations when emergency or roadside response vehicles are present and providing a penalty. Referred to Committee on Transportation, Veterans and Military Affairs.

SB 675: Standards for care and shelter of animals and providing a penalty. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Revenue and Financial Institutions.

SB 676: Sales and use tax exemption for diapers, undergarments for incontinence, tampons, and sanitary napkins. Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Revenue and Financial Institutions.

SB 677: Ratification of the agreement negotiated between the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee, for the 2018-19 fiscal year, covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit, and authorizing an expenditure of funds. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

SB 679: Ratification of the agreement negotiated between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee, for the 2018-19 fiscal year, covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit, and authorizing an expenditure of funds. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

SB 680: Ratification of the agreement negotiated between the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee, for the 2019-20 fiscal year, covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit, and authorizing an expenditure of funds.

SB 681: Ratification of the agreement negotiated between the state of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee, for the 2018-19 fiscal year, covering employees in the

building trades crafts collective bargaining unit, and authorizing an expenditure of funds. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

SB 682: Ratification of the agreement negotiated between the state of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee, for the 2019-20 fiscal year, covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit, and authorizing an expenditure of funds. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

AB 724: Hearing timelines for juveniles in custody. Referred to Committee on Judiciary

AB 725: Online clearinghouse of information for small businesses in Wisconsin. Referred to Committee on small Business Development.

AB 726: Community health center grants and making an appropriation. Referred to Committee on Health.

AB 727: Per pupil payments to private schools participating in parental choice programs. Referred to Committee on Education.

AB 728: Teacher licensure in parental choice programs and in the Special Needs Scholarship Program and granting rule-making authority. Referred to Committee on Regulatory Licensing Reform.

AB 729: State aid to the resident school district of a pupil attending a private school under the Racine or statewide parental choice program. Referred to Committee on Education.

AB 730: Phasing out the Special Needs Scholarship Program and limiting enrollment in parental choice programs. Referred to Committee on Education.

AB 731: Reciprocal credentials for service members, former service members, and their spouses and granting rule-making authority. Referred to Committee on Regulatory Licensing Reform.

AB 732: Ranked-choice voting, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation. Referred to Committee on Campaigns and Elections.

AB 733: Housing authorities. Referred to Committee on Housing and Real Estate.

AB 734: Mail theft and providing a penalty. Referred to Committee on Consumer Protection.

AB 735: Harassment of a sports official and providing a penalty. Referred to Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

AB 736: Town zoning in shorelands, the scope of county shoreland zoning ordinances, and authorizing partial county zoning. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

AJR 115: Commending the American Legion Auxiliary upon the 100th anniversary of its founding. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Track bills for free:

<https://notify.legis.wisconsin.gov/>

TOP HEADLINES

WPR: Wisconsin Follows National Decline In Cancer Death Rates
<https://www.wpr.org/wisconsin-follows-national-decline-cancer-death-rates>

WPR: Southwestern Wisconsin Villages Hit By Repeated Floods Receive New Federal Mitigation Grant
<https://www.wpr.org/southwestern-wisconsin-villages-hit-repeated-floods-receive-new-federal-mitigation-grant>

Politico: Pelosi not budging on impeachment articles
<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/01/09/pelosi-not-budging-send-impeachment-articles-096698>

Politico: Bernie emerges as growing threat to Biden
<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/01/09/biden-sanders-concern-2020-096520>

Reuters: UK lawmakers back EU exit deal, turning page on Brexit crisis
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-eu/uk-lawmakers-back-eu-exit-deal-turning-page-on-brexit-crisis-idUSKBN1Z81EO?il=0>

NYT: Video Shows Ukrainian Plane Being Hit Over Iran
<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/09/video/iran-plane-missile.html>

FRIDAY'S CALENDAR

<https://www.wispolitics.com/category/events/>

- No events listed.

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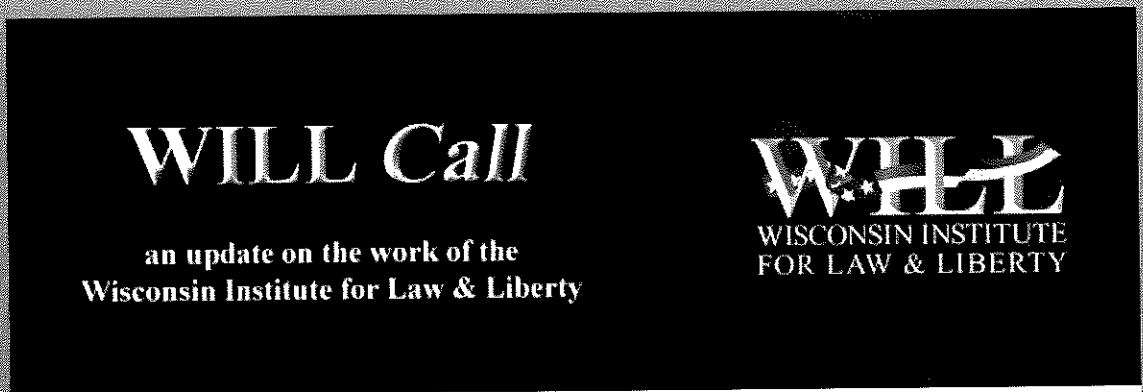
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| [Quorum Call](#) | [DC Wrap](#)


Hope, Sam

From: Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty <info@will-law.org>
Sent: Monday, January 06, 2020 7:00 PM
To: Gibbs, Adam
Subject: WILL Call | President Trump's Judicial Revolution, Cracking the Code of Career Success

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged




WILL Call
an update on the work of the
Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty



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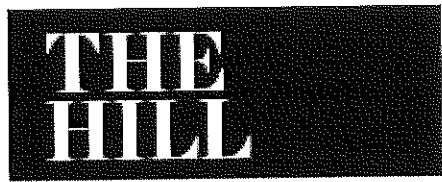

News and Updates



**REAL
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Szafir and Petersen: Trump is Remaking Federal Judiciary at Historic Rate

CJ Szafir and Cori Petersen write in RealClearPolitics on the historic judicial revolution President Trump and Senate Republicans are accomplishing.



**THE
HILL**

President Trump's Fight For School Choice

Computer Science and Cracking the Code to Success after High School

Jessica Holmberg profiles Cristo Rey, a Milwaukee school in the choice program, that is making an effort to get students excited about coding and computer science.



WILL Asks Court to Hold Elections Commission in Contempt

WILL filed a motion for contempt against the Wisconsin Elections Commission after the state agency has ignored a December court order.

CJ Szafir and Cori Petersen write in The Hill on President Trump's dogged support for school choice in comparison to his opponents who promise to limit school options and empower public school bureaucracies.

WILL
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FOR LAW & LIBERTY

Law

WILL to Madison Schools: Respect Parental Rights or Face Lawsuit

The Madison Metropolitan School District received a demand letter from WILL, on behalf of Madison parents, asking the district to change a gender identity policy that violates parental rights.



Deputy Counsel **Lucas Vebber** joined Capital City Sunday on **WKOW** in Madison. Vebber discussed the latest updates in WILL's lawsuit against the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

Quick Hits

- WILL Writer and Research Associate **Cori Petersen** discussed the promise of Direct Primary Care as a healthcare innovation on **Wisconsin Public Radio**.
- WILL Director of Communication **Collin Roth** and Writer and Research Associate **Cori Petersen** wrote essays for the **Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's** Vision 2030 on school choice and localism.
- WILL President **Rick Esenberg** joined the **Cato Institute** podcast to discuss the importance state constitutions can play in protecting liberty.
- Director of Communication **Collin Roth** joins attorney **Dan Adams** and WTMJ host **Steve Scaffidi** every Friday for a discussion of the biggest news stories of the week.

Events



No Better Friend Corp. January Forum (Hudson)

Research Director Will Flanders will participate in the No Better Friend Corp. January Forum in Hudson, Wisconsin - Thursday, January 16, 2020 at Hudson House Grand Hotel, Hudson, WI.

[Read more](#)
www.eventbrite.com



AFF-Milwaukee: Let's Talk School Choice

WILL's CJ Szafir and Libby Sobic will speak at America's Future Foundation's event, "Let's Talk School Choice" - Thursday, January 30, 2020 at MobCraft Beer Brewery and Taproom, Milwaukee, WI.

[Read more](#)
www.eventbrite.com

Tweet of the Week



Hugh Hewitt
@hughhewitt

Meanwhile, in other news, as @SpeakerPelosi holds herself hostage, @senatemajldr will resume confirming judges: "Trump Is Remaking the Federal Judiciary at a Historic Rate "



Trump Is Remaking the Federal Judiciary at a Historic Rate |...
After weeks of televised hearings, in late December the U.S. House officially impeached President Trump. While those ...
[realclearpolitics.com](https://www.realclearpolitics.com)

11:32 AM · Jan 5, 2020 · Twitter for iPad

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Hope, Sam

From: Henkel, Matt
Sent: Tuesday, November 19, 2019 9:57 AM
To: Gibbs, Adam
Subject: FW: WILL Comments: Appleton school speech

From: CJ Szafir <cj@will-law.org>
Sent: Monday, November 18, 2019 3:51 PM
To: Henkel, Matt <Matt.Henkel@legis.wisconsin.gov>
Subject: WILL Comments: Appleton school speech

Hi Matt,

I have a few initial thoughts on the draft bill. In short, I do not think the bill as currently drafted would prevent what happened in Appleton (I am referring specifically to AASD's adoption of its new "guidelines" governing speeches and speakers). What that means is that future school boards could get around this bill by copying Appleton's approach.

The bill (a) applies to school-board adopted "polic[ies] regarding allowable content of high school graduation speeches" and contains (b) one substantive safeguard (compliance with the DOE guidelines); and (c) one procedural safeguard (a mandate that decisions on speeches be made by the school board). Each is discussed below.

- a) **Scope of bill.** The bill applies where "a [i] school board adopts a [ii] policy regarding allowable content of high school graduation speeches." I have concerns these two terms are underinclusive. First, the AASD guidelines were not adopted by the board but instead by AASD administration (including the Superintendent), apparently without consulting the board. Second, AASD went out of its way to characterize the procedure it adopted as non-mandatory "administrative guidelines and protocols" rather than a "policy." I'm not sure if that gets AASD out from under the requirements of your bill, but it might. Consequently, it might be a good idea to broaden both terms to include any [i] formal or informal policies, procedures, guidelines, guidance, protocols etc. adopted by [ii] a school district, including by a district board, administration, staff, etc. (I suppose there could be problems with overinclusiveness as well but none currently come to mind).
- b) **Substantive safeguard.** The bill requires that any qualifying policy comply with the referenced DOE guidance. (For the sake of clarity I assume that refers to [this document](#).) As an initial matter, note that the guidance is essentially a neutral statement of the law, including cases that we at WILL might disagree with such as *Lee v. Weisman* and *Santa Fe Independent School District*. In other words, this bill hands weapons to those on both sides of a dispute.

Regardless, the guidance does not help much on this specific issue.

The AASD administration acted very intentionally when they adopted their new guidelines. Note that the DOE guidance states: "School officials may not mandate or organize prayer at graduation or select speakers for such events in a manner that favors religious speech such as prayer. Where students or other private graduation speakers are selected on the basis of genuinely neutral, evenhanded criteria and retain primary control over the content of their expression, however, that expression is not attributable to the school and therefore may not be restricted because of its religious (or anti-religious) content. To avoid any mistaken perception that a school endorses student or other private speech that is not in fact attributable to the school, school officials may make appropriate, neutral disclaimers to clarify that such speech (whether religious or nonreligious) is the speaker's and not the school's."

AASD's guidelines do not take this approach. The guidelines do not provide criteria that will apply equally in each case; give AASD *immense* control over the speech/speaker; and (to the best of my knowledge) do not include a disclaimer clarifying that the speaker does not represent the school. My suspicion is that AASD *wants* (religious) speech to be theoretically imputed to it so that it can argue the speech must be suppressed for Establishment Clause purposes.

One solution (there may be others) would be to require that all qualifying district policies (1) provide neutral, evenhanded criteria for the selection of speakers and the content of speeches; (2) place primary control over the content of speeches in the speaker; and (3) contain a disclaimer along the lines mentioned above. The DOE guidelines don't require this; the document simply comments on the effect of having or not having these types of rules.

Finally, as an aside, please note that other helpful portions of the DOE guidance apply specifically to "student speakers" (*see, e.g.* "Student Assemblies and Extracurricular Events") and so would not apply to a school board member.

- c) ***Procedural Safeguard.*** The bill requires that all decisions regarding speech content and speech approval or disapproval be made by the board. In theory this could be unobjectionable. But, again, it all depends on what decisions the board is permitted to make. If the board is provided veto power over speeches and speakers, then AASD will be able to argue that it is required to prevent religious speech at its events. If the board has limited authority, then allowing the board to make whatever decisions there are to make shouldn't be a problem (and, in this case, seems like a good idea).

- d) **Additional provision re: Wisconsin Constitution and statutes.** The Wisconsin Constitution provides greater religious liberty rights than are available at the federal level, and the DOE guidelines pertain solely to federal law. So it might be a good idea, out of an abundance of caution, to include a provision noting that in requiring districts to comply with the DOE guidelines the bill is not meant to prejudice any other constitutional or statutory rights Wisconsin citizens might have.

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From: Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty <info@will-law.org>
Sent: Friday, April 12, 2019 12:01 PM
To: Gibbs, Adam
Subject: Scott Walker, WILL Ask SCOTUS to Take School Choice Case

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WISCONSIN INSTITUTE
FOR LAW & LIBERTY

Scott Walker, WILL Ask SCOTUS to Take School Choice Case

Brief highlights the benefits and success of school choice in Wisconsin

The News: Today, on behalf of former Governor Scott Walker, the Wisconsin Institute for Law & Liberty (WILL) filed [a brief](#) in the United States Supreme Court, asking them to accept a critical school choice and religious freedom case, *Espinoza v. Montana*. The brief explains the successes of school choice in Wisconsin in order to emphasize the substantial benefits put at risk by a decision of the Montana Supreme Court striking down their school choice program.

Espinoza v. Montana: In 2015, the Montana legislature passed the state's first school choice program, a tax-credit funded scholarship for students. But, the Montana Department of Revenue enacted a rule preventing families from using the scholarship to attend a religious school. Three parents sued the Department of Revenue. But in 2018, the Montana Supreme Court struck down the entire tax credit scholarship program, relying on the state Constitution's Blaine Amendment, which prevents the state from using public funds to aid religious organizations, including religious private schools.

On behalf of three parents, attorneys at the Institute for Justice are asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review the Montana Supreme Court's decision and hold that the government may not, consistent with Religion and Equal Protection clauses of the United States Constitution, "invalidate a generally available and religiously neutral student-aid program simply because the program affords students the choice of attending religious schools."

Why it Matters: This could be a landmark case for both school choice and religious liberty. Around 14 states have broad interpretations of so-called "Blaine Amendments", archaic anti-Catholic laws that restrict state funds from going directly or indirectly to

religious organizations ([more here](#)). This essentially prevents school voucher programs in those states.

If the Court accepts the petition, it would be an extension of its recent decision in *Trinity Lutheran Church of Columbia, Inc. v. Comer* which held that the Missouri Blaine Amendment could not bar a private religious institution from taking part in a publicly available, nonsectarian program.

The Quotes: Governor Walker said, *"The stakes could not be higher for school choice and religious freedom, which is why we strongly encourage the United States Supreme Court to hear this case. Here in Wisconsin, our school choice program, currently used by over 40,000 students, is giving parents choices and improving students' education. Despite opposition from the special interest groups, school choice is working in Wisconsin — if the Supreme Court gives Montana and other states the opportunity, I am confident it will work there too."*

CJ Szafir, WILL Executive Vice President, *"For too long in too many states, opponents of school choice have used unfair, discriminatory so-called "Blaine Amendments" to block school choice programs which give students the opportunity to attend high performing religious private schools. We believe this is unconstitutional and are hoping that the U.S. Supreme Court accepts the case to settle the matter."*

The Walker-WILL Brief highlights the benefits, growth, and success of the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program (MPCP). This includes:

- The Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, the nation's oldest school voucher program, was created in response to a struggling public education system in Milwaukee.
- Academic studies of the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program, some "gold-standard," have found increased student achievement, in the form of higher proficiency and graduation rates, as well as lower crime rates, compared to Milwaukee Public Schools.
- The Milwaukee Parental Choice program is accountable for students' academic performance, educates students with disabilities, and achieves better results with less taxpayer dollars.
- During Walker's time as governor, use of school vouchers grew from 20,996 students in 102 private schools in 2011 to 40,073 students in 284 private schools in 2018.

Read the Walker-WILL brief [HERE](#).



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