



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

November 30, 2017

Governor Scott Walker  
115 East  
Wisconsin State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53703

Speaker Robin Vos  
217 West  
Wisconsin State Capitol  
Madison, WI 53703

Governor Walker & Speaker Vos:

We are writing to ask that you strongly oppose the national Republican trillion dollar tax giveaway plan. As you know, the giveaway plan guts tax benefits for middle income individuals to pay for a lower corporate tax rate. Wisconsin families, students, patients, and middle income individuals will be adversely affected under this plan.

This plan will actually raise taxes on thousands of Wisconsinites. In Wisconsin, where the median household income is approximately \$53,000, individuals making less than \$75,000 would be worse off under the proposed federal scheme. Additionally, individuals struggling to repay their student loan debt, which totals \$24 billion in Wisconsin, will be hard hit because of the elimination of the Student Loan Interest Deduction. This deduction is an important tool for those with large student loan amounts to manage payments. As you may know, student loan debt is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most significant debt faced by Wisconsinites, and has a profound effect upon our state economy.

The most recent iteration of this giveaway results in 13 million Americans losing health insurance, the effects of which are made worse by the proposed elimination of the medical expense deduction. Individuals utilizing this deduction include those with disabled children, those with home health care or nursing home needs, and those who have a sudden illness.

Here in Wisconsin, you have given the nation a blueprint for giving tax benefits to the wealthy, and the result is a low growth economy with stagnate low and middle income wages. You repealed the Alternative Minimum Tax, which simply guarantees that wealthy individuals pay at least some tax. Most notably, you shepherded the biggest corporate giveaway in Wisconsin's history, the Manufacturing and Agriculture Tax Credit (MAC), which has cost \$805 million dollars more than originally promised. When this tax was fully phased in last year, Wisconsin actually lost 4,000 manufacturing jobs. Please do not compound these handouts to the wealthy in Wisconsin by supporting the proposed federal scheme.

We know this tax giveaway plan will not create jobs, or put needed money into hard working Wisconsin low and middle income workers. It will most assuredly, however, benefit already wealthy individuals including President Trump and his family, and increase big corporate profits, which are already skyrocketing. Wisconsinites once again will be left behind. Please reject this misguided approach that will only serve to benefit those already doing very well, not the hardworking Wisconsin individuals and families who need targeted tax relief the most. The absolute best thing that we could do for our economy is to make sure the low and middle income workers who make our economy run have more money in their pockets, rather than this scheme for the rich.