

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. Box 7882 • Madison, WI 53707-7882

May 8, 2020

Senator Ron Johnson 328 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Senator Tammy Baldwin 709 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Representative Bryan Steil 1408 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mark Pocan 1421 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Representative Ron Kind 1502 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Representative Gwen Moore 2252 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Representative Jim Sensenbrenner 2449 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Representative Glenn Grothman 1427 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Representative Mike Gallagher 1230 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Wisconsin Congressional Delegation:

Our state and country are facing unprecedented challenges due to the spread of COVID-19 and the responses of governments at all levels to slow the spread. These responses to the disease have led to drastic changes in budget projections for states around the country: sales tax collections are down, income tax deadlines have been extended, unemployment rates are at historic levels and more businesses are permanently closing every day.

That being said, Wisconsin has spent eight years making the tough choices to get our fiscal house in order. We passed Act 10 to eliminate a \$3.6 billion budget deficit, we had to tighten our funding for a number of programs to balance our budgets, and we made regular deposits to our Rainy Day Fund. While making these tough choices, we also were able to hold the line on property taxes and cut income taxes for Wisconsin residents.

No one knows how long and how deep this economic crisis due to COVID-19 will be, and Wisconsin is not immune to these fiscal challenges. However, we do know that our neighbors to the south have spent decades spending and borrowing recklessly. After years of failing to fund their overly generous pension system, Illinois is already asking for the federal government to bail them out of these series of poor financial decisions. The State Senate in Illinois has requested \$44 billion – and that's just for one state. Wisconsinites can't afford to bailout reckless budgeting from other states.

Wisconsin taxpayers should not be responsible for funding bailouts for irresponsible states across the country, like Illinois, New York and California. Please stand with Wisconsin taxpayers and reject the multi-trillion dollar bailouts being considered by Congress.

Sincerely,

Sen. Devin LeMahieu 9th Senate District

Sen. Roger Roth 19th Senate District

Sen. Dan Feyen 18th Senate District

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Sen. Kathy Bernier 23rd Senate District

Sen. David Craig 28th Senate District

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Sen. Chris Kapenga 33rd Senate District

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Rep. Rob Brooks 60th Assembly District

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Rep. Tyler August 32nd Assembly District

Rep. Scott Allen 97th Assembly District

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Rep. Janel Brandtjen 22nd Assembly District

Rep. Barbara Dittrich 38th Assembly District

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Sen. Howard Marklein 17th Senate District

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Sen. Duey Stroebel 20th Senate District

Sen. Tom Tiffany ⁴ 12th Senate District

J. Horlachen

Rep. Cody Horlacher 33rd Assembly District

Rep. Jesse James 68th Assembly District

Mike King Est

Rep. Mike Kuglitsch 84th Assembly District

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Rep. Gae Magnafici 28th Assembly District

Rep.⁹ Jon Plumer 42nd Assembly District

Rep. Cindi Duchow 99th Assembly District

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Rep. Mary Felzkowski 35th Assembly District

Rep. Rick⁶Gundrum 58th Assembly District

Rep. Rob Hutton 13th Assembly District

Rep. Terry Katsma 26th Assembly District

Rep. John Macco 88th Assembly District

Rep. Adam Neylon 98th Assembly District

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Rep. Mike Rohrkaste 55th Assembly District

Rep. Michael Schraa 53rd Assembly District

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Rep. Rob Swearingen 34th Assembly District

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Rep. Jeremy Thiesfeldt 52nd Assembly District

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Rep. Ron Tusler 3rd Assembly District

Rep. Chuck Wichgers 83rd Assembly District

Rep. Tony Kurtz 50th Assembly District

Rep. Dave Steffen 4th Assembly District

Rep. Shannon Zimmerman 30th Assembly District

Rep. Shae Sortwell 2nd Assembly District

Rep. Gary Tauchen 6th Assembly District

Rep. Paul Tittl 25th Assembly District

Rep. Tyler Vorpagel 27th Assembly District

Rep. Robert Wittke 62nd Assembly District

Rep. Dan Knodl 24th Assembly District

Rep. Rob Stafsholt ⁶ 29th Assembly District