



Representing UW-Madison Faculty.  
Strengthening Wisconsin.

## November 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 almost 50 years ago, PROFS provides a voice to faculty, allowing them to communicate directly with the governor, legislators, and members of Congress.

### Federal Update

PROFS lobbyist Jack O'Meara was in Washington, DC last week and met with staff from several Wisconsin members of Congress, including Senator Tammy Baldwin and Congressman Mark Pocan. Jack shared some of the information collected as part of the PROFS survey on how federal action is impacting UW-Madison faculty, noting the wide-reaching impact of federal orders on teaching, research, and service.

### Faculty Minimum Workload Policy

The University of Wisconsin System released its draft faculty workload policy (RPD 20-25) last week. As we shared last month, a mandatory faculty workload policy [was included](#) in the state budget that was signed into law in July. The policy, to go into effect next September, will require UW-Madison faculty to teach a minimum of 12 credit hours per academic year, with an additional 3 credit summer minimum for those on 12-month appointments. Faculty may "buy out" some teaching time with research grant money, while department chairs will have a lower minimum.

The draft policy is [here](#), and faculty and instructional staff are encouraged to leave their feedback with UW System [here](#).

PROFS [lobbied](#) against this policy when it was proposed in the budget and communicated our concerns with the workgroup that developed the draft policy. We are reviewing the draft and will continue to advocate for the best possible outcome for UW-Madison faculty.

### Legislation

PROFS is actively lobbying on the following bills:

- Campus speech bills ([AB 501/SB 498](#)), registered against
- MIA Recovery Project ([AB 428/SB 411](#)), registered in favor
- Spinal cord research ([AB 92/SB 99](#)), registered in favor
- UW start date (LRB-2533/1) in favor
- Tuition linked to CPI ([AB 406/SB 399](#)), registered against
- Guns on campus ([AB 427/SB 429](#)), registered in favor.
- Definition of Antisemitism ([AB 446/SB 445](#)), registered against. Our testimony [here](#).
- Restore shared governance to state statutes bills ([AB 586/SB 581](#)), registered in favor
- Restore faculty tenure protections to state statutes bills ([AB 600/SB 590](#)), registered in favor
- Restore UW employee collective bargaining to state statutes ([AB 593/SB 579](#)), no position

### Join PROFS!

PROFS is funded entirely through modest payroll contributions from faculty and needs the support of all faculty to be most successful. Please use the membership form on our [website](#) ([profs.wisc.edu](http://profs.wisc.edu)) to join. New members will receive a PROFS mug as a thank you.



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