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For Immediate Release  
Contact: Stan Johnson, 414-259-1990

**Wealthy Are Again Scott-Free**

MTEA President Mike Langyel issued the following statement in response to Gov. Walker's state budget speech this afternoon.

Just like his budget repair bill, Governor Walker is presenting an extreme solution that goes against the values and traditions of Wisconsin citizens.

In the budget repair bill, Governor Walker went after the bargaining rights of workers who provide important public services at the local, county, and state levels. And voters didn't find out that Walker planned to take away the rights of teachers and other public employees statewide until after he took office.

Governor Walker's budget bill, as outlined today, will impact the lives of school children, senior citizens, those who are disabled, and working families. The governor will make villains out of city and county governments and school boards across the state who will be forced to slash educational opportunities and social services. For the children and most vulnerable citizens of Milwaukee, the bill will be a disaster.

Solving the budget deficit does not require massive cuts that will harm the quality of life for millions of state residents. There are alternatives which the governor should sit down and discuss.

It's time for the powerful corporations and millionaires - who've already recovered from the recession - to pay their fair share. The wealthiest should not be Scott-free once again!

Why not solve the immediate shortfall by a temporary 1.5% income surcharge on the richest of the rich, as suggested by UWM Professor Marc Levine?

Why not have Wisconsin corporations pay the national average for state and local taxes? This would generate \$2.6 billion to reduce the budget deficit over the next two years.

This is about the future of our state's working families and the most vulnerable members of our society - the children and the disabled. The Walker budget is a devastating and unnecessary assault that once again leaves his wealthy backers untouched.

Wisconsin's governor should stop dictating and start discussing real solutions. Scott Walker should engage in the debate that democracy demands.

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