



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Joint Committee on Employment Relations

More questions than answers was the theme regarding the \$1 billion surplus

Madison – Today, the members of the Joint Committee on Employment Relations met for a public hearing regarding University Personnel Systems. The discussion centered on a recent Legislative Fiscal Bureau memo that was released on Friday regarding the UW System Program Revenue Appropriation balance of \$1,045,200,572. State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette) released the following statement:

“At this point, we have questions with very few answers. The UW system has to account for the lack of transparency in providing financial information to the Legislature. At what point do we say to ourselves, why is the state providing taxpayer dollars to the UW system, with this amount of reserve? The case could be made that parents and students in the UW system that pay tuition are paying unwarranted *amounts* while their tax dollars are being wasted.

“With the lack of information provided today, it is in the best interest of the Joint Committee on Finance to revisit the over \$180 million that was allocated by the Governor in the budget.

“At the very least, I call upon President Reilly to impose a tuition freeze for the next two years. It will help to reassure parents and students that the UW system is conscious of the hardships facing Wisconsin families. It will go a long way in building their trust back.”

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