

2003 SENATE RESOLUTION 32

1 **Relating to:** urging the members of the U.S. Congress from this state, Wisconsin
2 state legislature, executive branch, judicial system, county governments, city
3 governments, village governments, town governments, University of
4 Wisconsin System, Wisconsin technical college system, and public school
5 districts to work on securing more federal funds for the residents of Wisconsin
6 and strongly urging the state not to appropriate any state funds for
7 implementing the No Child Left Behind Act which would not otherwise have
8 been expended for public education under existing state education laws.

9 Whereas, Wisconsin ranks 49th in per capita total federal expenditures per
10 state; and

11 Whereas, Wisconsin receives \$1,388 less per person than the 25th highest state;
12 and

13 Whereas, Wisconsin ranks 45th in per capita federal procurement expenditures
14 per state, receiving \$512 less per capita than the average state; and

1 Whereas, Wisconsin ranks 48th in all United States department of defense
2 spending, receiving just \$298 per capita, compared to the average of \$963 per capita;
3 and

4 Whereas, Wisconsin receives 0.64 percent of \$166 billion in federal
5 expenditures on defense; and

6 Whereas, Wisconsin receives 0.70 percent of \$271 billion in total federal
7 procurement expenditures; and

8 Whereas, Wisconsin workers receive only \$1.8 billion of \$271 billion for work
9 on federal procurement contracts; and

10 Whereas, Wisconsin ranks 41st in federal medicare dollars per recipient; and

11 Whereas, in fiscal year 2003, under the federal Elementary and Secondary
12 Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), Wisconsin received approximately \$277 million and
13 used the funds to run many programs that accrued great benefits to low income
14 children; and

15 Whereas, in January 2002, the federal government enacted a comprehensive
16 revision to ESEA known as the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) which expanded
17 federal requirements for primary and secondary school education; and

18 Whereas, the act increases Wisconsin's system of setting standards and testing
19 students for achievement of the standards to once in each of grades 3 to 8 in language
20 arts and mathematics and to once in each of 3 grades in science causing a major
21 disruption of administrative and curriculum planning as well as a major expense to
22 Wisconsin's education system; and

23 Whereas, the act imposes serious consequences, which will have fiscal
24 implications to both the state and local school districts, in which the students in any

1 grade or subgroup such as low income students or students with disabilities within
2 a grade do not meet the standards; and

3 Whereas, NCLB is a “one size fits all” educational policy that will be
4 detrimental to Wisconsin’s rural and urban schools where it is already difficult to
5 recruit and retain teachers and where wild fluctuations in testing results can occur
6 due to small class sizes; and

7 Whereas, while the expanded provisions of NCLB direct many meritorious
8 improvements in the public education system, they have the potential to interfere
9 severely with state and local legislative and education administration prerogatives
10 and to cost the state of Wisconsin considerably more to implement than the amount
11 of federal grants it receives, thereby placing a major burden on the state’s strained
12 financial resources; and

13 Whereas, Public Law 104–4 of 1995 was intended to curb the practice of
14 imposing unfunded federal mandates on states and local government; and

15 Whereas, more federal dollars secured for this state would help ease the tax
16 burden for residents of Wisconsin and would help create jobs and improve
17 Wisconsin’s economy; now, therefore, be it

18 ***Resolved by the senate, That*** the members of the senate of the state of
19 Wisconsin request the members of the United States Congress from this state,
20 Wisconsin state legislature, executive branch, judicial system, county governments,
21 city governments, village governments, town governments, University of Wisconsin
22 System, Wisconsin technical college system, and public school districts to work to
23 increase the amount of federal dollars returned to this state; and, be it further

24 ***Resolved by the senate, That*** the senate strongly urges the state not to
25 appropriate any state funds for implementing NCLB which would not otherwise

1 have been expended for public education under existing state education laws; and,
2 be it further

3 ***Resolved by the senate, That*** the senate urges the department of public
4 instruction, before adopting any new rules for the purpose of complying with NCLB,
5 to submit a written proposal describing the rule and the potential costs to local school
6 districts of implementing the rule to the senate committee on education; and, be it
7 further

8 ***Resolved by the senate, That*** the senate urges the superintendent of public
9 instruction to submit to the senate committee on education a statement of
10 expenditures by the state and local school districts made to comply with NCLB; and,
11 be it further

12 ***Resolved, That*** the senate chief clerk shall send a copy of this resolution to the
13 president of the United States, to the U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige, to the
14 Superintendent of Public Instruction Elizabeth Burmaster, to the members of the
15 United States Congress from this state, to the members of the Wisconsin state
16 legislature, to the governor and the cabinet secretaries of the executive branch, to the
17 director of state courts for distribution to the judicial system, to the Wisconsin
18 Counties Association for distribution to county governments, to the Wisconsin
19 Alliance of Cities for distribution to city governments, to the League of Wisconsin
20 Municipalities for distribution to village governments, to the Wisconsin Towns
21 Association for distribution to town governments, to the president of the University
22 of Wisconsin System, to the president of the Wisconsin Technical College System, and
23 to the Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators for distribution to
24 public school districts.

25

(END)