



Representing UW-Madison Faculty.
Strengthening Wisconsin.

Legislative Update

PROFS, the Public Representation Organization of the Faculty Senate, is a non-profit advocacy organization of UW-Madison faculty. Formed by the Faculty Senate and governed by the University Committee, PROFS provides a voice to faculty, allowing them to communicate directly with the governor, legislators, and members of Congress.

2021-23 Biennial State Budget

The 2021-23 state budget process is underway. While Governor Tony Evers introduced his budget proposal in February, Republican legislative leaders have said they will craft their own versions of the biennial budget and capital budget. Four public hearings on the budget will be held this month – three in person and one virtual. The Joint Finance Committee is expected to begin voting on the budget in May.

State Budget Forum

PROFS will host a virtual state budget forum at 12 pm, Friday, May 7. Panelists will include State Senators Jon Erpenbach (D-West Point) and Dale Kooyenga (R-Brookfield) and Jason Stein, research director at the Wisconsin Policy Forum. La Follette School of Public Affairs Director Susan Yackee will moderate the forum. Erpenbach and Kooyenga both serve on the Joint Finance Committee, the committee that crafts the budget after receiving it from the governor. Stein recently co-authored a research report on the state’s disinvestment in public higher education.

Other Legislation

PROFS is carefully monitoring other legislative proposals that affect UW-Madison:

Senate Bill 260, relating to transgender collegiate athletes PROFS registered against this bill. In a public statement, PROFS President Michael Bernard-Donals said the legislation is spiteful and is “designed to create division at a time when we should be ensuring that everyone in our community is treated with dignity and respect.”

Voting legislation A number of bills have been introduced that would significantly curtail the ability of citizens in the state of Wisconsin from participating in elections. PROFS is opposed to any legislation that makes it harder to vote, especially legislation that would directly affect the ability of students at UW-Madison to vote.

Senate Bill 260, relating to OB/GYN training at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics PROFS is registered against this bill which would forbid any employee of UW System or UWHC from performing or assisting in an abortion or training others to perform the procedure. This legislation could threaten the accreditation of UW-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health.

Join PROFS!

PROFS needs the support of ALL faculty to be most successful. If you are not a member, please consider joining today. PROFS is funded entirely through modest monthly contributions from faculty. Complete and email to profs@wisc.edu.

Name _____ Department _____

Last 4 digits of your Social Security number (required by payroll to activate your deduction) _____

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I hereby authorize UW-Madison to deduct from my salary a voluntary contribution to PROFS of one-tenth of one percent of my gross salary for that month. This authorization will remain in effect until PROFS receives a cancellation notice and forwards it to the payroll office.

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