Joint Finance Committee Members

Assembly

- Rep. John Nygren (R-Marinette), Co-Chair
- Rep. Amy Loudenbeck (R-Clinton), Vice-Chair
- Rep. Mark Born (R-Beaver Dam)
- Rep. Mike Rohrkaste (R-Neenah)
- Rep. Terry Katsma (R-Oostburg)
- Rep. Shannon Zimmerman (R-River Falls)
- Rep. Chris Taylor (D-Madison)
- Rep. Evan Goyke (D-Milwaukee)

Senate

- Sen. Alberta Darling (R-River Hills), Co-Chair
- Sen. Luther Olsen (R-Ripon), Vice-Chair
- Sen. Tom Tiffany (R-Hazelhurst)
- Sen. Howard Marklein (R-Spring Green)
- Sen. Duey Stroebel (R-Saukville)
- Sen. Devin LeMahieu (R-Oostburg)
- Sen. LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee)
- Sen. Jon Erpenbach (D-Middleton)
Action from week of May 20 2019
Public Library System Aids

- FY19 public library system aid totaled $16,013,100 SEG from the universal service fund
  - Includes $1 million in one-time funding
- Governor’s budget provides $2.5 million SEG in FY20 and $4 million in FY21 above base level funding of $15,013,100 SEG
  - JFC approved $1 million SEG annually above base funding
Agenda for week of May 27 2019
JCF will take action on the budgets of the following agencies:

- District Attorneys
- Public Defender
- Circuit Courts
- University of Wisconsin System
- Natural Resources -- Departmentwide
- Natural Resources -- Environmental Quality

**Tuesday, May 28**

**Thursday, May 30 - TBD**
Criminal Justice Coalition seeking funding for multiple areas including additional ADAs, private bar rate, DOJ, etc.

WCA and the Coalition are requesting $7.5 million over the biennium to offset the increased court-appointed attorney compensation rate (effective January 2020)

The additional funding, if approved, would be distributed through the circuit court support payments
• Cooperative Extension provides education staff to counties for multiple services including agriculture, elderly assistance, economic development, 4-H, and more.

• Funding for Extension educators is a shared partnership between local counties and Cooperative Extension.

• Since 2014, funding reductions have totaled $3.4 million to Cooperative Extension, resulting in a decline of 30 county-based educators.

• The funding reduction has resulted in staff vacancies throughout the state and is manifesting itself in visible county and citizen discontent.
The Governor’s budget provides $1.5 million GPR and 20 positions beginning in 2019-20 and $2 million GPR in 2020-21.

Governor’s budget also requires the Board of Regents to allocate $1.5 million GPR in fiscal year 2019-20 and $2 million GPR annually thereafter for extension county-based agriculture positions.

WCA recommended to the members of the Joint Committee on Finance that they adopt alternative 2 which would fully fund UW-Extension’s expansion proposal by providing $3.375 million in 2019-20 and $4.5 million in 2020-21 and 29 positions for county based extension educators.
• Governor’s budget increased the annual funding level for the program from just under $9.0 million to just under $10.4 million annually.

• Request to JCF: WCA is supporting a stand alone motion being authored by Reps. Novak and Zimmerman increasing the annual funding level for the program from just under $9.0 million to just under $12.4 million.
Tipping Fee Exemption for Waste-to-Energy Facilities

• Request to JCF: WCA is supporting a stand alone motion being authored by Reps. Romain Quinn, Amy Loudenbeck and Sen. Tom Tiffany to exempt the Waste-To-Energy facilities in Barron and La Crosse County from tipping fee payments for up to 30% of the tonnage received.

• This is the same policy and same exemption applied to Material Recovery Facilities (MRF’s) passed by the legislature in the form of 2013 Wisconsin Act 301.
BUDGET
RESOURCES
LFB Website:

www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lfb

• Click “Publications”
• Budget Papers
  • 2019-21 Biennial Budget
    • LFB prepares “budget papers” or summaries
• Each paper includes:
  • Current law or status of item
  • Summary of Governor’s proposal
• Discussion points
• Alternatives
OTHER RESOURCES

• Both The Wheeler Report and WisPolitics also have public websites
  • The Wheeler Report: www.thewheelerrreport.com
  • WisPolitics: www.wispolitics.com

• WisconsinEye: www.wiseye.org
  • WisconsinEye shows committee meeting and the Legislature live

• Wisconsin Counties Association: www.wicounties.org
  • All WCA budget documents and memos are available under the “Legislative” tab
THANKS!

Any questions?

You can also email your questions to any member of the WCA Government Affairs staff.