



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rep. Emerson Unveils Proposal aimed at Restoring Shared Governance to UW-System

MADISON –Today, State Representatives Jodi Emerson (D-Eau Claire), Dianne Hesselbein (D-Middleton), and Shelia Stubbs (D-Madison) and Senators Jennifer Shilling (D-La Crosse) and Fred Risser (D-Madison) unveiled a proposal aimed at restoring shared governance to the University of Wisconsin system.

2015 Wisconsin Act 55 eliminated statutory language allowing shared governance on University of Wisconsin campuses by faculty, staff, and students. Their roles were downgraded from “active participants” to “advisory to the chancellor.” This bill reverses those changes and restores the previous language.

The restored language states that the faculty “shall actively participate in institutional policy development,” and “shall have the primary responsibility for academic and educational activities and faculty personnel matters.” Academic staff and students are likewise made “active participants,” responsible for policies governing staff and student life.

“This is a bi-partisan issue that both sides of the aisle can agree on and support. Shared governance is a strong recruitment and retention tool for the University that will help us continue to attract and retain top talent across the state ” said Rep. Emerson.

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