



STATE OF WISCONSIN

Senate Journal

One-Hundred and Fifth Regular Session

12:12 P.M.

TUESDAY, February 16, 2021

The Senate met.

The Senate was called to order by Senate President Kapenga.

CALL OF ROLL

The roll was called, disclosing the presence of a quorum.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 15, the official attendance for session was:

Senators Agard, Ballweg, Bernier, Bewley, Bradley, Carpenter, Cowles, Darling, Erpenbach, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Johnson, Kapenga, Kooyenga, Larson, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roth, Roys, Smith, Stafsholt, Stroebel, L. Taylor, Testin, Wanggaard, Wimberger and Wirsch - 32.

Absent with leave – None - 0.

Vacancies - 13th Senate District - 1.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that all members of the Senate who are attending today's session virtually be considered present and able to vote on today's business.

Senator Roth objected.

Senator Roth withdrew his objection.

The Senate stood for the prayer which was offered by Pastor Scott Kaczorowski from Wisconsin Rapids.

The Senate remained standing and Senator Pfaff led the Senate in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Senator Bewley, with unanimous consent, asked that Senator L. Taylor be granted a leave of absence for part of today's session.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 17 (6), the Chief Clerk made the following entries under the above date.

CHIEF CLERK'S ENTRIES

AMENDMENTS OFFERED

Senate Amendment 6 to **Senate Bill 2** offered by Senators Carpenter, Smith and Ringhand.

Senate Amendment 7 to **Senate Bill 2** offered by Senator Carpenter.

Senate Amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 8** offered by Senator Larson.

Senate Amendment 2 to **Senate Bill 38** offered by Senator Carpenter.

Senate Amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 2** offered by Senators Ringhand, Agard, Bewley, Carpenter, Erpenbach, Johnson, Larson, Pfaff, Roys, Smith and Wirsch.

Senate Amendment 2 to **Assembly Bill 2** offered by Senator Carpenter.

Senate Amendment 3 to **Assembly Bill 2** offered by Senator Carpenter.

Senate Substitute Amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 2** offered by Senators Larson, Agard, Bewley, Erpenbach, Johnson, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roys, Smith and Wirsch.

Senate Substitute Amendment 2 to **Assembly Bill 2** offered by Senators Larson, Agard, Bewley, Erpenbach, Johnson, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roys, Smith and Wirsch.

INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND REFERENCE OF PROPOSALS

Read first time and referred:

Senate Bill 109

Relating to: full-time open enrollment to attend a fully virtual program offered by a nonresident school district during the 2021-22 school year.

By Senators Ballweg, Testin and Feyen; cosponsored by Representatives Duchow, Kitchens, Thiesfeldt and Skowronski.

To the committee on **Education**.

Senate Bill 110

Relating to: applications for full-time open enrollment.

By Senator Ballweg; cosponsored by Representative Loudenbeck.

To the committee on **Education**.

Senate Bill 111

Relating to: state finances and appropriations, constituting the executive budget act of the 2021 legislature.

By the joint committee on **Finance**.

To the joint committee on **Finance**.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

The committee on **Natural Resources and Energy** reported and recommended:

ALLMAN, JANEAU, of Peshtigo, as a Lake Michigan Representative on the Wisconsin Waterways Commission, to serve for the term ending March 1, 2025.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

CUPP, MARK E., of Muscoda, as a Government Unit River Representative on the Land and Water Conservation Board, to serve for the term ending May 1, 2024.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

CURREN, KATHRYN A., of Suamico, as a Brown County Representative on the Fox River Navigational System Authority, to serve for the term ending July 1, 2022.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

ENKE, H. BRUCE, of Green Bay, as a Brown County Representative on the Fox River Navigational System Authority, to serve for the term ending July 1, 2023.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

FELDT, JEFFERY, of Kaukauna, as an Outagamie County Representative on the Fox River Navigational System Authority, to serve for the term ending July 1, 2023.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

MAXWELL, DAVID M., of Westby, as a Non-Resident, Tourism Representative on the Kickapoo Reserve Management Board, to serve for the term ending May 1, 2022.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

QUACKENBUSH, WILLIAM L., of Black River Falls, as a Non-Watershed Resident, Environment Advocate on the Kickapoo Reserve Management Board, to serve for the term ending May 1, 2023.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

VAN AMAN HOEL, JULIE, of Ontario, as an Education Representative on the Kickapoo Reserve Management Board, to serve for the term ending May 1, 2022.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

VAN DE HEY, RONALD, of Kaukauna, as an Outagamie County Representative on the Fox River Navigational System Authority, to serve for the term ending July 1, 2021.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

WEST, MARCY, of La Farge, as a Southern Area Representative on the Natural Resources Board, to serve for the term ending May 1, 2025.

Confirmation.

Ayes: 5 - Senators Cowles, Felzkowski, Ballweg, Wirch and Agard.

Noes: 0 - None.

ROBERT COWLES

Chairperson

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Pursuant to Senate Rule 17 (5), Senator Carpenter added as a coauthor of **Senate Bill 3**.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 17 (5), Senator Carpenter added as a coauthor of **Senate Bill 28**.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 17 (5), Representative McGuire added as a cosponsor of **Senate Bill 62**.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 17 (5), Representative Skowronski added as a cosponsor of **Senate Bill 79**.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 17 (5), Representative Born added as a cosponsor of **Senate Bill 82**.

Pursuant to Senate Rule 17 (5), Representative Hong withdrawn as a cosponsor of **Senate Bill 97**.

**State of Wisconsin
Wisconsin Ethics Commission**

February 16, 2021

The Honorable, the Senate:

Pursuant to Wis. Stats. §13.685 (7), we are providing the enclosed information. Please visit the Wisconsin Ethics Commission's *Eye on Lobbying* website, <https://lobbying.wi.gov>, for more detailed information about lobbyists, lobbying principals (organizations), and state agency liaisons.

Baker, Lucy.....WISPIRG (Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group)
 Buchen, James.....Wisconsin Utility Investors Inc
 Childress, Jason.....Smart Government Inc.
 Duffy, Melissa.....The Alliance
 Early, Annie.....Wisconsin Troopers Association Inc
 Engleson, Michael.....Wisconsin Association of Lakes Inc
 Ermert, George.....Wisconsin Troopers Association Inc
 Fenley, James.....Wisconsin Technology Council
 Fonfara, Thomas.....Wisconsin State Firefighter's Association
 Hogan, Rebecca.....Plant Based Foods Association
 Leibham, Joe.....Smart Government Inc.
 Maldonado, Fabi.....Voces de la Frontera Action, Inc.
 McDermott, Catherine.....Plant Based Foods Association
 Molepske Jr, Louis.....Wisconsin District Attorneys' Association
 Moody, Jonathan.....Quartz Health Solutions, Inc
 Neumann-Ortiz, Christine.....Voces de la Frontera Action, Inc.
 Rosier, Collan.....Navitus Health Solutions, LLC
 Schweitzer, Alicia.....Smart Government Inc.
 Shepherd, Jeremy.....Wisconsin Troopers Association Inc
 Tierney, Joelle.....Neurocrine Biosciences, Inc.
 Tyre, Scott.....US Venture, Inc (formerly US Oil Co., Inc)
 Walz, kimberly.....Walgreen Co

Sincerely,
 DANIEL A. CARLTON, JR.
 Administrator

**REFERRALS AND RECEIPT OF
 COMMITTEE REPORTS CONCERNING
 PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The committee on **Financial Institutions and Revenue** reported and recommended:

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 19-097

Relating to updating ETF rules to reflect the closure of the Long-Term Disability Insurance program to new claims and making technical changes to the ETF rules related to the Duty Disability Program established by s. 40.65, Stats.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 19-126

Relating to technical changes to update ETF rules.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 19-158

Relating to requests for predeterminations regarding license eligibility due to conviction records.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

DALE KOOYENGA
 Chairperson

The committee on **Health** reported and recommended:

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 19-110

Relating to certification for identification, removal, and reduction of lead-based paint hazards.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 20-012

Relating to complex rehabilitation technology and certification.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 20-022

Relating to scheduling MMB-FUBICA and 4F-MDMB-BINACA.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 20-023

Relating to scheduling isotonitazene and 1P-LSD.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 20-049

Relating to scheduling of brexanolone and solriamfetol.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 20-050

Relating to scheduling of N-Ethylhexedrone, a-PHP, 4-MEAP, MPHP, PV8 and 4-chloro-a-PVP.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

Senate Clearinghouse Rule 20-051

Relating to scheduling of noroxymorphone.

No action taken on February 16, 2021.

Referred to the joint committee for review of **Administrative Rules**, February 16, 2021.

PATRICK TESTIN

Chairperson

MESSAGES FROM THE ASSEMBLY

By Kay Inabnet, chief clerk.

Mr. President:

I am directed to inform you that the Assembly has

Adopted and asks concurrence in:

Assembly Joint Resolution 6

Passed and asks concurrence in:

Assembly Bill 2

Assembly Bill 3

Concurred in:

Senate Bill 25

Senate Bill 27

Senate Bill 62

Senate Amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 4**

**MESSAGES FROM THE
ASSEMBLY CONSIDERED**

Assembly Joint Resolution 6

Relating to: proclaiming February 2021 to be American Heart Month in Wisconsin.

By Representatives Rozar, J. Rodriguez, Bowen, Cabral-Guevara, Cabrera, Callahan, Dittrich, Drake, Duchow, Edming, Emerson, Kerkman, Kuglitsch, Magnafici, Moses, Mursau, Novak, Ortiz-Velez, Pope, Shankland, Sinicki, Spiros, Spreitzer, Thiesfeldt, Tusler, Vorpagel and Wittke; cosponsored by Senators Ballweg, Darling, Carpenter, Cowles, Felzkowski, Jacque, Johnson, Larson, Marklein, Petrowski, Pfaff, Smith, L. Taylor and Wirch.

Read and referred to the committee on **Senate Organization**.

Assembly Bill 2

Relating to: various changes to the laws administered and enforced by the Department of Revenue.

By Representatives Wittke, Macco, Katsma and Zimmerman; cosponsored by Senators Marklein, Kooyenga and Kapenga.

Read first time and referred to the committee on **Senate Organization**.

Assembly Bill 3

Relating to: modifications to the tax treatment of tax-option corporations that elect to pay tax at the entity level.

By Representatives Wittke and Macco; cosponsored by Senators Marklein, Kooyenga and Kapenga.

Read first time and referred to the committee on **Senate Organization**.

**SECOND READING AND AMENDMENTS OF
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS AND
SENATE BILLS**

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that **Senate Bills 2 and 1** be placed at the foot of the 11th order of business on today's calendar.

Senate Bill 3

Relating to: pharmacy benefit managers, prescription drug benefits, and granting rule-making authority.

Read a second time.

The question was: Adoption of Senate Amendment 2 to **Senate Bill 3**?

Adopted.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 3

Read a third time.

The question was: Passage of **Senate Bill 3**?

The ayes and noes were required and the vote was: ayes, 31; noes, 1; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Agard, Ballweg, Bernier, Bewley, Bradley, Carpenter, Cowles, Darling, Erpenbach, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Johnson, Kapenga, Larson, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roth, Roys, Smith, Stafsholt, Stroebel, L. Taylor, Testin, Wanggaard, Wimberger and Wirch - 31.

Noes - Senator Kooyenga - 1.

Absent or not voting - None - 0.

Passed.

Senate Bill 4

Relating to: prohibiting certain government officials from mandating vaccination against the 2019 novel coronavirus.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 4

Read a third time and passed.

Senators Larson and Roys, with unanimous consent, asked to be recorded as voting “No” on the question of passage of **Senate Bill 4**.

Senate Bill 7

Relating to: closure of and forbidding gatherings in places of worship.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 7

Read a third time and passed.

Senator Roys, with unanimous consent, asked to be recorded as voting “No” on the question of passage of **Senate Bill 7**.

Senate Bill 8

Relating to: distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.

Read a second time.

Senator Bewley, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate stand informal.

Senator LeMahieu moved that Senate Amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 8** be rejected.

Senator Kapenga, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate stand informal.

The question was: Rejection of Senate Amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 8**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 20; noes, 12; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Ballweg, Bernier, Bradley, Cowles, Darling, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Kapenga, Kooyenga, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Roth, Stafsholt, Stroebel, Testin, Wanggaard and Wimberger - 20.

Noes - Senators Agard, Bewley, Carpenter, Erpenbach, Johnson, Larson, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roys, Smith, L. Taylor and Wirsch - 12.

Absent or not voting – None - 0.

Rejected.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 8

Read a third time and passed.

Senator Roys, with unanimous consent, asked to be recorded as voting “No” on the question of passage of **Senate Bill 8**.

Senate Bill 11

Relating to: various changes to the worker's compensation law.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 11

Read a third time.

The question was: Passage of **Senate Bill 11**?

The ayes and noes were required and the vote was: ayes, 32; noes, 0; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Agard, Ballweg, Bernier, Bewley, Bradley, Carpenter, Cowles, Darling, Erpenbach, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Johnson, Kapenga, Kooyenga, Larson, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roth, Roys, Smith, Stafsholt, Stroebel, L. Taylor, Testin, Wanggaard, Wimberger and Wirsch - 32.

Noes – None - 0.

Absent or not voting – None - 0.

Passed.

Senate Bill 13

Relating to: dentists administering certain vaccines.

Read a second time.

The question was: Adoption of Senate Amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 13**?

Adopted.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 13

Read a third time and passed.

Senate Bill 17

Relating to: increased penalties for crimes against elder persons; restraining orders for elder persons; freezing assets of a defendant charged with financial exploitation of an elder person; sexual assault of an elder person; physical abuse of an elder person; and providing a penalty.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 17

Read a third time and passed.

Senate Bill 18

Relating to: expediting criminal proceedings when a victim or witness is an elder person and preserving the testimony of a crime victim or witness who is an elder person.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 18

Read a third time and passed.

Senate Bill 25

Relating to: member meetings, bylaws, and emergency powers of a cooperative.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 25

Read a third time and passed.

Senate Bill 27

Relating to: defining “multijurisdictional” for the purposes of the lottery.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 27

Read a third time and passed.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that all action be immediately messaged to the Assembly:

- Senate Bill 3**
- Senate Bill 4**
- Senate Bill 7**
- Senate Bill 8**
- Senate Bill 11**
- Senate Bill 13**
- Senate Bill 17**
- Senate Bill 18**
- Senate Bill 25**
- Senate Bill 27**

Messaged.

Senate Bill 28

Relating to: battery by a person detained while awaiting trial as a sexually violent person and providing a penalty.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 28

Read a third time and passed.

Senate Bill 38

Relating to: return to in-person work for state employees.

Read a second time.

The question was: Adoption of Senate Amendment 1 to **Senate Bill 38**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 21; noes, 11; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Ballweg, Bernier, Bradley, Carpenter, Cowles, Darling, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Kapenga, Kooyenga, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Roth, Stafsholt, Stroebel, Testin, Wanggaard and Wimberger - 21.

Noes - Senators Agard, Bewley, Erpenbach, Johnson, Larson, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roys, Smith, L. Taylor and Wirch - 11.

Absent or not voting – None - 0.

Adopted.

Senator LeMahieu moved that Senate Amendment 2 to **Senate Bill 38** be rejected.

The question was: Rejection of Senate Amendment 2 to **Senate Bill 38**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 20; noes, 12; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Ballweg, Bernier, Bradley, Cowles, Darling, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Kapenga, Kooyenga, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Roth, Stafsholt, Stroebel, Testin, Wanggaard and Wimberger - 20.

Noes - Senators Agard, Bewley, Carpenter, Erpenbach, Johnson, Larson, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roys, Smith, L. Taylor and Wirch - 12.

Absent or not voting – None - 0.

Rejected.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 38

Read a third time.

The question was: Passage of **Senate Bill 38**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 20; noes, 12; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Ballweg, Bernier, Bradley, Cowles, Darling, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Kapenga, Kooyenga, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Roth, Stafsholt, Stroebel, Testin, Wanggaard and Wimberger - 20.

Noes - Senators Agard, Bewley, Carpenter, Erpenbach, Johnson, Larson, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roys, Smith, L. Taylor and Wirch - 12.

Absent or not voting – None - 0.

Passed.

Senate Bill 45

Relating to: modifying administrative rules relating to the use of wood to contain bear bait or feed in logs or stumps.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 45

Read a third time and passed.

Senate Bill 48

Relating to: the governor's bear tag.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 48

Read a third time and passed.

Senate Bill 50

Relating to: counting of tips for tipped employees and granting rule-making authority.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 50

Read a third time and passed.

Senator Larson, with unanimous consent, asked to be recorded as voting “No” on the question of passage of **Senate Bill 50**.

Senate Bill 54

Relating to: shot shell restrictions and the hunting of fur-bearing animals.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator Feyen, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 54

Read a third time and passed.

Senate Bill 55

Relating to: publication of proceedings of meetings held by certain governmental bodies.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 55

Read a third time.

The question was: Passage of **Senate Bill 55**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 20; noes, 12; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Ballweg, Bernier, Bradley, Cowles, Darling, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Kapenga, Kooyenga, Larson, LeMahieu, Nass, Petrowski, Stafsholt, Stroebel, L. Taylor, Testin, Wanggaard and Wimberger - 20.

Noes - Senators Agard, Bewley, Carpenter, Erpenbach, Johnson, Marklein, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roth, Roys, Smith and Wirch - 12.

Absent or not voting – None - 0.

Passed.

Senate Bill 62

Relating to: merit pay raises for state public defenders.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Senate Bill 62

Read a third time and passed.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that all action be immediately messaged to the Assembly:

Senate Bill 28

Senate Bill 38

Senate Bill 45

Senate Bill 48

Senate Bill 50

Senate Bill 54

Senate Bill 55

Senate Bill 62

Messaged.

**SECOND READING AND AMENDMENTS OF
ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTIONS AND
ASSEMBLY BILLS**

Assembly Bill 4

Relating to: pharmacy technicians and pharmacy students administering vaccines.

Read a second time.

The question was: Adoption of Senate Amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 4**?

Adopted.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Assembly Bill 4

Read a third time and concurred in as amended.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that all action be immediately messaged to the Assembly:

Assembly Bill 4

Messaged.

Senator Kapenga, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate stand informal.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate recess.

2:11 P.M.

RECESS

5:03 P.M.

The Senate reconvened.

Senate President Kapenga in the chair.

Senate Bill 2

Relating to: various changes to the laws administered and enforced by the Department of Revenue.

Read a second time.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that **Assembly Bill 2** be withdrawn from the committee on **Senate Organization** and taken up at this time.

Senator Carpenter objected.

Senator Carpenter withdrew his objection.

Assembly Bill 2

Relating to: various changes to the laws administered and enforced by the Department of Revenue.

Read a second time.

Senator Bewley, with unanimous consent, asked that Senate Substitute Amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 2** be withdrawn and returned to author.

Senator Bewley, with unanimous consent, asked that Senate Amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 2** be withdrawn and returned to author.

Senator LeMahieu moved that Senate Amendment 2 to **Assembly Bill 2** be laid on the table.

The question was: Tabling of Senate Amendment 2 to **Assembly Bill 2**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 19; noes, 13; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Ballweg, Bernier, Bradley, Darling, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Kapenga, Kooyenga, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Roth, Stafsholt, Stroebel, Testin, Wanggaard and Wimberger - 19.

Noes - Senators Agard, Bewley, Carpenter, Cowles, Erpenbach, Johnson, Larson, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roys, Smith, L. Taylor and Wirch - 13.

Absent or not voting - None - 0.

Tabled.

Senator LeMahieu moved that Senate Amendment 3 to **Assembly Bill 2** be laid on the table.

Senator Roys, with unanimous consent, asked to be excused from voting, pursuant to Senate Rule 73 (1).

The question was: Tabling of Senate Amendment 3 to **Assembly Bill 2**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 20; noes, 11; absent or not voting, 1; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Ballweg, Bernier, Bradley, Cowles, Darling, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Kapenga, Kooyenga, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Roth, Stafsholt, Stroebel, Testin, Wanggaard and Wimberger - 20.

Noes - Senators Agard, Bewley, Carpenter, Erpenbach, Johnson, Larson, Pfaff, Ringhand, Smith, L. Taylor and Wirch - 11.

Absent or not voting - Senator Roys - 1.

Tabled.

Senator LeMahieu moved that Senate Substitute Amendment 2 to **Assembly Bill 2** be laid on the table.

The question was: Tabling of Senate Substitute Amendment 2 to **Assembly Bill 2**?

The ayes and noes were demanded and the vote was: ayes, 20; noes, 12; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Ballweg, Bernier, Bradley, Cowles, Darling, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Kapenga, Kooyenga, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Roth, Stafsholt, Stroebel, Testin, Wanggaard and Wimberger - 20.

Noes - Senators Agard, Bewley, Carpenter, Erpenbach, Johnson, Larson, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roys, Smith, L. Taylor and Wirch - 12.

Absent or not voting - None - 0.

Tabled.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Assembly Bill 2

Read a third time.

The question was: Concurrence of **Assembly Bill 2?**

The ayes and noes were required and the vote was: ayes, 27; noes, 5; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Agard, Ballweg, Bernier, Bewley, Bradley, Darling, Erpenbach, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Johnson, Kapenga, Kooyenga, LeMahieu, Marklein, Petrowski, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roth, Roys, Smith, Stafsholt, L. Taylor, Testin, Wanggaard, Wimberger and Wirch - 27.

Noes - Senators Carpenter, Cowles, Larson, Nass and Stroebel - 5.

Absent or not voting – None - 0.

Concurred in.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that **Senate Bill 2** be laid on the table.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that all action be immediately messaged to the Assembly:

Assembly Bill 2

Messaged.

Senate Bill 1

Relating to: modifications to the tax treatment of tax-option corporations that elect to pay tax at the entity level.

Read a second time.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that **Assembly Bill 3** be withdrawn from the committee on **Senate Organization** and taken up at this time.

Assembly Bill 3

Relating to: modifications to the tax treatment of tax-option corporations that elect to pay tax at the entity level.

Read a second time.

Ordered to a third reading.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the rules be suspended and the bill be given its third reading.

Assembly Bill 3

Read a third time.

The question was: Concurrence of **Assembly Bill 3?**

The ayes and noes were required and the vote was: ayes, 32; noes, 0; absent or not voting, 0; as follows:

Ayes - Senators Agard, Ballweg, Bernier, Bewley, Bradley, Carpenter, Cowles, Darling, Erpenbach, Felzkowski, Feyen, Jacque, Johnson, Kapenga, Kooyenga, Larson, LeMahieu, Marklein, Nass, Petrowski, Pfaff, Ringhand, Roth, Roys, Smith, Stafsholt, Stroebel, L. Taylor, Testin, Wanggaard, Wimberger and Wirch - 32.

Noes – None - 0.

Absent or not voting – None - 0.

Concurred in.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that **Senate Bill 1** be laid on the table.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that all action be immediately messaged to the Assembly:

Assembly Bill 3

Messaged.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS NOT REQUIRING A THIRD READING

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that **Senate Resolution 4** be withdrawn from the committee on **Senate Organization** and taken up at this time.

Senate Resolution 4

Relating to: observing February 28, 2021, as Rare Disease Day.

The question was: Adoption of **Senate Resolution 4?**

Adopted.

Senate Joint Resolution 5

Relating to: recognizing February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month.

The question was: Adoption of **Senate Joint Resolution 5?**

Adopted.

IN THE CHAIR

President Pro Tempore Testin in the chair.

6:21 P.M

Assembly Joint Resolution 2

Relating to: honoring the life and commemorating the career and accomplishments of Hank Aaron.

The question was: Concurrence of **Assembly Joint Resolution 2?**

Concurred in.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that **Assembly Joint Resolution 6** be withdrawn from the committee on **Senate Organization** and taken up at this time.

Assembly Joint Resolution 6

Relating to: proclaiming February 2021 to be American Heart Month in Wisconsin.

The question was: Concurrence of **Assembly Joint Resolution 6?**

Concurred in.

Assembly Joint Resolution 3

Relating to: declaring January 24 to 30, 2021, School Choice Week and recognizing the importance of giving parents the choice in the educational path for their children.

The question was: Concurrence of **Assembly Joint Resolution 3**?

Concurred in.

Senator Roys, with unanimous consent, asked to be recorded as voting “No” on the question of concurrence in **Assembly Joint Resolution 3**.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that all action be immediately messaged to the Assembly:

Senate Joint Resolution 5
Assembly Joint Resolution 2
Assembly Joint Resolution 6
Assembly Joint Resolution 3

Messaged.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADJOURNMENT HONORS, AND REMARKS UNDER SPECIAL PRIVILEGE

Senator Carpenter, with unanimous consent, asked the Senate to adjourn in honor of President Joe Biden who is paying a visit to Milwaukee today at the Pabst Theatre to hold his first town hall meeting as President of the United States. Senator Carpenter thanks President Biden for visiting the great state of Wisconsin.

Senator Pfaff, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate adjourn in honor of his friend Roger William LeGrand Jr. Roger recently passed away after a life well lived in the community he loved. He lived a life of public service, studying to be a catholic priest at Our Lady of Benburb Priory in Northern Ireland, serving as a VISTA volunteer in Florida, and in the Peace Corps, training English teachers in remote south, India. Roger attended the University of Wisconsin Law School, where he was president of the Student Bar Association. Roger served his community with service on the city council, La Crosse School Board, as District Attorney of La Crosse County, where he established the first victim-witness program and founded the La Crosse Domestic Violence Task Force. Roger served as Family Court Commissioner from 1992-2006 until Governor Jim Doyle appointed him Circuit Court Judge, where he established the Law Information Center at the courthouse. Roger continued to stay active in the La Crosse community in retirement in many ways. Roger lived life by this motto: to live, to love, to learn, to celebrate, to savor and be grateful for every moment.

Senator Jacque, with unanimous consent, asked the Senate adjourn in memory of his uncle, Dr. John D. “Jack” Brusky of Allouez, WI, a military veteran, family doctor and dedicated community volunteer and philanthropist who passed away on February 6, 2021.

Senator LeMahieu, with unanimous consent, asked that the Senate recess until 6:45 P.M. for the purpose of awaiting the Governor’s Budget Address in Joint Convention in the

Assembly Chambers at 7:00 P.M., and further, that the Senate stand adjourned, pursuant to **Senate Joint Resolution 1**, upon the rising of the Joint Convention.

6:37 P.M.

RECESS

The Senate proceeded in a body to the Assembly Chamber to meet in Joint Convention to receive the Budget Address.

6:45 P.M.

IN ASSEMBLY CHAMBER IN JOINT CONVENTION

Senate President Kapenga in the chair.

The Honorable Governor Tony Evers delivered his message virtually as follows:

7:00 P.M.

“Good evening, Wisconsinites. Thanks for tuning in.

I’m Tony Evers, and I’m proud to be the 46th governor of our great state and to introduce my 2021-23 biennial budget to you this evening.

Before we begin tonight, I want to mention that today is a pretty important day. And that’s not just because I’m giving my second-ever budget address—it’s because today we have a spring primary across our state. And there are a lot of important things on the ballot, from state superintendent of our schools, local mayors and village board members, judges, and so many others.

Polls close in less than an hour. So, if you haven’t had a chance to vote yet and you’re watching from home, hit pause, grab your mask, your photo ID, and your proof of residence if you need to register, find your polling location by going to myvote.wi.gov and get there right away. And remember, you just need to be in line by 8 p.m. to vote. Voting is such an important part of our democracy, so don’t worry—I promise I won’t be offended, and I’ll still be here on YouTube when you get back.

When I gave my State of the State address last month, I talked about the struggles we’ve shared this past year, and the challenges we have faced and will face in the days ahead. I know I don’t have to tell you how hard this past year has been because we’ve lived it—you’ve lived it.

People across our state and country spent the better part of the last year worried—worried about how you’ll see a doctor or afford your prescriptions, worried about taking care of your loved ones from a distance, worried about affording childcare for your kids, and how this pandemic has affected

them. I know there have been sleepless nights worrying about finding work or being safe at work, worrying about the future of the business you built from the ground up, worrying about making sure you can keep the lights and heat on at home.

So, as you're watching tonight filled with a year's worth of worry, I know you're also wondering whether we will claw out of this crisis, where we can go from here, how we get back on track, and what's next.

Well, tonight, Wisconsin, I want to tell you this: it's going to be ok. We are going to be ok.

As both a state and a country, we find ourselves with a decision to make—when this pandemic is over, we could go back to the way things always were and always have been, or we can take this moment to demand the future we dream.

We could ignore the problems this pandemic brought to the forefront, or we can face them and fix them, together.

We could make excuses for the last decade of decision-makers who cut corners, or we can commit right now to start putting people first.

Well, Wisconsin, we aren't going to retrace our steps back to the way things were.

We aren't going to follow the map back to where we started when this pandemic began.

After all we've been through, we aren't going to apologize for wanting more for each other—for our neighbors, for our kids, our parents and grandparents, and our state's future.

So, I want to tell you something tonight and I need you to really hear me—don't let anyone tell you we can't afford to make healthcare more accessible while saving your hard-earned tax dollars. Don't let anyone tell you we can't afford to fully fund our public schools while cutting taxes at the same time. Don't let anyone tell you we can't afford to support our farmers, our rural communities, and our small businesses while protecting our natural resources and investing in new, clean jobs. Don't let anyone tell you we can't spend within our means while still supporting Wisconsinites who need help to recover.

Because they're wrong. We can. I've got a blueprint that will do just that and make sure we bounce back and better than before.

But I didn't sit in a room and write it all by myself—I'm not about to make decisions about you, without you. So, just like we did two years ago, we went directly to folks from across our state to ask for your help putting together our Badger Bounceback agenda that I'm excited to share here tonight.

Take a look.

Now with all of the bad news out there, there is some good news. Our Badger Bounceback agenda has bold solutions to address the urgent crisis we face. And the good news is the Badger Bounceback is possible because we made critical

decisions to get our state in the best position to be able to help folks recover and put this pandemic behind us.

Just before our last budget was signed, we decided to take the unprecedented step of making a payment on our state's debt. We paid off \$56 million early that helped save Wisconsin taxpayers an estimated nearly \$70 million in future debt service payments. And in response to this pandemic, just as so many have had to make sacrifices this past year, I asked our state agencies to make sacrifices, too. At my direction, they found hundreds of millions in cost savings over two fiscal years to make sure we had resources available to respond to this pandemic and invest in our economic recovery.

We've made some tough choices these past few months. But because of the financial position our state is in, this week we were able to announce part of our Badger Bounceback agenda will include significant investments in economic recovery for small businesses across our state. I was proud that more than \$370 million of our CARES funds went to supporting Wisconsin businesses, including nearly 53,000 of our small businesses, more than 15,000 farms, and our lodging, hospitality, and tourism industries. But we also know we have a long road ahead of us and our Main Street businesses need help now.

That's why we're going to make unprecedented investments in the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation to be able to help support our small businesses and economic development. Our Badger Bounceback agenda makes a larger state investment into the WEDC than the last three budgets combined. We're going to put \$200 million into helping small businesses affected by the pandemic, including helping them retain and rehire the jobs they've lost. And we know that if we want to come out on the other side of this pandemic stronger than ever, we need to commit to investing in innovation and economic growth, too. That's why we're also going to invest \$100 million into a venture capital program to jumpstart innovation and startups in Wisconsin.

But as I've said all along, if we're going to get serious about economic development in our state, then we have to connect the dots. And you've heard me say that a lot—connect the dots. It means recognizing how every issue our state is facing affects all of the others. We have to understand how having good roads and transportation affects small businesses and farmers getting their product from Point A to Point B. We have to understand how lack of access to affordable housing affects kids in the classroom. We have to understand how lead pollution and poor water quality affects our healthcare system. We have to connect those dots between these issues to make sure we can recover from this crisis. And that's why, in the coming days, the WEDC will also be announcing our administration's vision for economic development to make sure we can bounce back with an economy that works for everyone.

But that's just part of our Badger Bounceback agenda.

Because it begins, as it always does for me, by doing what's best for our kids. It starts with education.

If we're going to bounce back from this pandemic, then we have to start by making sure our kids are better off than when we started this pandemic. Every kid in our state should have access to high-quality, public education. Period. But it has to start early—we know the first few years of our kids' lives help define their future. And for many Wisconsin families, quality childcare is something that isn't available or affordable.

That's why last week I announced that my budget will invest \$140 million to support our kids and our families—to address quality, access, and equity in our early education and childcare system for our kids, all while supporting the folks who care for them.

And those investments can't stop when our kids grow up and head off to kindergarten.

So, for the second budget in a row, our Badger Bounceback agenda proposes that this state delivers on its commitment to two-thirds funding for our schools. Look, Republicans and Democrats agree on this issue, including two years ago when two-thirds funding was backed by a Republican-led, bipartisan commission. It should've been passed in our last budget or in the special session of the Legislature I called last year. Unfortunately, the Legislature couldn't get it done in either case. Well, here's the bottom line: if members of the Legislature are going to make promises on this, then they sure ought to keep them. Let's stop talking about it and just get it done.

And two-thirds funding isn't the only place we've seen public education investments sidelined by politics despite having broad public support—the same goes for special education. I was proud my last budget provided \$95 million more for special education funding—it was the first increase in more than a decade. And that was a big step forward, but the fact of the matter is, after a decade of failing to provide more funding, we still have a lot more to get where we need to go. That's why this budget proposes trying to help close that gap with a more than \$709 million investment in special education aid.

And, finally, we're also going to invest in supporting our rural schools by fully funding sparsity aid with a \$20 million investment. The reality is that our public schools from Kickapoo to Cashton have been doing much more with far less for far too long, and these investments will not only enhance direct support to some of our most vulnerable students, but provide schools with the budget flexibility to fund things like mental health services, keeping buses running, technology, and other critical needs.

And our work can't stop when our kids finish high school—our higher education institutions have always been an economic driver for our state, and we need to double down if we're going to bounce back.

Our universities and technical colleges systems have a proud and proven history of not only preparing students to enter the workforce, but of generating billions of dollars of economic activity statewide and bringing thousands of jobs to communities all across our state. It's a direct pipeline to

the skills, innovation and research, and creativity that will help our families, communities, and our state bounce back, and it's an investment that will pay dividends for our future.

So, we're going to build on the success of our state's technical colleges for the more than 280,000 students they serve and employers who count on them for Wisconsin's highly skilled workforce by providing an additional \$36 million investment over the next two years.

But we also have to make sure higher education is something that's accessible, affordable, and therefore attainable to all those who choose to pursue it.

So, we're going to keep the tuition freeze for our System campuses. And we're also going to expand Bucky's Tuition Promise to all UW System campuses statewide ensuring students from low-income households can get a 4-year education at no cost to them or their families.

And while we're going to freeze tuition, we're also going to fund that freeze and invest \$190 million into the UW System over the next two years. So at the end of this biennium when all is said and done, the state will again be investing more GPR dollars annually in the UW System than the Department of Corrections.

And that's important, because we can't keep doing things the way we've always done them if we want to bounce back and better than we were before this pandemic hit. That's why our Badger Bounceback agenda is about investing in people, not prisons.

We know our justice system has put a strain on our state. We've failed to adequately fund alternatives to incarceration, especially for folks who need mental health services or substance abuse treatment. Our prisons have been overcrowded, which costs more of your tax dollars in the long run. And we haven't given folks enough resources or tools to be safe and successful when they re-enter our communities from education to affordable housing to workforce training. And perhaps most importantly, we have yet to address the disproportionate impact the last more than two decades of laws have had on our communities of color.

It's time to face the facts: we have got to change.

If we're going to bounce back from this pandemic, we have to get our priorities straight. We can't keep throwing your taxpayer dollars into a system that doesn't help our state or our people thrive—it's holding us back. And here's the deal, you know I'm a big believer in science. We can keep our communities safe by holding violent offenders accountable, save money, and reform our justice system all at the same time. Because in the 21st Century, we can use science and evidence to help us make better decisions.

And it starts with our kids.

It's been years since 2017 Wisconsin Act 185 was passed and the Legislature made promises to close Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake—many of those changes and promises have yet to be realized due to legislative inaction. By focusing only on physical buildings and not on holistic change throughout the system, Act 185 was always going to fall short. That's why

in this budget, I am going to propose that we truly overhaul our juvenile justice system by focusing on best practices and a community-based approach to facilities.

We're once again proposing that our juvenile justice system treat youth under 18, with some limited exceptions, as kids, not adults. We are one of the only states in the nation that has not made this evidence-based change in ensuring that youth are treated as youth, and that needs to change now.

And right now, there's no foundational training for how to interact with and engage justice-involved kids. So, we're going to make sure that across our state, youth justice agencies have the training they need to help our kids be successful from understanding adolescent brain development to best practices on engaging kids to evidence-based practices for delinquency to understanding the unique needs of girls and LGBTQ youth.

We're also going to invest nearly \$9 million in a pilot program to start increasing services in our communities so kids who are at moderate or high risk can get intensive, evidence-based treatment closer to home. Because we know that we should be providing kids and families with as much support as we can to get on the right track and prioritizing investments in rehabilitation and treatment for our kids.

That's why we are also going to change the way we sentence our youth, to require that courts truly consider the youth's risk, treatment needs, and the severity of the offense. Our justice system should be about both accountability but also about the opportunity for treatment and rehabilitation. And any meaningful reform of the juvenile justice system must include this approach.

Finally, we're going to again propose to close Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake so that we get our kids closer to home as soon as we safely and responsibly can. And we're going to do it by eliminating Act 185's outdated two-tier correctional system and creating smaller, community-based facilities across our state and make sure that our kids get the same evidence-based treatment and behavioral support no matter what part of the state they're from.

And when it comes to our adult justice system, we have work to do there, too. We can save more tax dollars in the long run by investing in treatment and alternatives to incarceration. A study conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice found that by investing in state treatment and diversion, for every single dollar we invest in diversion programs, we save more than \$8 in return.

Expanding access to treatment and diversion isn't just the right thing to do for people, it's the right thing to do for our pocketbooks, too. That's why in our last budget, we increased the funding for the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion programs to the highest funding level ever. And we're going to double down on this investment in this budget by providing an additional \$15 million to expand this program.

A decade-long study on "Race and Prison Sentencing in Wisconsin" found that, compared to their white counterparts, individuals convicted of felonies in Wisconsin, Black men are 28% more likely to end up in prison. Hispanic men were

19% more likely. Native American men are 34% more likely to end up in prison. The last wholesale rewrite of Wisconsin's criminal code hasn't happened in more than a decade. So, we're going to start by having a Sentencing Review Council go through every section of our state's criminal code to focus on equity, rehabilitation, and evidence-based sentencing practices that will result in better outcomes and make this system fairer while keeping our communities safe.

We're also going to expand the earned release program to include programs that are evidence-based to reduce recidivism like education, work training, and treatment programs so that when folks re-enter our communities, they have the tools they need to be successful.

Reforming our justice system is long overdue, and it's part of our overall goal to ensure our state bounces back and better than before. But I want to be clear: there's more to equity and justice than corrections and incarceration.

We cannot ignore the role environmental justice plays in building a state where every family in every zip code can be successful. The climate crisis is taking an undeniable toll on folks across our state. Every Wisconsinite—whether they live in the Driftless, the Central Sands, or the Northwoods, or in the heart of our urban areas—has experienced the effects of climate change. And communities of color, low-income Wisconsinites, and our farmers have been among those most disproportionately affected.

At the crux of recovering from this pandemic and bouncing back is our willingness to stop pretending the problems we face don't exist. We have to acknowledge our challenges if we're going to have a chance at fixing them.

But I want to be clear: addressing climate change doesn't mean abandoning all of our state's history or our traditions—we aren't, and we won't. Because it is that very history and that very tradition—from the Indigenous people who were the first stewards of the land, to our farmers who've been the backbone of our state for generations, to our outdoor recreation economy—that demand we embrace a future where we don't have to choose between mitigating climate change and protecting our environment and good-paying jobs and economic development. And we're ready for bold and urgent solutions that will stop treating these goals as mutually exclusive—we can and will do both.

Over the last few years, increased flooding caused in large part by climate change, has cost Wisconsin communities, businesses, farmers, and families millions of dollars. But we know that for every dollar invested in flood prevention, we can save in costs down the road.

That's why our Badger Bounceback agenda proposes a \$30 million investment in proactively floodproofing, ensuring public safety, and reducing the risk of catastrophic flood damage. This will also help municipalities address at-risk properties and infrastructure with programs that help build adaptable roads and infrastructure, restore wetlands to prevent catastrophic flooding, and support farmers, families, and small business owners when they lose their crops or their properties are damaged. And we're going to get to work

helping our shoreline communities by creating the Great Lakes Erosion Control Revolving Loan Program—this will help support communities across our state that are experiencing record or near-record lake levels and dangerous shore erosion.

We also know our small and family farms are some of our most ardent supporters of protecting our land and our water. We're ready to be good partners to our farmers who will play a critical role in our work to build a more sustainable future. That's why we are investing in farming innovation so that our small and family farms can lead the way on transitioning to more sustainable best practices in addressing local watershed issues, runoff, and reducing water contamination.

Our Badger Bounceback also builds on the work of the Task Force on Climate Change—led by Lieutenant Governor Barnes—which included a diverse, bipartisan coalition of farmers, environmental advocates, Indigenous leaders, utility companies, and businesses. Thanks to Lieutenant Governor Barnes for all his good work on this issue.

We made a commitment to make Wisconsin 100 percent carbon-free by 2050, and we're going to keep it. Our utility partners have made great strides this year toward reducing emissions, but we still have a long way to go to our 100 percent goal. It is critical that we take necessary and immediate steps to address energy production and efficiency.

So, we're going to double the required utility company contribution to the Focus on Energy Program, which will allow us to generate an additional \$100 million to help make our homes, our schools, and our businesses more efficient. We're also creating a new \$20 million energy efficient grant program for our schools, so that they can update aging infrastructure and reduce energy usage.

And as we embrace an economy that will allow us to protect our environment, we're going to invest in clean jobs and sustainable infrastructure. But we'll need skilled workers to make it happen.

That's why we are also investing \$1 million in our Fast Forward program specifically for training for green jobs across the state, encouraging folks to pursue career paths in clean energy production and environmental conservation. We're also creating a \$4 million renewable and clean energy research grant through the Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy and directing the Public Service Commission to establish an innovative technologies pilot program in partnership with the state's utilities.

Folks, we cannot afford to continue ignoring science and denying the reality of climate change in Wisconsin. I know we can deliver on the promise we make to our kids to leave them a better life and world than the one we inherited. But I also know there might be wavering faith that the Legislature and I can accomplish this budget together. So, I want to address that here tonight.

To my friends in the Legislature: our opportunity to bounce back from this crisis calls for you to summon the will to get this done. There's no time for false promises of hope and prosperity with empty words that you know full well won't match your actions. You can disagree with me if you want, but don't punish the people we serve so you can settle a score no one but you is keeping. Each time a bill fails to pass, each time a compromise ends up in flames, each time legislators lose sight of the people who sent you here, the disappointment, the resentment, and the disparities grow. We must be unafraid to agree, unwilling to wait, and unabashed about the work we have before us.

Wisconsinites, when I ran to be your governor, I said it was time for a change. And I told you then as I'll tell you tonight—that change won't happen without you.

That's why, because of you, I'm optimistic. I'm hopeful. Because over the last year, I've seen the heart and grit and resilience of the people of this great state. I believe we can pass a budget with bipartisan support. I believe we can pass a budget that will make sure our state can bounce back and better than it was before this pandemic hit. I believe we can pass a budget that will finally realize the future we've dreamed. I know that Legislature and I can get this done.

Change is possible. The future we want to build is possible. Because I know you will hold us to account and demand it.

So, let's go forward together, let's bounce back together, and let's get this done.

Thank you, and On, Wisconsin!"

ADJOURNMENT

The Joint Convention arose.

7:38 P.M.