October 13th

Secretary Mark Hogan
Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation
201 W. Washington Avenue Madison

-hand delivered-

Dear Secretary Hogan,

We are writing to request that, prior to approving the pending contract between the State of Wisconsin and Foxconn, you appear before the Joint Committee on Finance. This $3 billion agreement is unprecedented and deserves the scrutiny of the members of the Wisconsin Legislature’s budget committee. During the Joint Finance Committee’s public hearing on the Foxconn proposal, the answer you provided to questions from elected officials from both parties was, “it will be worked out in the contract.” We all anxiously await answers to our inquiries on behalf of the taxpayers of the state.

We have been told that the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation board is scheduled to vote on a staff “synopsis” of the Foxconn contract on Tuesday, but that even the governing board of WEDC will never see or approve the actual contract language before it is signed. Given the size and risk of this endeavor, that decision appears unprecedented.

Clearly the contract is done. It should be available to the public and should be discussed in the legislature’s Joint Committee on Finance because of the significant impact the agreement will have on our state budgets for years to come. We would like you to appear before the committee prior to the contract being signed so that we are able to fully understand the risks and liabilities for our state in this deal.

Sincerely,

JON ERPENBACH
State Senator
27th District

CHRIS TAYLOR
State Representative
76th District

LEN A TAYLOR
State Senator
4th District

KATRINA SHANKLAND
State Representative
71st District

cc - Senator Alberta Darling, Representative John Nygren