STATE OF WISCONSIN

SENATE CHAIR Howard Marklein

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Joint Committee on Finance

April 20, 2021

(Delivered Electronically)

Senator Jon Erpenbach Senator LaTonya Johnson Representative Evan Goyke Representative Greta Neubauer

Dear Sen. Erpenbach, Sen. Johnson, Rep. Goyke and Rep. Neubauer:

Thank you for your letter to request additional virtual public hearings on the 2021-23 state budget.

While registration for the first-ever Virtual Public Hearing of the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC) scheduled for April 28, 2021 reached capacity within minutes of opening, it is certainly not the first, nor the only, opportunity for the people of Wisconsin to provide input on the state budget. As you know, the Public Hearing in Whitewater on April 9, 2021 was very well attended and we look forward to robust turn-out at our upcoming hearings in Rhinelander and Menomonie later this week before we host the Virtual Public Hearing.

In addition, like you, most members of the legislature have hosted listening sessions throughout our legislative districts, both in person and virtually. We have also provided an online portal, direct email address and a mailing address for citizens to provide input directly to the JFC. This testimony will be circulated to all of us. As always, all constituents are welcome to connect directly with their own legislators with their input on the biennial budget.

Again, we look forward to listening to testimony in Rhinelander, Menomonie and virtually over the next two weeks. We also look forward to reviewing all of the ideas and input submitted to the committee in writing. We encourage all citizens of Wisconsin to share their ideas as we prepare a responsible budget that respects taxpayers while investing in our shared priorities.

Please share the following contact information with constituents as they reach out to provide input to the committee:

Website: <u>https://legis.wisconsin.gov/topics/budgetcomments/</u> E-Mail Address: <u>Budget.Comments@legis.wisconsin.gov</u> Mailing Address: Room 305 East, State Capitol, Madison, WI 53702

Sincerely,

Joward & Marklin

Howard Marklein Senate Chair

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Mark Born Assembly Chair

ASSEMBLY CHAIR Mark Born

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