WHEREAS, The University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire (UW - Eau Claire) Student Senate is the official voice of the student body; and

WHEREAS, on September 28, 2021, a piece of legislation was introduced to the Wisconsin State Assembly, titled “Assembly Bill 411”; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 411 was written as “An Act to amend 118.57 (title) and 119.04 (1); and to create 118.018, 118.40 (2r) (b) 2. m., 118.40 (2x) (d) 3., 118.40 (2x) (d) 3. and 118.57 (1m) of the statutes; Relating to: anti-racism and anti-sexism pupil instruction and anti-racism and anti-sexism training for employees of school districts and independent charter schools. (FE)”; and

WHEREAS, this piece of legislation is intended to prohibit the teaching of anti-racism and anti-sexism ideologies in public K-12 Wisconsin schools and independent charter schools in the state; and

WHEREAS, banning public K-12 school districts from determining their curriculum encroaches on their autonomy to academic freedoms; and

WHEREAS, although not explicitly mentioned within the legislation, but in an addendum to the written testimony, this bill is aimed to prohibit the teaching of Critical Race Theory and gender inequality within the classroom; and

WHEREAS, the bill, introduced by Representative Chuck Wichgers, Assembly Member for District 83, stated that if passed, it would allow parents to state that, “You cannot teach my child something that is against the values we teach at home as a fact when it is theoretical, philosophical, religious. You can’t do that.”; and

WHEREAS, if passed, terms and concepts that would be prohibited through the above clauses, as written by Representative Wichgers in an addendum to his testimony includes: Critical Race Theory (CRT), Action Civics, Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), Culturally responsive teaching, Abolitionist teaching, Affinity groups, Anti-racism, Anti-bias training, Anti-blackness, Anti-meritocracy, Obtuse meritocracy, Centering or de-centering, Collective guilt, Colorism, Conscious and unconscious bias, Critical ethnic studies, Critical pedagogy, Critical self-awareness, Critical self-reflection, Cultural appropriation/misappropriation, Cultural awareness, Cultural competence, Cultural proficiency, Cultural relevance, Cultural responsiveness, Culturally responsive practices, De-centering whiteness, Deconstruct knowledges, Diversity focused, Diversity training, Dominant discourses, Educational justice, Equitable, Equity, Examine “systems”, Free radical therapy, Free radical

1https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2021/related/proposals/ab411
self/collective care, Hegemony, Identity deconstruction, Implicit/Explicit bias, Inclusivity
education, Institutional bias, Institutional oppression, Internalized racial superiority, Internalized
racism, Internalized white supremacy, Interrupting racism, Intersection, Intersectionality,
Intersectional identities, Intersectional studies, Land acknowledgment, Marginalized identities,
Marginalized/Minoritized/Under-represented communities, Microaggressions, Multiculturalism,
Neo-segregation, Normativity, Oppressor vs. oppressed, Patriarchy, Protect vulnerable identities,
Race essentialism, Racial healing, Racialized identity, Racial justice, Racial prejudice, Racial
sensitivity training, Racial supremacy, Reflective exercises, Representation and inclusion,
Restorative justice, Restorative practices, Social justice, Spirit murdering, Structural bias,
Structural inequity, Structural racism, Systemic bias, Systemic oppression, Systemic racism,
Systems of power and oppression, Unconscious bias, White fragility, White privilege, White
social capital, White supremacy, Whiteness, Woke3; and

WHEREAS, upon introduction to the Wisconsin State Assembly, it passed with a vote of
60 – 38 – 1, with all affirmative votes resulting from Republican State Representatives; and
WHEREAS, following passage, it is now sent to the Wisconsin State Senate where it will be
introduced and voted on; and

WHEREAS, UW - Eau Claire has committed themselves to “bringing needed change to
the UW - Eau Claire campus and our community as well as how they’re helping students
broaden their perspectives and better understand their own experiences”4 through incorporating
culture and social justice into their curriculum; and

WHEREAS, as an institution founded in 1916 under the name “Eau Claire State Normal
School”, that was established to grant one-, two and three- year courses in the degree of teaching
and to continue the legacy of advocating for teachers in the K-12 public Wisconsin School
system; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 413, while still in the Committee review phase, pertains to
the content and nature of Assembly Bill 411, and will directly impact the University of
Wisconsin System; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the UW - Eau Claire Student Senate to advocate for and
against state policies that could affect the university, its institution, and its current and future
students; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, in order to ensure of an equitable, informed, and
diverse future student body, the UW - Eau Claire Student Senate condemns the nature of this
bill; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, the UW - Eau Claire Student Senate calls on the
Wisconsin State Senate to consider how this bill disproportionally affects not only K-12 students
in the state of Wisconsin, but higher education institutions as well; and

4https://www.uwec.edu/edi-student-affairs/
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if passed within the Senate, the UW - Eau Claire Student Senate calls on the State of Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers to use his powers of veto to ensure that this piece of legislation does not become enacted into law; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that upon passage of this resolution, President Mikoulinskii will transmit a copy to Dr. James Schmidt, Chancellor; LaRue Pierce, Dean of Students; Dr. Patricia Klein, Provost and Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs; Olga Diaz, Vice Chancellor, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Student Affairs; Grace Crickette, Vice Chancellor, Finance and Administration; William Felz, Interim Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management; Kristin Schumacher, Director, University Centers; Grace Arrigoni, Student Body President, UW-Eau Claire-Barron County; Evan Weiher, Chair, University Senate; Nicole Owen, Chair, University Staff Council; Jake Wrasse, Liaison, Legislative and Community Relations; Brianna Tucker, Student Regent, UW System Board of Regents; Edmund Manydeeds III, President, UW System Board of Regents; Chuck Wichgers, Representative, Wisconsin State Assembly; Jodi Emerson, Representative, Wisconsin State Assembly; Tony Evers, Governor, State of Wisconsin; Melissa Agard, Minority Caucus Vice-Chair, Wisconsin State Senate; Joan Ballweg, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Kathleen Bernier, Majority Caucus Vice-Chair, Wisconsin State Senate; Janet Bewley, Minority Leader, Wisconsin State Senate; Julian Bradley, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Tim Carpenter, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Robert Cowles, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Alberta Darling, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Jon Erpenbach, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Mary Felzkowski, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Dan Feyen, Assistant Majority Leader, Wisconsin State Senate; André Jacque, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; John Jagler, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; LaTonya Johnson, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Chris Kapenga, President, Wisconsin State Senate; Dale Kooyenga, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Chris Larson, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Devin LeMahieu, Majority Leader, Wisconsin State Senate; Howard Marklein, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Stephen Nass, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Jerry Petrowski, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Brad Pfaff, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Janis Ringhand, Assistant Minority Leader, Wisconsin State Senate; Roger Roth, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Kelda Roys, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Jeff Smith, Minority Caucus Chair, Wisconsin State Senate; Rob Stafsholt, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Duey Stroebel, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Lena Taylor, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Patrick Testin, President Pro Tempore, Wisconsin State Senate; Van Wanggaard, Majority Caucus Chair, Wisconsin State Senate; Eric Winberger, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Robert Wirch, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate; Dr. Rose Marie-Avin, Director, Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program; Louisa Rice, Chair, History Department; Geoffrey Peterson, Chair, Political Science Department; Debra K. Barker, Director, American Indian Studies Department; Jan Stirm, Chair, English Department; Pamela J. Forman, Chair, Sociology Department; Jan Larson, Chair, Communication and Journalism Department; Jeffrey Goodman, Chair, Psychology Department; Carmen Manning, Dean, Teacher Education Department; John Mann, Chair, History Department; Leah Olson-McBride, Chairperson, Social Work Department; Dang Yang, Director, Office of Multicultural Affairs; Dr. Heather Ann Moody, Associate Professor, American Indian Studies; Peter Hart-Brinson, Associate Professor, Sociology Department; Selika Ducksworth-Lawton, Professor, History Department. Demetrius Smith, Director, Blugold Beginnings.
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