## Co-chair

## JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Co-chair

STATE SENATOR ERIC WIMBERGER

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT WITTKE

May 25, 2023 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **CONTACT:** 

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## Department Of Administration Withheld Information from Legislative Audit Bureau

MADISON — Joint Legislative Audit Co-Chairs Senator Eric Wimberger (R-Green Bay) and Representative Robert Wittke (R-Racine) released the following statement after receiving nearly 300 pages of documents from the Department of Administration (DOA) in response to an open records request asking for the same information the Legislative Audit Bureau requested to complete <u>Audit Report 22-23</u>. In that report, DOA stated they had no relevant materials pertaining to how to allocate federal supplemental funding received in response to the pandemic.

"After months of waiting and the DOA continuously stating they have no relevant records, today, we delivered nearly 300 pages of documents to the LAB so they can assess next steps and continue their work," said Wimberger. "This highlights the important work this committee and the audit bureau are doing to ensure government transparency and accountability."

The LAB requested initial funding requests, agendas and minutes of meetings that discussed the use of the funds, planning worksheets, one-page summary documents describing the use of the funds, and written approvals from the Governor's Office on how to allocate \$412.6 million for nine state programs included in LAB's review.

"I'm frustrated by the lack of response to very specific questions about how the DOA made supplemental funding decisions and who was involved. Where is the evidence of public meetings on any decision? We will continue to pursue evidence and shine a light on the lack of transparency of this administration," said Wittke.

Copies of LAB reports may be obtained from its website at <a href="https://legis.wisconsin.gov/lab">https://legis.wisconsin.gov/lab</a> or by calling (608) 266-2818. To report concerns related to state government activities, call LAB's toll-free hotline at 1-877-FRAUD-17.

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