

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.

State Budget Forum, Noon, Friday, May 7

PROFS, the La Follette School of Public Affairs, and ASPRO (Academic Staff Professionals Representation Organization) are hosting a virtual forum to discuss the 2021-23 state budget. This event is open to the public, but registration is required. Questions may be emailed in advance to profs@wisc.edu or submitted online during the discussion. The panel:

- State Senator Jon Erpenbach (D-West Point), member Joint Finance Committee
- <u>State Senator Dale Kooyenga</u> (R-Brookfield), member Joint Finance Committee
- Jason Stein, Research Director at the Wisconsin Policy Forum
- Professor Susan Yackee, Director of the La Follette School of Public Affairs, Moderator

2021-23 Biennial State Budget

The 2021-23 state budget process has been underway for many weeks, but activity will increase greatly this month. Governor Tony Evers submitted his budget plan – one that was very favorable toward UW System – in February. Last week, Republican legislative leaders identified hundreds of items for removal, including borrowing authority for operational expenses at UW System and a plan to expand Bucky's Tuition Promise to all UW System campuses. The GOP leaders said they will craft their own budget bill to forward to Evers for his with partial vetoes or a full veto.

Other Legislation

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

<u>Assembly Bill 195</u> and <u>Senate Bill 323</u>, 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.

<u>Senate Bill 260</u>, relating to OB/GYN training at the University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics PROFS will register 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 would 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 <u>joining</u> today. PROFS is funded entirely through modest monthly contributions from faculty. Complete and email to <u>profs@wisc.edu</u>.

Name	Department	
Last 4 digits of your Social Security number (required by payroll to activate your deduction)		
Date of birth	Signature	

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.

