

John Gard

Assembly Chairman, Joint Committee on Finance

January 26, 2000

State Senator Brian Burke, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
316 South - State Capitol
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Brian:

I am writing to request that the Joint Finance Committee meet on Wednesday, February 2nd at 1:00 p.m. to consider AB 677, the property tax rent credit bill, and several other measures currently in the committee, including, but not limited to Assembly Bill 203, relating to fire sprinkler systems in UW System residence halls, and Senate Bill 60, relating to TEACH assistance for libraries.

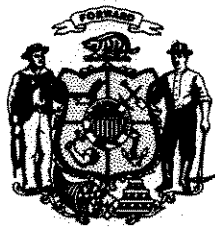
Since the Assembly is in session that day, I have assurances from the Speaker that every effort will be made to conclude its business in the morning.

I know you have several bills which you'd like the committee to take up and I would hope that we can discuss this and finalize the committee notice before the end of the week.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John G. Gard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

JOHN G. GARD
State Representative



BRIAN BURKE

WISCONSIN STATE SENATOR

Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

January 27, 2000

Representative John Gard, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
315 North, State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin 53702

Dear John:

I am writing in response to your letter requesting that the Joint Committee on Finance meet on Wednesday, February 2, 2000, at 1 p.m.

While I am amenable to convening the Committee that day, I would request that we meet first thing in the morning at 9 a.m., in order to accommodate a number of Senate members who have conflicts in the late afternoon. Due to the serious matter at hand, I am hopeful that Assembly leadership will cancel the scheduled floor session for that day in order to give Joint Finance ample time to meet.

I agree that there is a need for us to get together to discuss a number of pressing issues that should be addressed immediately by the Committee. Clearly we need to restore the Property Tax Rent Credit, an issue which Senate Democrats have consistently viewed a priority and passed, only to see it subsequently vetoed by the governor at the request of leadership in the Assembly. But I also continue to believe there is also an urgent need to address comprehensive campaign finance reform, prescription drug relief for seniors, tobacco settlement funding matters, issues related to health care coverage and TEACH funding assistance for libraries.

Please feel free to contact me today to discuss these matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brian Burke'.

BRIAN BURKE
State Senator

BBB/jes