



John Nygren

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ 89TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Finance

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Rep. John Nygren Reacts to Evers' Prosecutor Allocation

Rep. John Nygren (R-Marinette), Assembly Co-Chair of the Joint Committee on Finance, released the following statement after Gov. Evers announced the allocations of new prosecutor positions across the state:

“While adding additional prosecutors to DA offices across the state will go a long way toward improving public safety, I am once again disappointed that Gov. Evers is choosing Milwaukee and Madison at the expense of the rest of the state.”

The budget passed by the Legislature utilized a Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) needs assessment when determining how to allocate new prosecutor positions. The Governor vetoed the county-by-county allocation for 35 of 65 new positions in the budget and instead allowed unelected bureaucrats to determine the distribution of new prosecutors.

“As rural Wisconsin continues to deal with the scourge of the opiate and methamphetamine epidemics, the best thing the Governor could have done was leave the Legislature’s allocations alone. The plan we passed as part of the budget came directly from a coalition of prosecutors who worked together for over a year using LAB’s needs assessment. Not only does the Governor’s action ignore prosecutors around the state, it puts politics ahead of public safety.”

According to a Legislative Audit Bureau analysis, Milwaukee and Dane County District Attorney offices are staffed at 115% and 85% for their respective workloads, which are among the highest in the state. Budget recommendations from the Wisconsin District Attorneys Association recommended zero new positions for these two counties.

“As passed, our budget provided much-needed personnel to the Fond du Lac, Monroe, Manitowoc, Marathon and Sheboygan County DA offices, whose staffing levels hovered around 60% or less for the workload. Shockingly, the Governor decided to slash a whole position from Monroe County, which currently has only 41% of the staff needed to meet its workload.”

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