



Resolution On The 2015-17 State Budget

1 **WHEREAS**, The University of Wisconsin System of Colleges and Universities (Hereafter UW System)
2 provides quality education to 136,357 instate residents and 43,453 out of state residents.

3 **WHEREAS**, The UW System’s mission states, “The mission of the University of Wisconsin System is to
4 develop human resources, to discover and disseminate knowledge, to extend knowledge and its
5 application beyond the boundaries of its campuses, and to serve and stimulate society by developing in
6 students heightened intellectual, cultural, and humane sensitivities, scientific, professional and
7 technological expertise, and a sense of purpose. Inherent in this broad mission are methods of instruction,
8 research, extended training, and public service designed to educate people and improve the human
9 condition. Basic to every purpose of the UW System is the search for truth.”

10 **WHEREAS**, According to North Star Economics Inc., the UW System contributes 15 billion dollars to
11 Wisconsin’s economy annually.

12 **WHEREAS**, The state of Wisconsin currently contributes only 1.2 billion dollars to the UW System.

13 **WHEREAS**, The Division of Occupational Employment Projections predicts, “Occupations that typically
14 require a master’s degree for entry are projected to grow the fastest during the 2012–22 decade, followed
15 by associate’s degree and doctoral or professional degree occupations.”

16 **WHEREAS**, The Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce states, “By 2018, the
17 (U.S.) economy will create 46.8 million openings—13.8 million brand-new jobs and 33 million
18 replacement jobs, positions vacated by workers who have retired or permanently left their occupations.
19 Nearly two-thirds of these 46.8 million jobs, some 63 percent, will require workers with at least some
20 college education. About 33 percent will require a Bachelor’s degree or better, while 30 percent will
21 require some college or a two-year Associate’s degree... Essentially, postsecondary education or training
22 has become the threshold requirement for access to middle-class status and earnings in good times and in
23 bad. It is no longer the preferred pathway to middle-class jobs—it is, increasingly, the only pathway.”

24 **WHEREAS**, The proposed changes to UW System’s structure to a “public authority” would jeopardize
25 the existence and relevance chapter 36.09(5), the statute that allows students to govern their fees and have
26 authority in University decisions.

27 **WHEREAS**, Cuts in state funding to UW System coupled with tuition freezes will only result in essential
28 University programs being cut, loss of staff, and the quality of education and student life diminishing
29 within UW System institutions.

30 **WHEREAS**, The proposed cut of 300 million dollars over two years to UW System’s state funding
31 would be the largest budget cut the UW System has ever experienced.

32 **WHEREAS**, According to the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, the proposed cuts would result in nearly 40
33 million dollars in cuts to the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee (hereafter UWM) over two years, the

35 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;** That the students of UWM officially denounce Governor Scott
36 Walker’s proposed 300 million dollar budget cut to UW System and the reformation of UW system from
37 a state entity to a public authority.

38 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED;** That the students of UWM encourage members of the
39 state legislature and Governor Walker to invest in the UW System or find definite funding models that
40 will not result in the stagnation or destruction of academic and student life programs within UW System.

41 **THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED;** That this resolution will be forwarded to the office of
42 UWM Chancellor, Mark Mone, the office of UW System President, Ray Crosse, the office of President of
43 the Board of Regents, Michael Falbo, the office of Senator Sheila Harsdorf, the office of Senator Stephen
44 L. Nass, the office of Representative Jonathan Brostoff, the office of Senator Lena Taylor, the office of
45 Representative John Nygren, the office of Senator Alberta Darling, the office of the Speaker of the
46 Assembly, Robin Vos, and the office of the Governor of the State of Wisconsin, Scott Walker. A formal
47 response is requested from the above-mentioned parties and should be submitted to the UWM Student
48 Association within 30 days of receiving this resolution.

Ryan Sorenson
Student Association President

Date

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Legislative History

01,08,2014 – Introduced by Senator Tabat. Cosponsored by Senator Allen. Supported by Vice President of Student Affairs, Braun.