

WisDems: Fact-checking Walker's latest dishonest ad

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The following is a statement from the Democratic Party of Wisconsin in response to Scott Walker's newest dishonest [ad](#).

“Walker continues desperately trying to rewrite history in his ads. The fact remains that Scott Walker is the most anti-education, anti-healthcare governor in Wisconsin's history, and he has chased his national ambition at the expense of addressing Wisconsin's basic needs. The roads are literally crumbling under Walker's non-leadership. Instead of lashing out with dishonest ads, Walker should just start doing his job. Just getting started? He's been in office for eight years. Enough.” — **TJ Helmstetter, DPW spokesperson for the 2018 gubernatorial election**

CLAIM: “Wisconsin's on a roll. Lower taxes, more money in education, record low unemployment. We're just getting started.”

FACTS:

- State general aid funding for local schools [will be lower](#) in 2018-19 than it was in 2010-11.
- Walker has still not restored schools funding to the levels they were before his record 2011-2013 cuts when adjusted for inflation.
- Because of Walker's failure to fund the schools, communities across the state have [approved referendums](#) to increase their own property taxes in order to maintain the schools.
- School debt has skyrocketed to [\\$1.35 billion](#) under Scott Walker.

- Wisconsin has [trailed the national average](#) in private sector job creation for more than seven straight years – every single quarter since Walker’s first state budget.
- Wisconsin ranks [dead last](#) in the nation for start-up businesses, three years in a row.
- Walker’s tax cuts have been “[Slanted in Favor of those with Highest Incomes.](#)”
- Just getting started? He’s been in office for eight years.

CLAIM: “Our plan reduces student loan debt for graduates working high demand careers here in Wisconsin.”

FACTS:

- Since 2011, Walker has cut [\\$1 billion](#) from higher education including \$795 million from UW campuses and \$203 million from Technical Colleges.
- Nearly 1 million residents in Wisconsin carry a combined [\\$24.4 billion](#) in student loan debt.
- The average student in Wisconsin graduates with [\\$30,000](#) in debt.
- Thousands of eligible UW and Technical College students are being [denied](#) financial aid and put on waitlists because Republicans refuse to fully fund need-based financial aid.
- Scott Walker [opposes](#) a common sense plan to allow student loan borrowers to refinance their loans, just like you can a mortgage.

CLAIM: “It makes youth apprenticeship programs available to 7th and 8th graders.”

FACTS:

- Walker enacted the largest cuts to Wisconsin’s schools, technical colleges and public universities in state history.
- Walker’s 2011-13 budget [cut](#) \$71.6 million from Wisconsin’s technical colleges – about 30% of their funding.

CLAIM: “Our plan [...] helps seniors stay in their home.”

FACTS:

- Walker twice tried to [scale back](#) SeniorCare, Wisconsin’s discount prescription drug program for people over the age of 65.
- Walker’s proposed 2015-17 budget would cut [\\$14 million](#) from Family Care.

- [“Family Care helps older adults and people with disabilities with daily tasks as well as managing chronic conditions, often allowing them to stay in their homes instead of moving to a care facility.”](#)
- Walker proposed cutting Medicaid spending by \$500 Million over two years, with a significant portion coming from Family Care.

CLAIM: “Our plan [...] makes it easier for working families to afford child care.”

FACTS:

- Wisconsin [ranks](#) 39th in the country in pre-K quality.
- Walker’s first budget [proposed](#) cutting funds for 4-year-old kindergarten and Head Start.
- The first budget Walker signed [cut](#) Head Start by 10%.