



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

November 24, 2020

President Donald J. Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest  
Washington, District of Columbia 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of our constituents, we are writing to respectfully request 100 percent funding of the Wisconsin National Guard through June 30, 2021, under Section 502(f)(2)(A) of Title 32 of the U.S. Code, to assist with Wisconsin's COVID-19 response.

Wisconsin is currently experiencing a drastic spike in new COVID-19 cases similar to that of the states of Texas and Florida at the time they were approved to receive 100 percent funding. Full funding would also be entirely consistent with longstanding past practice. Most importantly, the missions being accomplished by the Wisconsin National Guard directly support your Opening Up America Again initiative and are instrumental in the extensive and prolonged response effort to reopen our state.

The Wisconsin National Guard continues to play a leading role in combating COVID-19 in Wisconsin, and it is fully integrated throughout Wisconsin's State Emergency Operation Center. The Guard is currently operating 11 field testing teams and a results notification call center utilizing over 600 service members, working throughout the state, to provide both community and targeted field testing and notification support. We further expect to utilize the Guard in our vaccination distribution and administration plans. These needs will continue statewide through the end of June 2021.

FEMA is authorized to increase the federal cost-share to 100 percent for emergency work, including Direct Federal Assistance, "if warranted by the needs of the disaster." 44 CFR§206.47(d). We believe that the unprecedented size, scale, and duration of COVID-19 impacts far exceed the response capabilities of the State of Wisconsin and warrants the full force and support of the federal government. Support from the federal government in the form of an extension of Section 502(f)(2)(A) is essential for continued success.

-OVER-

The people of Wisconsin are depending on the Guard's enduring involvement in the State's fight against COVID-19. Fully funding the Wisconsin National Guard under Section 502(f)(2)(A) will allow our men and women in uniform to continue this good work.

Thank you for your careful consideration and subsequent approval of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Bewley".

Janet Bewley  
Senate Minority Leader  
25<sup>th</sup> Senate District

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gordon Hintz".

Gordon Hintz  
Assembly Minority Leader  
54<sup>th</sup> Assembly District