DocuSign Envelope ID: D0074CD6-E593-43D4-8B41-8145005D0481



STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Tony Evers, Governor Kathy Blumenfeld, Secretary-designee

July 29th, 2022

Mr. Edward Blazel, Chief Clerk Wisconsin State Assembly 17 West Main Street, Suite 401 Madison, WI 53703

Mr. Michael Queensland, Chief Clerk Wisconsin State Senate B20 Southeast, State Capitol Madison, WI 53707

Dear Messrs. Blazel and Queensland:

In accordance with s. 16.548, Wis. Stats., please find enclosed the quarterly report for the Wisconsin Federal-State Relations Office (Office). This report contains information on the activities of the Office and the status of federal legislation of concern to the State of Wisconsin for the second quarter of calendar year 2022.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the report.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by: XG

Chris Patton Deputy Secretary

cc: Governor Tony Evers

Enclosure

State of Wisconsin Washington, D.C. Federal-State Relations Office Quarterly Report April 1, 2022 – June 31, 2022

The Governor's Office and the Department of Administration continue to maintain frequent communication with Wisconsin's federal delegation, the White House, and other federal agencies regarding issues affecting our state, including national inflation, reproductive rights in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs*, the state and federal government's response to the coronavirus pandemic, and our state's continued economic recovery.

In addition to the standard communication with members of Wisconsin's congressional delegation by the Evers Administration, the Office of Federal-State Relations has conducted outreach and engaged with numerous federal agencies regarding matters important to the state on issues such as steps to lower gas prices across the state, support for small businesses, and investment in our state's infrastructure.

On May 3, Governor Evers led a coalition of 17 governors calling on the U.S. Congress to take action to protect women's health and reproductive rights. Additionally, the Office of Federal-State Relations has engaged neighboring states, partners at the National Governors Association, as well as businesses and other Wisconsin partners conducting business before the U.S. federal government. The Administration's efforts continue to include advocacy for measures to address supply chain challenges, including addressing the infant formula shortage, and reducing costs for Wisconsin families and businesses. Governor Evers continues to deploy resources and investments in Wisconsin's economic recovery, making Wisconsin a leading state in the use of State and Local Recovery Fund to support small businesses, economic development, and workforce initiatives.

Governor Evers also continues to advocate for lowering gas prices for Wisconsinites around the state. This included issuing an executive order prohibiting gas and diesel price gouging. Due to increasing oil demand primarily caused by the economic bounce back after the peak of the coronavirus pandemic coupled with limited global supply and low refinery capacity primarily driven by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, this was a needed action in order to protect Wisconsinites from potential bad actors taking advantage of an abnormal disruption. Additionally, in June Governor Evers wrote a letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requesting a temporary waiver of the federal reformulated gas requirements for the six affected Wisconsin counties, as well as renewed his March call for the federal government to take action to suspend the federal gas tax.

Furthermore, Governor Evers and our administration continue focus on the implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Governor Evers announced in June, together with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, that the first round of local road funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will provide \$35 million in funding to support 40 projects throughout the state. And continuing Governor Evers' focus on broadband accessibility and expansion, our administration is actively tracking and developing applications for programs that will expand broadband access and digital equity across our state. The Office of Federal-State

Relations will continue to be engaged in the implementation process of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to ensure Wisconsin maximizes opportunities to invest in improving our state's infrastructure.

In addition, during this period, Derek Campbell was appointed and began his role as Director of the State of Wisconsin Federal-State Relations Office, who will continue to maintain communication with Wisconsin's federal partners in this new position. The Evers Administration continues to be engaged and to collaborate with members of Wisconsin's congressional delegation regarding the ongoing federal appropriations process and continues to monitor legislative activity affecting the state to ensure that the interests of the people of Wisconsin are heard, considered, and advanced by the United States federal government in Washington, DC.