

Walker's programs greatly benefit Wisconsin

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Elected governor in 2010, Scott Walker faced a \$3.61 billion deficit engineered by the Doyle/Burke borrow and spend administration. In his 2011-13 budget, Gov. Walker instituted Act 10, stopped collective bargaining by public unions, compromised on their pension and health insurance benefits, and created a \$912 million state surplus. Municipal expenditures were reduced, and, in his 2013-15 budget, Walker returned the state surplus to the people in the form of reduced property, withholding and income taxes.

A voucher program was provided for low-income families to send their children to private schools. Private school parents pay taxes that are equivalent to public school parents, so the money is provided appropriately.

On Sept. 15, the Democrats published a Legislative Fiscal Bureau prediction of a \$1.8 billion deficit in the 2015-17 budget. Rep. Nygren (R-Marinette) and Sen. Darling (R-River Hills) responded that the 2015-17 budget hasn't even been drafted and that Wisconsin has a huge rainy day fund. The unbiased Wisconsin Taxpayers Alliance agreed that the new legislature will provide a state surplus by 2017.

Gov. Walker promised 250,000 private sector jobs in his first term. Mary Burke criticizes him because only 100,000 jobs were provided. The Democrats intentionally neglect the fact that businesses were cautious because of the turmoil of the 2012 recall and erratic economic policies of Obama.

Walker allowed the federal government to set up Affordable Care Act insurance exchanges for Wisconsin and avoided a financial state burden. To assure citizens of health insurance, he adjusted the poverty level so 57,000 people were eligible for federal subsidies and guaranteed Medicaid for 97,000 people below the poverty level. Wisconsin was the only state that had no gaps in Medicaid coverage.

Burke would expand the ACA, eliminate the vouchers program and repeal Act 10. Her vague, 40-page jobs program, published in March, has proven (BuzzFeed Sept. 15) to be a plagiarized conglomeration which was used by at least five other Democratic candidates between 2008 and 2014.

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