

Republicans Vote to Give Themselves Rescue Money

Written by Melissa Agard Press

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\$5.7 billion of federal American Rescue Plan funds would be controlled by the Legislature, not the Governor, under GOP plan.

MADISON- Today, Wisconsin Republicans passed SB 183, a bill that would give the legislature oversight on \$5.7 billion of federal funds provided to the state through the American Rescue Plan, despite Governor Evers' promise to veto the bill. Senator Melissa Agard (D-Madison) released the following statement regarding the vote today:



"We have seen throughout this pandemic that steady, consistent leadership is the formula that creates positive results for our community, our state, and our country. This is what President Biden and Governor Evers have exhibited in their response to the COVID-19 pandemic. You only have to look at the numbers in Wisconsin where we are at the top of the country for vaccine distribution. Our COVID cases, deaths, and hospitalizations are all plummeting. Nationally, President Biden has supercharged our vaccine roll out to the point where we are

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among the best in the world.

“So what did Republicans do today in the Senate to support these successful efforts? They passed a bill that would take away authority from Governor Evers and give it to themselves despite a track record of inaction. This is the same party who led the least active legislature in the country during a global pandemic. This is the same political party whose entire congressional delegation voted against bringing \$5.7 billion dollars to Wisconsin under the American Rescue Plan.

“This is disgraceful political theater at its worst. While we know Governor Evers will, thankfully, veto this bill - it is shocking that Republicans would risk delaying these funds getting to the families, businesses, and local governments that desperately need them. No group has less credibility on COVID response than Wisconsin Republicans. Period.

“In 2020, Governor Evers administered the CARES Act funds effectively and efficiently. His steady leadership helped guide us through one of the most difficult times in our state's history. He did this without grandstanding. Governor Evers simply acted in the best interest of our state. It's time for Republicans in Wisconsin to follow his lead.”