



# CHRIS LARSON

## STATE SENATOR

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 2, 2017

**CONTACT:** Senator Chris Larson

608.266.7505

### **Senator Chris Larson Calls on U.S. Senator Ron Johnson to Oppose DeVos Nomination**

Madison, WI – Senator Chris Larson released the following statement urging U.S. Senator Ron Johnson to oppose the nomination of Betsy DeVos as U.S. Secretary of Education.

“Each of our children deserves a quality education. Unfortunately, here in Wisconsin we know the devastating consequences of DeVos-style slash and burn policies that leave schools and children behind.

“Our traditional neighborhood schools have been severely and intentionally underfunded for the last six years. At the same time, unaccountable voucher profiteers have been handed more and more of our scarce public resources with little oversight and no accountability. In this hasty stampede to the bank, they have trampled our children’s future.

“As the state with the longest-running voucher program in the country, Wisconsin has seen its blatant failure. The facts don’t lie; despite the extra costs, students in voucher schools perform no better, and in many cases worse, than their traditional public school counterparts. In Michigan, where DeVos doled out millions in campaign contributions to pro-voucher politicians, a similar negative effect has been seen.

“Betsy DeVos has proven that she supports the same kind of irresponsible policies that have and will continue to hurt the children of our great state. We cannot subject more of our nation’s schoolchildren to the same destructive patterns. Senator Johnson has a sworn duty and obligation to our community and to each of our children to oppose the nomination of Betsy DeVos.

“If Senator Johnson chooses to cynically reject the will of the people by voting to confirm Betsy DeVos as Education Secretary, he will be to blame for hurting our children’s futures.”

###

WISCONSIN STATE CAPITOL

P.O. BOX 7882 • MADISON, WISCONSIN 53707-7882  
(608) 266-7505 • (800) 361-5487 • FAX: (608) 282-3547  
SEN.LARSON@LEGIS.WI.GOV • SENATORCHRISLARSON.COM

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER