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STATE REPRESENTATIVE ♦ 76th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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JFC Republicans Deliver Another Blow to UW System

New state money doesn't even keep up with inflation

MADISON – Today, after 8 years of UW System cuts, totaling over \$1 billion, Republicans on the Joint Finance Committee rejected Governor Tony Evers' proposal for the UW System and provided only crumbs, with more strings attached, to a starving system. In fact, a new report puts Wisconsin among the states with the largest decline in higher education spending between 2013 and 2018. Only Mississippi, West Virginia and Oklahoma saw larger declines. Governor Evers' almost \$127 million in new investments were slashed by Republicans to \$45 million, that will only be dispersed for projects of which JFC approves. In order to keep up with inflation, an approximate \$60 million investment was needed.

Rep. Chris Taylor, issued the following statement:

“Today, Republican legislators once again applied a gut punch to the UW System. Despite a reasonable and targeted budget request, focusing on priority areas that need additional investment, Republicans refused to fund a tuition freeze for the 4th consecutive budget, and failed to invest in critical programs to increase our workforce.

They have no more excuses. Even when we have the resources, the UW System is the punching bag of the majority party. Once again, they are sacrificing investments in one of our state's strongest economic engines for their political agenda. But who they hurt at the end of the day are our students and the people of this state.”