



SCOTT FITZGERALD

SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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Sen. Fitzgerald: “Show Us the Contracts”

MADISON, WI - Democrats in charge of the state Capitol are rushing to pass through state employee contracts at the 11th hour, and they’re keeping the price tag a secret.

Today, state Senator Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau) called on Democrat leaders to, at the very least, release the details of the state employee contracts to allow legislators and the public to see the real impact of the deals being cut behind closed doors.

“When you’re in a hole, like Wisconsin is right now, everyone knows you have to stop digging. But right now we can’t even see how deep this hole is going to get,” Fitzgerald said.

Several of the state employee unions are reportedly already on board. The website of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union (AFSCME) includes a “special announcement” on November 24 that their bargaining teams reached a tentative agreement. The union’s bargaining unit conference delegates will meet in Madison on Tuesday to review the terms of the agreement and decide whether to support it, with ballots due back on December 10. (<http://www.wseu-24.org/>)

Wisconsin is estimated to be facing at least a \$150 million budget shortfall in the current biennium, and a \$3.3 billion structural deficit on day one of the next budget.

“If the deals have been cut and the lame-duck session is already in motion, what’s the need for all the secrecy? The taxpayers - the ones actually paying the bills - deserve some transparency here,” Fitzgerald said.

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