

SOME OF THE BAD IDEAS IN THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET

Compiled by AFSCME

1. Jeopardize Wisconsin's 100 year old civil service laws by dismantling the office of state employment relations and creating a personnel office in the Department of Administration (DOA).
2. Make sweeping changes to the structure and substance of Wisconsin's 100 year old and nationally-recognized worker's compensation system. The plan is to split the Worker's Compensation program and move the adjudicatory functions (administrative law Judges) to the Office of Hearings and Appeals (in DOA) while putting the regulatory, customer service, and claims management functions under the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance.
This proposal was put in the budget without consulting with the Workers Compensation Advisory Council, a long-standing joint labor/management body that is duty bound by state statute to oversee workers compensation laws, policies and practice.
3. Privatize the entire UW System and puts the future of 35,000 employees and over 120,000 students at risk.
4. Provide for an unlimited investment of state tax dollars into private K-12 schools - money that comes at the expense of public schools.
5. Cut funding for public schools by \$127 million – about \$150 per student, leaving schools with no way to make up for lost dollars.
6. Privatize long term care services for the elderly and disabled (Family Care), eliminating "IRIS" and cutting SeniorCare.
7. Eliminate 50+ citizen advisory boards and takes away powers of the state DNR and Agriculture Boards, which set natural resource management and agricultural policy for the entire state of Wisconsin.
8. Cut some 400 state employee jobs, including science professionals in the DNR and 60 guard posts in the towers at state correctional facilities.
9. Stop all land purchases for the Stewardship program until 2028, effectively eliminating the wildly popular land conservation program.
10. Borrow \$1.3 billion for transportation projects while making ongoing transfers of money from the state's General Fund - money that would otherwise be earmarked for health care or public education.