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Strengthening Wisconsin.*

## **PROFS Statement on the Naming of Former Governor Tommy G. Thompson as Interim President of UW System**

PROFS is heartened by the news that the Regents have appointed former Wisconsin Governor Tommy G. Thompson as the interim President of the UW System. Thompson, a native of the state who was elected four times as governor, has proven himself to have deep experience, a commitment to the well-being of Wisconsinites, and has a history of advocacy and support for higher education. As governor, Thompson understands the importance of using the vast expertise at the university to govern the state, and we are hopeful he will encourage current state policymakers to do the same.

We believe that Thompson will provide the thoughtful, supportive leadership that the University of Wisconsin deserves while the Regents seek out permanent System leadership. Ensuring that all of the university's stakeholders – including its faculty, staff, and students – are involved in the next search is in the spirit of shared governance that Tommy Thompson has long endorsed.

June 19, 2020