




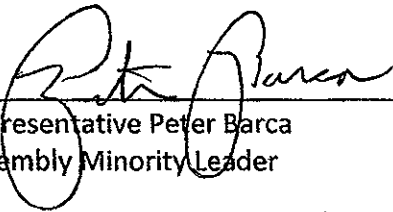
## Memorandum of Understanding For The 2017-2018 Legislative Session

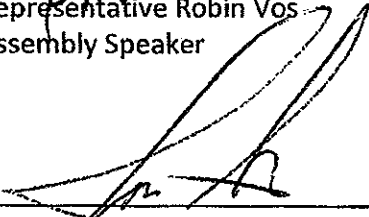
This Memorandum of Understanding has been set forth by the leaders of the 103<sup>rd</sup> Wisconsin State Assembly in order to provide greater transparency of the legislative process to the citizens of the state of Wisconsin. This document has been arrived at through hours of civil discussions between the two party leaders and, hopefully, will continue to set a bipartisan tone for the 2017-2018 legislative session. We, the Assembly leaders, believe that this signed document will establish the structure for a more productive debate. The beneficiaries of this memorandum are the people of Wisconsin. These changes will allow representatives to better serve their constituents and will provide for greater public participation in the legislative process.


- 1) Except under extenuating circumstances, debate will finish at a reasonable time.
  - 2) The Majority Leader and Minority Leader will make every effort to minimize the number of contentious bills on any session day and will make every effort to spread out the bills over the course of a session week.
  - 3) A list of potential amendments will be provided to the Majority Leader and Minority Leader by session start time. Except in extenuating circumstances, amendments presented on the floor that are not on the list will be drafted and submitted to the Assembly Chief Clerk prior to consideration of the bill. Amendments submitted to the Assembly Chief Clerk by 10:30am on a session day will receive priority consideration and shall be considered by each caucus.
  - 4) The floor rules will be strictly enforced, including time limits. There will be objections to breaking for caucus, except under extenuating circumstances, and extending time limits for debate.
  - 5) The time frame for debate on a bill will be defined by the point at which the Assembly Chief Clerk reads the bill to the point at which there is a vote on final passage. At the discretion of the Speaker Pro Tempore, every effort will be made to count the time for debate on a bill in a fair and equitable manner.
  - 6) There will be a minimum of 30 minutes set aside for debate for each caucus on final passage of each bill, including after any pending amendments have been tabled in masse, unless agreed to by the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader.
  - 7) The session start time published on the Rules notice will be strictly followed, except under extenuating circumstances.
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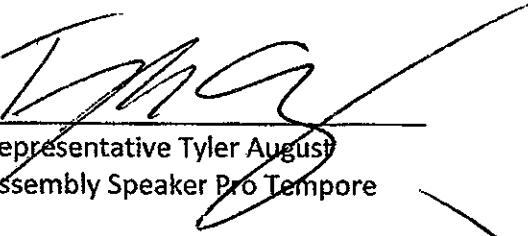
- 8) If a Rules Committee meeting needs to be convened, any such break for the meeting will not count against the agreed upon time for debate on the bill under consideration.
  - 9) Except in extenuating circumstances, 4 days' notice will be given before a committee meets for a public hearing, except for the last weeks of regular session.
  - 10) Every effort will be made to have 48 hours between a committee hearing and executive session with the understanding that the last weeks of regular session may result in fewer than 48 hours. If an executive session takes place 24 hours or less after a public hearing, the 24 hour rule for introduction of amendments is waived.
  - 11) If the Majority Leader and Minority Leader do not have time to meet before the Rules committee meeting regarding a bill(s) arriving just before the meeting starts, then the Rules meeting will be delayed for renegotiation of the time limits on the bill(s) in question until the Minority Leader has time to review the executive action taken on the bill(s) in question.
  - 12) When taking up Senate bills that have not received an executive session, every effort will be made to also schedule the Assembly companion bill that at least has had a public hearing.
  - 13) Every effort will be made to minimize the use of paper ballots in the Assembly Organization committee.
  - 14) Every effort will be made to notice public hearings with bill numbers.
  - 15) Every effort will be made to ensure that all people who attend a public hearing and wish to testify will be given the opportunity to do-so. If a hearing on a bill is expected to attract substantial public input, an effort will be made to approximate when invited testimony will end and public comment will begin.
  - 16) Joint leadership will negotiate to identify two weeks for potential extraordinary session periods in the event they are needed after March 2018.
  - 17) The Majority Leader and Minority Leader will consult before the final Rules notice is distributed regarding the time frame for debate on each bill.
  - 18) The two party leadership teams will meet every 6 months to discuss the operation of the Assembly.
  - 19) Committee chairs are encouraged to make every effort to recognize the ranking member in committee hearings to give them an opportunity to ask invited speakers questions immediately following the chairperson.
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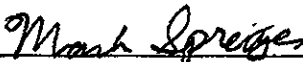
  
Representative Robin Vos  
Assembly Speaker


  
Representative Peter Barca  
Assembly Minority Leader

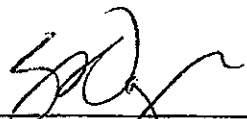
  
Representative Jim Steineke  
Assembly Majority Leader


  
Representative Dianne Hesselbein  
Assembly Assistant Minority Leader


  
Representative Tyler August  
Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore

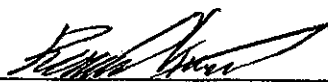
  
Representative Mark Spreitzer  
Assembly Minority Caucus Chair

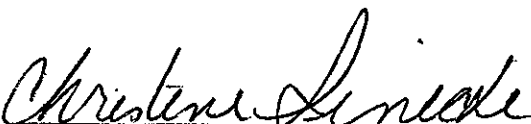
  
Representative Rob Brooks  
Assembly Assistant Majority Leader


  
Representative Steve Doyle  
Assembly Minority Caucus Vice Chair

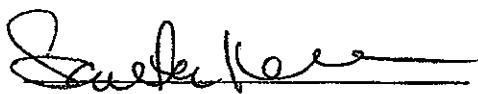
  
Representative Dan Knodl  
Assembly Majority Caucus Chair

  
Representative Beth M. Meyers  
Assembly Minority Caucus Secretary

  
Representative Romaine Quinn  
Assembly Majority Caucus Vice Chair

  
Representative Christine Sinicki  
Assembly Minority Caucus Sergeant  
At Arms

  
Representative Jessie Rodriguez  
Assembly Majority Caucus Secretary

  
Representative Samantha Kerkman  
Assembly Majority Caucus Sergeant  
At Arms