



DUEY STROEBEL

STATE SENATOR • 20TH DISTRICT

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Contact: Sen. Duey Stroebel, (608) 266-7513

City of Madison Diverts Pandemic Relief Funds to Aid Illegal Immigrants

Madison, WI – Senator Duey Stroebel (R – Cedarburg) issued the following statement in response to the City of Madison diverting State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) to aid undocumented immigrants:

“It has recently been discovered that the City of Madison earmarked pandemic relief funds for ‘Services to Residents who are Undocumented.’ In their [2023 Q4 Compliance Report](#), the City of Madison reported that they budgeted \$700,000 of their [State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds \(SLFRF\)](#) to provide aid for illegal immigrants.

SLFRF was created in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the purpose of aiding state and local governments in ‘their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency.’ Madison acknowledges the fact that undocumented immigrants “are not eligible...to receive direct assistance provided by Federal and State governments” and appears to be using the SLFRF grants as a way around the system. The City of Madison’s decision to funnel money designated for pandemic relief to help non-citizens is just the latest example of the waste and abuse of federal COVID dollars.

Communities across this country are grappling with the consequences of the open border policies of the Biden/Harris administration. From the [rise in fentanyl seizures](#) at the southern border to the [overwhelming of school services in Whitewater](#) to the [tragic murder of Laken Riley](#) in Georgia, the immigration crisis is something that is impacting every state, including Wisconsin. The decision to use pandemic relief money to assist illegal immigrants at the expense of Wisconsinites reveals the out of touch priorities of Madison politicians.

As a State Senator, it is my responsibility to be a steward of taxpayer dollars and look out for the interest of Wisconsin families. Wisconsinites deserve to know where this money is being spent and what it is being spent on. That is why, upon hearing of the City of Madison’s actions, my office has filed an open records request to investigate the City’s questionable use of SLFRF funds.”

Senator Stroebel represents the 20th Senate District which includes parts of Ozaukee, Washington, Fond du Lac, Calumet and Sheboygan Counties.

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