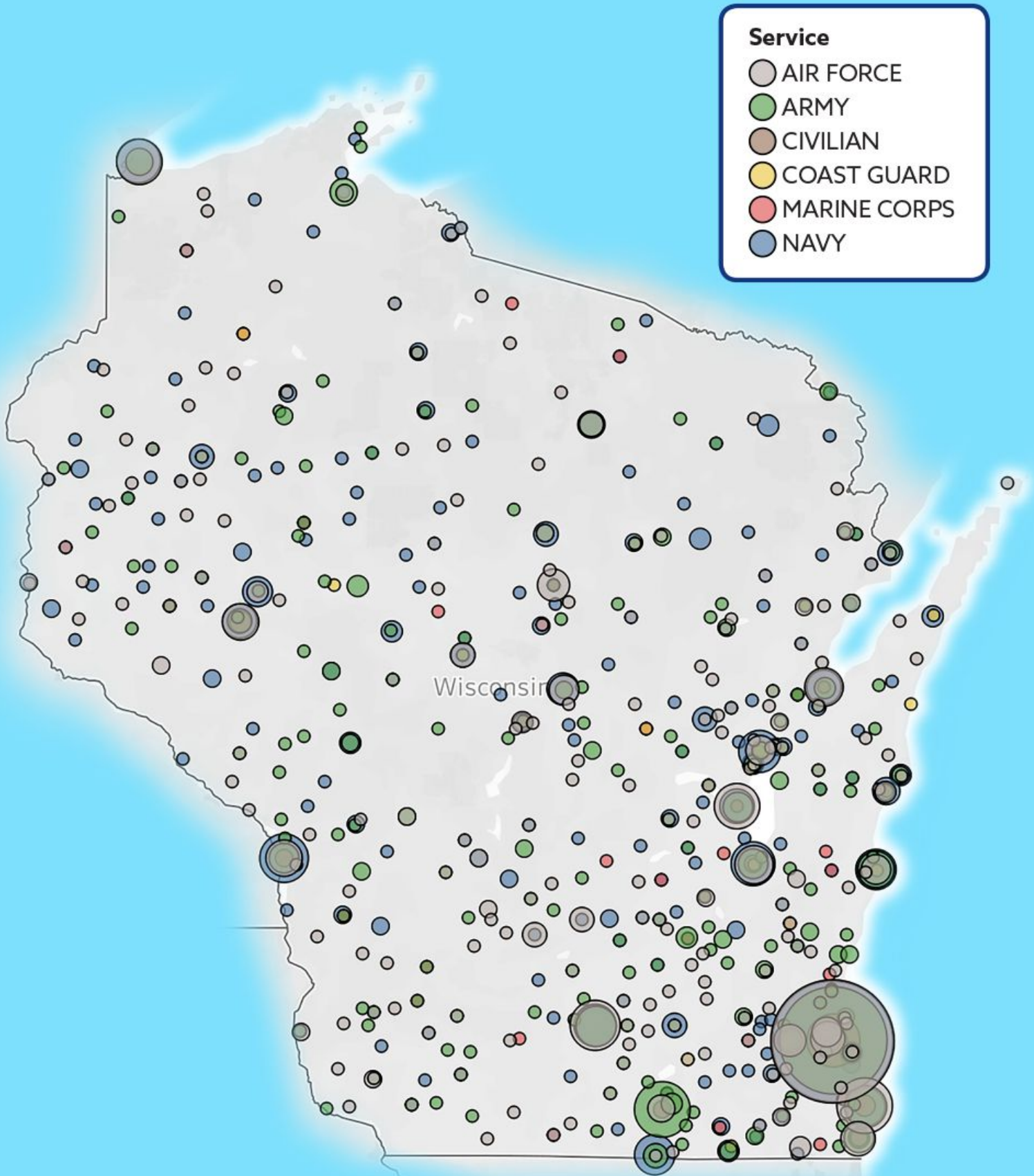


Wisconsin Missing in Action by Hometown



Overview:

- The University of Wisconsin Missing in Action Recovery and Identification Project (UW MIARIP) honors the sacrifice of brave Americans who paid the ultimate price for our freedoms
- This bill utilizes \$180,000/year in state funding for the UW MIARIP to recover, repatriate, and identify specifically Wisconsin MIA Service Members
- *Wisconsin could be the first state in the nation to fund this mission for its own MIA Service Members*

1.) Mission/Purpose of the UW MIA RIP, and its Relationship with the DPAA:

- The UW MIA Recovery and Identification Project (UW MIA RIP) deploys an interdisciplinary team of UW-System experts and student volunteers in the fields of history, archaeology, anthropology, and biology
 - The project's primary goal is to research, recover, and biologically identify the remains of MIA Service Members
- The UW MIA Project was the first academic institution to partner with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), the Department of Defense agency responsible for identifying and repatriating the remains of U.S. Service Members. This partnership has grown to include 30 other academic institutions.
- The DPAA assigns the UW MIARIP with MIA recovery cases and provides informational and logistical support to aid in recovery efforts
- With state support, the group can begin to focus on recovering Wisconsin MIA Service Members

2.) History of the Organization and Past Recoveries:

- The University of Wisconsin Missing in Action Recovery and Identification Project was founded in 2014 at the UW-Madison Biotechnology Center by Charles Konsitzke, the Associate Director of the center.
- Historically, the DPAA has assigned the team MIA from World War II in the European Theater
- The project has recovered three MIA American service personnel from World War II
 - Identification of Pfc. Lawrence Gordon in 2014
 - Recovery of fighter pilot 1st Lieutenant Frank Fazekas in summers 2016 and 2017
 - Recovery of fighter pilot 2nd Lieutenant Walter B. Stone in summer 2018
- Ongoing efforts began in summer 2019 in Belgium for a WWII missing U.S. Army Air Force Service Member

3.) Wisconsin MIAs:

- There are over 82,000 American MIA Service Members since WWII
- Over 1,500 of these cases are from Wisconsin
 - MIAs are from every corner of the state (see included map)

4.) UW MIA RIP's Current Capabilities and Limitations:

- The DPAA has not assigned the UW MIARIP with any Wisconsin MIA recovery missions, despite past requests
- Current funding from the DPAA allows for the attempted recovery of one American service member per year
- The team will continue to perform their contacted mission with the DPAA even with state support

5.) What We Hope to Accomplish Through Passage of the Bill:

- The passage of the bill will build off the group's past success with the DPAA, but with a much greater focus on serving the citizens of Wisconsin
- Recovery of the remains of one to three Wisconsin MIA Service Members each year
- Provide historical updates to Wisconsin families about their MIA relatives who are unrecoverable
 - i.e. Service Members lost at sea
- More rapid DNA analysis of recovered remains at the UW Biotechnology center
 - Develop the capacity to conduct DNA analysis on site (DPAA genetic analysis may take upwards up fifteen months)
- Conduct MIA recovery operations in areas off limits to DoD sponsored missions
 - i.e. North Korea and China



LRB-4188/1: Relating to the University of Wisconsin Missing-in-Action Recovery and Identification Project (UW MIARIP) and making an appropriation.

Opened for co-sponsorship on Thursday, September 5th 2019. Co-sponsorship period scheduled to close on Friday, September 13th at 5:00PM.

Bill Authors:

- Rep. Ken Skowronski (R-Franklin)
 - Rep.Skowronski@legis.wisconsin.gov/ (608) 266-8590
- Rep. Christine Sinicki (D-Milwaukee)
 - Rep.Sinicki@legis.wisconsin.gov/ (608) 266-8588
- Sen. Roger Roth (R-Appleton)
 - Sen.Roth@legis.wisconsin.gov/ (608) 266-0718
- Sen. Dale Kooyenga (R - Brookfield)
 - Sen.Kooyenga@legis.wisconsin.gov/ (608) 266-2512
- Sen. Mark Miller; (D - Monona)
 - Sen.Miller@legis.wisconsin.gov/ (608) 266-9170
- Sen. Fred Risser (D-Madison)
 - Sen.Risser@legis.wisconsin.gov/ (608) 266-1627

The UW MIARIP may be reached directly at MIA@biotech.wisc.edu or (608) 890-4889.

Should you have information pertaining to a Wisconsin MIA case, please fill out the information request form on the project's website: <https://www.biotech.wisc.edu/missing-in-action>



Current WI MIA Hometown Numbers for Bill's Co-Authors

Representative Skowronski:

- Franklin: 1: 1 World War II
- Greenfield 1: 1 Korean War
- Total: 2: 1 Korean War, 1 World War II

Representative Sinicki:

- Cudahy: 8: 8 World War II
- Milwaukee: 306: 32 Korean War, 8 Vietnam War, 266 World War II
- Total: 314: 32 Korean War, 8 Vietnam War, 274 World War II

Senator Roth:

- Appleton: 23: 3 Korean War, 20 World War II
- Neenah: 3: 3 World War II
- Menasha: 7: 1 Korean War, 6 World War II
- Clayton: 2: 2 World War II
- Grand Chute: 1: 1 World War II
- Greenville: 1: 1 World War II
- Winneconne: 3: 3 World War II
- Total: 40: 4 Korean War, 36 World War II

Senator Kooyenga:

- West Allis: 15: 3 Korean War, 1 Vietnam War, 11 World War II
- Wauwatosa – 10: 1 Korean War – 9 World War II
- Total: 25: 4 Korean War, 1 Vietnam War, 20 World War II

Senator Miller:

- Madison: 40: 2 Korean War, 1 Vietnam War, 37 World War II
- Sun Prairie: 2: 2 World War II
- Stoughton: 2: 2 World War II
- Cottage Grove: 2: 2 World War II
- Total: 46: 2 Korean War, 1 Vietnam War, 43 World War II

Senator Risser:

- Madison: 40: 2 Korean War, 1 Vietnam War, 37 World War II
- Shorewood Hills: 0
- Middleton: 1: 1 World War II
- Total: 41: 2 Korean War, 1 Vietnam War, 38 World War II

*Please note, it is currently impossible to attribute more specific numbers than the town/city level. If a legislator represents part of a town then all MIA cases are listed. As such, municipalities may have MIAs listed under more than one legislator.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Wisconsin State Capitol
2 East Main St.
Madison, Wisconsin

September 4, 2019

To Wisconsin Legislators,

I'm writing to strongly urge you to support LRB-3763/1, relating to recovering the missing dead from residents of Wisconsin who have fought in our nation's wars.

I'm a journalist who spent 18 years searching for my father's missing WWII buddy, Herman Walter Mulligan. Mr. Mulligan died during the battle of Okinawa after a tomb filled with Japanese munitions exploded. His body was listed as "unrecovered." This haunted my dad until his death in 2000. Near the end, a team of people came together to help me in my quest, a group of citizens consisting of someone who voted for Donald Trump and another who was a hippie poet in the 1960s. Our ragtag crew, with the wonderful help of the the U.S. Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, succeeded and in August 2018 Mr. Mulligan was buried near my father at Arlington National Cemetery.

As you can see from our little group, this is utterly a non-partisan issue. Left, right, center, there is strong support to take care of our soldiers and bring them home.

I wrote *Bringing Mulligan Home*, a book, and did a podcast for Audible. *The Dead Drink First* was #1 in all categories for three weeks and it's continued to be a bestseller. As a result, I've gotten many emails and Facebook messages from the families of others with missing war dead--the collective anguish they feel is beyond my capability to describe in words. Anything we can do to help them is vital.

A brief bit about me: I'm a professor at Columbia University and I've been a journalist for over 40 years. I've published ten books, including *And Their Children After Them*, which won the 1990 nonfiction Pulitzer Prize, and *Journey to Nowhere*, which inspired Bruce Springsteen to write the song "Youngstown."

Sincerely,



Dale Maharidge / dm2021@columbia.edu

Journalism Building Mail Code 3800 2950 Broadway New York, NY 10027 212-854-4150 Fax 212-854-7837



State of Wisconsin
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4188/1
ARG:amn

2019 BILL

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 20.855 (4) (bg) of the statutes; **relating to:** the University of
2 Wisconsin Missing-in-Action Recovery and Identification Project and making
3 an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under this bill, the University of Wisconsin Missing-in-Action Recovery and Identification Project (MIA Recovery Project) may request the Joint Committee on Finance to provide \$180,000 in each fiscal year of the 2019-21 fiscal biennium for missions to recover and identify Wisconsin veterans who are missing in action. The request must include a research prospectus and spending plan for the mission for which the funding is requested and must be concurrently provided to the standing committees of each house of the legislature dealing with veterans matters (veterans committees), as well as the governor, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Military Affairs. The veterans committees may submit to JCF a written recommendation regarding the request. JCF considers the request under a 14-day passive review process and, upon JCF's express or implied approval of the request, JCF must provide the requested amount of funding directed to the MIA Recovery Project Fund. At the conclusion of the mission for which funding was provided, the MIA Recovery Project must submit to JCF, each veterans committee, the governor, DVA, and DMA a report on the mission's findings and an accounting of expenditures for the mission. The bill also creates a miscellaneous appropriation of general purpose revenue through which JCF provides the funding.

BILL

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert
2 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

2019-20 2020-21

3 **20.855 Miscellaneous Appropriations**

4 (4) TAX, ASSISTANCE AND TRANSFER PAYMENTS

5 (bg) Missing-in-Action Recovery

6 Project	GPR	C	180,000	180,000
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7 **SECTION 2.** 20.855 (4) (bg) of the statutes is created to read:

8 20.855 (4) (bg) *Missing-in-Action Recovery Project.* As a continuing
9 appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for the joint committee on finance to
10 provide the funding under 2019 Wisconsin Act (this act), section 3 (1).

11 **SECTION 3. Nonstatutory provisions.**

12 (1) FUNDING FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MISSING-IN-ACTION RECOVERY
13 AND IDENTIFICATION PROJECT.

14 (a) In this subsection, “MIA Recovery Project” means the University of
15 Wisconsin Missing-in-Action Recovery and Identification Project.

16 (b) The MIA Recovery Project, acting through a designated representative, may
17 submit to the joint committee on finance a request for funding in fiscal year 2019-20
18 in the amount of \$180,000 and for funding in fiscal year 2020-21 in the amount of
19 \$180,000 for the MIA Recovery Project to perform a mission for the recovery and

BILL

1 identification of Wisconsin veterans who are missing in action. Any request
2 submitted under this paragraph shall include a research prospectus and spending
3 plan for the mission for which the funding is requested, with a copy of the request,
4 the prospectus, and the spending plan concurrently provided to the standing
5 committees of each house of the legislature dealing with veterans matters, the
6 governor, the department of veterans affairs, and the department of military affairs.

7 (c) After receiving the request, prospectus, and spending plan specified in par.
8 (b), the standing committees of each house of the legislature dealing with veterans
9 matters may, within 7 working days of receiving the request, submit to the joint
10 committee on finance a written recommendation regarding the request.

11 (d) If, within 14 working days after receiving the request under par. (b), the
12 cochairpersons of the joint committee on finance do not notify the MIA Recovery
13 Project representative that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the purpose
14 of reviewing the request, the request is considered approved. If, within 14 working
15 days after the date of the request, the cochairpersons of the committee notify the MIA
16 Recovery Project representative that the committee has scheduled a meeting for the
17 purpose of reviewing the request, the request is approved only upon express approval
18 of the committee.

19 (e) Upon approval of the request under par. (d), the joint committee on finance
20 shall provide funding in the requested amount, from the appropriation account
21 under s. 20.855 (4) (bg), directed to the University of Wisconsin Missing-in-Action
22 Recovery and Identification Project Fund.

23 (f) If the joint committee on finance approves a request under par. (d), the MIA
24 Recovery Project, acting through its representative, shall submit at the conclusion
25 of the mission for which the funds were expended, to the joint committee on finance,

BILL

SECTION 3

1 the standing committees of each house of the legislature dealing with veterans
2 matters, the governor, the department of veterans affairs, and the department of
3 military affairs, a report on the mission's findings and an accounting of expenditures
4 for the mission.

5 (END)