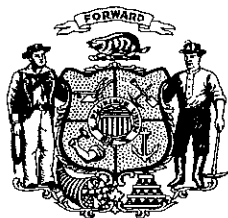


STATE OF WISCONSIN

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Joint Committee on Finance

December 16, 2019

Tony Evers, Governor
Delivered via E-Mail

Dear Governor Evers,

On February 21, 2019, prior to introduction of your budget recommendations, Republicans introduced a package of bills based on recommendations from the Interagency Council on Homelessness's 2019-2020 Statewide Action Plan. Respecting the legislative process, the Joint Committee on Finance, in its budget, set aside funding for the bills in the Committee's supplemental appropriation. You signed this budget into law on July 3, 2019. This process is neither unusual nor unprecedented.

As of today, these bills are still working through the normal legislative process. This process has brought forward legitimate concerns with the bills that need to be addressed, something the Committee cannot do in a §13.10 meeting.

It has been long-standing practice that the Co-Chairs work with the Department of Administration (DOA) in scheduling §13.10 meetings. Your letter today is an unfortunate step in the opposite direction. Prior to your letter, the Co-chairs of the Committee were working towards scheduling a quarterly §13.10 meeting in early January. This will continue to be the case and we will not be meeting on Thursday as you dictated in your letter.

It has also come to our attention that DOA has contacted both Legislative Fiscal Bureau and the Committee's clerk about DOA's intention to notice for a meeting on Thursday. A meeting of the Committee can only be noticed with the approval of the Committee's Co-Chairs. A meeting will not be held without the Co-Chair's approval. Such unprecedented action by your administration can only be seen as a disregard for a co-equal branch of government and will have a chilling effect on our ability to work together.

Handwritten signature of Alberta Darling in cursive script.

Alberta Darling
Senate Chair

Handwritten signature of John Nygren in cursive script.

John Nygren
Assembly Chair

AD:JN:nes

cc: Members, Joint Committee on Finance
Robert Lang, Director, Legislative Fiscal Bureau
Brian Pahnke, Department of Administration