

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-EAU CLAIRE
STUDENT SENATE RESOLUTION

IN CONDEMNATION OF WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE BILL 411

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

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

5 WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 411 was written as “An Act to amend 118.57 (title) and
6 119.04 (1); and to create 118.018, 118.40 (2r) (b) 2. m., 118.40 (2r) (d) 3., 118.40 (2x) (b) 2. m.,
7 118.40 (2x) (d) 3. and 118.57 (1m) of the statutes; Relating to: anti-racism and anti-sexism pupil
8 instruction and anti-racism and anti-sexism training for employees of school districts and
9 independent charter schools. (FE)”¹; and

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

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

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

18 WHEREAS, the bill, introduced by Representative Chuck Wichgers, Assembly Member
19 for District 83, stated that if passed, it would allow parents to state that, “You cannot teach my
20 child something that is against the values we teach at home as a fact when it is theoretical,
21 philosophical, religious. You can’t do that.”²; and

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

¹<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2021/related/proposals/ab411>

²https://madison.com/ct/news/local/govt-and-politics/wisconsin-assembly-passes-bills-banning-critical-race-theory-in-schools-government-training/article_58a1caac-ba2a-5325-bf34-c97b240e61fe.html

33 self/collective care, Hegemony, Identity deconstruction, Implicit/Explicit bias, Inclusivity
34 education, Institutional bias, Institutional oppression, Internalized racial superiority, Internalized
35 racism, Internalized white supremacy, Interrupting racism, Intersection, Intersectionality,
36 Intersectional identities, Intersectional studies, Land acknowledgment, Marginalized identities,
37 Marginalized/Minoritized/Under-represented communities, Microaggressions, Multiculturalism,
38 Neo-segregation, Normativity, Oppressor vs. oppressed, Patriarchy, Protect vulnerable identities,
39 Race essentialism, Racial healing, Racialized identity, Racial justice, Racial prejudice, Racial
40 sensitivity training, Racial supremacy, Reflective exercises, Representation and inclusion,
41 Restorative justice, Restorative practices, Social justice, Spirit murdering, Structural bias,
42 Structural inequity, Structural racism, Systemic bias, Systemic oppression, Systemic racism,
43 Systems of power and oppression, Unconscious bias, White fragility, White privilege, White
44 social capital, White supremacy, Whiteness, Woke³; and

45 WHEREAS, upon introduction to the Wisconsin State Assembly, it passed with a vote of
46 60 – 38 – 1, with all affirmative votes resulting from Republican State Representatives; and
47 WHEREAS, following passage, it is now sent to the Wisconsin State Senate where it will be
48 introduced and voted on; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

³https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lc/hearing_testimony_and_materials/2021/ab411/ab0411_2021_08_11.pdf

⁴<https://www.uwec.edu/edi-student-affairs/>

69 BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that if passed within the Senate, the UW - Eau Claire
70 Student Senate calls on the State of Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers to use his powers of veto to
71 ensure that this piece of legislation does not become enacted into law; and

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

AUTHORED BY:

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