



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Katrina Shankland
71st ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

December 10, 2018

Governor Scott Walker
Office of the Governor
PO Box 7863
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Governor Walker:

As you are aware, the lame duck legislative session has attracted significant statewide, national, and international attention. This is no coincidence: it's completely unprecedented for the Wisconsin State Legislature to convene a lame duck session to erode the powers of the executive branch and attorney general in perpetuity. These bills have cast Wisconsin in a shameful light, and I'm embarrassed by the attention we've received for all the wrong reasons. **I am writing to respectfully request that you veto all the lame duck bills that passed on Wednesday.**

Not only is this an abuse of power, but the fast-tracked legislative lame duck session provided little opportunity for the public to weigh in. These bills were introduced late Friday afternoon, and the public hearing and committee vote was on Monday. They advanced to the Senate and Assembly without any fiscal estimates, and the legislature debated and amended these bills in the dark of night on Tuesday into Wednesday while everyone else was sleeping. This process was disturbing and undemocratic, and the policies will leave an abject stain on your legacy as governor.

Prior to becoming governor, you wrote a letter urging the current governor to abstain from making any appointments or last-minute legislative changes. Given the 82 last-minute appointments you made in the lame duck session, you should recognize that this is the height of hypocrisy. Signing these lame duck bills into law would further damage your credibility on the use of an outgoing governor's authority. I've heard from hundreds of people across the state, of all political stripes, who are strongly opposed to the lame duck legislation and who are aghast at the desperation of the legislators who fast-tracked these bills. I am pleading with you to do the right thing and allow Wisconsin some dignity and decency as you finish out the last month of your term as governor.

Respect the will of the voters who spoke loud and clear in November and veto these bills, Governor Walker. If this were truly a priority for your legislative colleagues, they would have acted to erode the powers of the executive branch and attorney general over the last eight years that they have had complete control of state government. It's clear this is nothing more than an ugly attempt to override the will of voters, and you have the power to do the right thing. *Use it.* Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Katrina Shankland
State Representative
71st Assembly District