

## Illinois Billionaire Spending Millions to Buy Election for Nicholson

Written by Democratic Party of Wisconsin, Brad Bainum  
Tuesday, 10 April 2018 16:58 -

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MADISON - "Outside spending in [the Wisconsin U.S. Senate race] likely is 'unprecedented' for a U.S. Senate campaign, excluding special elections, at this stage," according to a new report from [the Wisconsin State Journal](#).



And it turns out that most of those millions have been directed towards either attacking **U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin** or promoting corporate consultant **Kevin Nicholson**, who's competing with **state Sen. Leah Vukmir** for the Republican Party's nomination.

Key Points:

**Tammy Baldwin remains a top target of right-wing billionaire megadonors like the Koch brothers and Illinois billionaire Dick Uihlein:**

- "A broader view of outside spending in the race, based on data provided by Democratic and Republican sources in Wisconsin, **puts the total amount spent at more than \$13 million**."
- "Meanwhile, **Baldwin, D-Madison, has faced a negative ad blitz** that so far dwarfs any other U.S. Senate incumbent seeking re-election this fall."

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*, the Center for Responsive Politics data show."*

- *"Much of the anti-Baldwin ad barrage comes from groups funded by the billionaire Koch brothers, among the nation's most prolific donors to conservative and Republican political causes."*

**Illinois billionaire Dick Uihlein-funded outside groups have already "spent more than \$5 million" on TV and radio ads to buy Kevin Nicholson a U.S. Senate seat:**

- *"Outside groups have spent nearly \$5 million to support Nicholson"*  
- *"Nearly all of the pro-Nicholson ads come from super PACs funded largely by Uihlein."*  
- *"America's PAC and Restoration PAC, **super PACs funded almost entirely by Uihlein, together have spent more than \$5 million to back Nicholson or oppose Baldwin***  
*, according to the center."*

- *"Uihlein made a huge early splash for Nicholson when he pledged \$3.5 million to a super PAC supporting him...He also has given \$850,000 to John Bolton Super PAC, affiliated with President Donald Trump's incoming national security adviser."*  
- **"The pro-Nicholson spending spree has helped make Uihlein the top national donor to outside groups in the 2018 cycle so far ."**

**Read more -- [Wisconsin State Journal: 'Unprecedented' outside spending hits Tammy Baldwin, boosts Kevin Nicholson in US Senate race](#)**