



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION
2244 THE U 1705 BADGER STREET LA CROSSE, WI 54601 (608) 785-8775

SA1920-021: Resolution Endorsing the Reaching Higher for Higher Ed Bill Package

DATE: 10/22/2019

AUTHOR(S): Alex Becker

SPONSOR(S): Legislative Affairs Committee, Isabelle Lyon, Evelyn Yuengst, K.C. Cayo, Brice Hansen, Isaac Ozolins

WHEREAS college affordability and accessibility are critical in Wisconsin and allow citizens to receive higher education and advance the Wisconsin Idea; and

WHEREAS between 2011 and 2017, the cumulative cuts to the UW-System have totaled over \$795 million and have limited several institutions' abilities to support students, as well as recruit and retain quality academic faculty; and

WHEREAS the effects of the UW-System budget cuts include reduced class offerings, limited support programs, increased class sizes, and reduced professor and student contact time – all resulting in increased time for students to earn a degree at UW – La Crosse; and

WHEREAS a continued tuition freeze will require a substantial state funding increase over the next biennium to meet the future needs of the UW-System and offset previous funding cuts System-wide; and

WHEREAS increased funding to the UW-System is essential to meet the needs of the Wisconsin workforce, to raise awareness of high-demand fields, and to keep Wisconsin students in Wisconsin rather than losing them to neighboring states; and

WHEREAS upon passage of AB-387, starting in the 2021-22 academic year, no freeze on the amount the Board of Regents may charge for resident undergraduate tuition at UW System institutions may take effect unless the freeze is offset by a corresponding increase in the amount of GPR funding appropriated to the Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS upon passage of AB-389, a UW Blue Ribbon Commission would be established to create a set of long-term goals and priorities for higher education; and accessibility and affordability of higher education in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS upon passage of AB-390, the state would provide an additional \$27 million in GPR funding for Wisconsin grants for UW System students in each year of the 2019-21 biennium; and



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WHEREAS upon passage of AB-391, the state would provide full remission of undergraduate tuition to resident undergraduate students enrolled in a teaching program at a UW System school during the student's semester of student teaching; and

WHEREAS upon passage of AB-392, the state would provide an additional \$16.8 million in GPR funding in the 2019-2020 biennium, and \$33.6 million in the 2020-2021 biennium to the UW System; and

WHEREAS the Reaching Higher for Higher Education legislative bill package would greatly increase the quality of education for students at UW – La Crosse, as well as all UW System students.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse Student Association endorses the Reaching Higher for Higher Ed bill package introduced by Representative Shankland and Senator Hansen;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse Student Association calls on the Wisconsin State Assembly, and the Wisconsin State Senate, to pass this package of bills (AB-387, AB-388, AB-389, AB-390, AB-391, and AB-392) and adequately fund the UW System on top of the tuition freeze already in place.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon passage by the UWL Student Senate, a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the offices of Governor Tony Evers, Lieutenant Governor Mandela Barnes, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, Assembly Majority Leader Jim Steinke, Assembly Minority Leader Gordon Hintz, Senate President Roger Roth, Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald, Senate Minority Leader Jennifer Shilling, University of Wisconsin Board of Regents President Petersen, University of Wisconsin System President Ray Cross, Representative Katrina Shankland, Senator Dave Hansen, members of the Joint Committee on Finance, members of the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities, members of the Senate Committee on Universities, Technical Colleges, Children and Families, and the UW System Student Representatives.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dana Nielsen'.

Dana Nielsen
President, Student Senate
Vice President, Student Association

11-06-2019

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sita Agterberg'.

Sita Agterberg
President, Student Association

11-06-2019

Date



2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 387

August 28, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives SHANKLAND, SKOWRONSKI, ANDERSON, BILLINGS, BOWEN, CABRERA, EMERSON, FIELDS, HESSELBEIN, KOLSTE, NEUBAUER, SARGENT, SINICKI, SPREITZER, STUBBS, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, VRUWINK, ZAMARRIPA and BROSTOFF, cosponsored by Senators HANSEN, LARSON, RINGHAND, SCHACHTNER, SMITH and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 36.27 (1m) of the statutes; **relating to:** resident undergraduate
2 tuition freezes for the University of Wisconsin System.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits from taking effect any limitation on the amount the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System may charge for resident undergraduate tuition unless the limitation is offset by a corresponding increase in the amount of general purpose revenues appropriated to the Board of Regents. The prohibition first applies beginning in the 2021-22 academic year.

For further information see the **state** fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1.** 36.27 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:
4 36.27 **(1m)** RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE TUITION FREEZES. Beginning in the
5 2021-22 academic year, no limitation on the amount the Board of Regents may
6 charge for resident undergraduate tuition for an institution or college campus may

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SECTION 1

1 take effect unless the limitation is offset by a corresponding increase in the amount
2 of general purpose revenues appropriated to the Board of Regents.

3 (END)



2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 388

August 28, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives SHANKLAND, SKOWRONSKI, ANDERSON, BILLINGS, BOWEN, CABRERA, EMERSON, FIELDS, GRUSZYNSKI, HESSELBEIN, KOLSTE, NEUBAUER, SARGENT, SINICKI, SPREITZER, STUBBS, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, VRUWINK, ZAMARRIPA and BROSTOFF, cosponsored by Senators HANSEN, LARSON, RINGHAND, SCHACHTNER, SMITH and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

1 **AN ACT relating to:** state aid for the technical college system and making an
2 appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill appropriates from the general fund \$11,000,000 in the 2019-21 fiscal biennium as state aid for the technical college system.

For further information see the ***state and local*** fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1. Fiscal changes.**

4 (1) In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the technical
5 college system board under s. 20.292 (1) (d), the dollar amount for fiscal year 2019-20
6 is decreased by \$500,000 and the dollar amount for fiscal year 2020-21 is increased
7 by \$11,500,000 for the purpose for which the appropriation is made.

8 **SECTION 2. Effective date.**



2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 389

August 28, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives SHANKLAND, SKOWRONSKI, ANDERSON, BILLINGS, BOWEN, CABRERA, EMERSON, FIELDS, GRUSZYNSKI, HESSELBEIN, KOLSTE, NEUBAUER, SARGENT, SINICKI, SPREITZER, STUBBS, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, VRUWINK, ZAMARRIPA and BROSTOFF, cosponsored by Senators HANSEN, LARSON, SCHACHTNER, SMITH and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 15.01 (2); and *to create* 15.06 (1) (f), 15.06 (3) (a) 7., 15.915
2 (4) and 36.67 of the statutes; **relating to:** creating a Blue Ribbon Commission
3 in the University of Wisconsin System.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill creates a 19-member Blue Ribbon Commission in the University of Wisconsin System. Members of the commission include the president of the UW System, four faculty and four academic staff members of UW System schools that the UW System has identified as underserved or undergoing significant programmatic changes, four UW System students, one higher education expert, one workforce development expert, and four legislators. The commission must study, and facilitate discussion of, a public agenda for higher education; a set of long-term goals and priorities for higher education; and accessibility and affordability of higher education. In addition, the commission must do all of the following: 1) define the goals of higher education for this state; 2) identify strengths to continue and expand, and weaknesses that need to improve, in this state's institutions of higher education; 3) identify demographic trends that will affect all institutions of higher education in this state; 4) identify a new funding structure or new revenue streams for the UW System; 5) identify new ways to administer financial aid; 6) offer recommendations to encourage and develop innovations among institutions of higher education; 7) offer recommendations to encourage and develop partnerships between institutions of higher education; 8) offer recommendations to encourage more students to seek higher education; 9) study the success rate of programs designed to increase

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retention in this state's work force of this state's graduates; 10) study the success rate of programs designed to increase accessibility of higher education; and 11) study the feasibility of establishing a state program to provide debt-free college education to all Wisconsin residents. The commission must submit a report to the legislature that includes all of this information by December 31, 2022. Upon submission of the report, the commission terminates, unless the governor renews the commission for an additional two-year period. The governor may continue to renew the commission for successive two-year periods.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 15.01 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 15.01 (2) "Commission" means a 3-member governing body in charge of a
3 department or independent agency or of a division or other subunit within a
4 department, except for the employment relations commission which shall consist of
5 one chairperson, the Wisconsin waterways commission which shall consist of 5
6 members, the blue ribbon commission which shall consist of 19 members, the
7 elections commission which shall consist of at least 6 members, the ethics
8 commission which shall consist of at least 6 members, and the parole commission
9 which shall consist of 4 members. A Wisconsin group created for participation in a
10 continuing interstate body, or the interstate body itself, shall be known as a
11 "commission", but is not a commission for purposes of s. 15.06. The parole
12 commission created under s. 15.145 (1) shall be known as a "commission", but is not
13 a commission for purposes of s. 15.06.

14 **SECTION 2.** 15.06 (1) (f) of the statutes is created to read:

15 15.06 (1) (f) Members of the blue ribbon commission shall be appointed and
16 serve terms as provided under s. 15.915 (4).

17 **SECTION 3.** 15.06 (3) (a) 7. of the statutes is created to read:

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1 15.06 (3) (a) 7. The members of the blue ribbon commission.

2 **SECTION 4.** 15.915 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

3 15.915 (4) BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION. (a) In this subsection:

4 1. “Academic staff” has the meaning given in s. 36.05 (1).

5 2. “Board” has the meaning given in s. 36.05 (2).

6 3. “College campus” has the meaning given in s. 36.05 (6m).

7 4. “Faculty” has the meaning given in s. 36.05 (8).

8 5. “Institution” has the meaning given in s. 36.05 (9).

9 6. “System” has the meaning given in s. 36.05 (12).

10 (b) Subject to par. (f), there is created in the system a blue ribbon commission.

11 (c) The blue ribbon commission shall consist of the following members:

12 1. The president of the system or his or her designee.

13 2. Four members who are faculty of institutions or college campuses that are
14 underserved or undergoing significant programmatic changes as identified by the
15 system under s. 36.67 (5), appointed by the shared governance body representing
16 faculty of the institution or college campus.

17 3. Four members who are academic staff of institutions or college campuses
18 that are underserved or undergoing significant programmatic changes as identified
19 by the system under s. 36.67 (5), appointed by the shared governance body
20 representing academic staff of the institution or college campus.

21 4. Four members who are students enrolled in the system, appointed by the
22 system student representatives.

23 5. One member who is a higher education expert, appointed by the board.

24 6. One member who is a workforce development expert, appointed by the
25 governor.

ASSEMBLY BILL 389**SECTION 4**

1 7. One majority and one minority party senator and one majority and one
2 minority party representative to the assembly, appointed as are the members of
3 standing committees in their respective houses.

4 (d) Members of the commission shall serve for a term expiring on December 31,
5 2022, or when the report under s. 36.67 (4) is submitted, whichever occurs first,
6 except that if the commission is renewed under par. (f), each term shall continue
7 during any period of renewal.

8 (e) No member of the commission may receive any salary for services performed
9 as a commission member. Each commission member shall be reimbursed for actual
10 and necessary expenses incurred while performing official duties.

11 (f) The commission shall terminate upon the commission's submission of the
12 report under s. 36.67 (4), unless the governor renews the commission for an
13 additional period of 2 years. The governor may thereafter continue to renew the
14 commission for additional 2-year periods or allow the commission to terminate upon
15 the expiration of any renewal period.

16 **SECTION 5.** 36.67 of the statutes is created to read:

17 **36.67 Blue ribbon commission. (1)** In this section, "commission" means the
18 blue ribbon commission created under s. 15.915 (4).

19 **(2)** The commission shall study, and facilitate discussion of, all of the following:

20 (a) A public agenda for higher education.

21 (b) A set of long-term goals and priorities for higher education.

22 (c) Accessibility and affordability of higher education.

23 **(3)** The commission shall do all of the following:

24 (a) Define the goals of higher education for this state.

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1 (b) Identify strengths to continue and expand, and weaknesses that need to
2 improve, in this state's institutions of higher education.

3 (c) Identify demographic trends that will affect all institutions of higher
4 education in this state.

5 (d) Identify a new funding structure or new revenue streams for the University
6 of Wisconsin System.

7 (e) Identify new ways to administer financial aid for institutions of higher
8 education.

9 (f) Offer recommendations to encourage and develop innovations among
10 institutions of higher education, whether public or private.

11 (g) Offer recommendations to encourage and develop partnerships between
12 institutions of higher education, both public and private.

13 (h) Offer recommendations to encourage more students to seek higher
14 education, including identifying how student debt and the cost of tuition play a part
15 in student decisions.

16 (i) Study the success rate of programs designed to increase retention in this
17 state's work force of individuals receiving degrees from institutions of higher
18 education in this state.

19 (j) Study the success rate of programs designed to increase accessibility of
20 higher education in this state.

21 (k) Study the feasibility of establishing a state program to provide debt-free
22 college education to all Wisconsin residents.

23 **(4)** Not later than December 31, 2022, the commission shall submit a report to
24 the chief clerk of each house of the legislature for distribution to the legislature under
25 s. 13.172 (2) that includes the information described in sub. (3).



2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 390

August 28, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives SHANKLAND, SKOWRONSKI, ANDERSON, BILLINGS, BOWEN, CABRERA, EMERSON, FIELDS, HESSELBEIN, KOLSTE, NEUBAUER, SARGENT, SINICKI, SPREITZER, STUBBS, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, VRUWINK, ZAMARRIPA and BROSTOFF, cosponsored by Senators HANSEN, BEWLEY, LARSON, RINGHAND, SCHACHTNER, SMITH and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

- 1 **AN ACT relating to:** funding for Wisconsin grants for University of Wisconsin
2 System students and technical college students and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill increases the appropriations for Wisconsin grants for University of Wisconsin System students and technical college students.

Under current law, the Wisconsin grant program, administered by the Higher Educational Aids Board, provides grants to postsecondary resident students enrolled at least half time and registered as freshmen, sophomores, juniors, or seniors in specified postsecondary institutions, including UW schools and technical colleges.

This bill increases HEAB's biennial appropriation for Wisconsin grants for UW students by \$27,000,000 in each year of the 2019-21 fiscal biennium and for technical college students by \$18,000,000 in each year of the 2019-21 fiscal biennium.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- 3 **SECTION 1. Fiscal changes.**



State of Wisconsin
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3578/2
ARG&MDK:skw

2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 391

August 28, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives SHANKLAND, SKOWRONSKI, ANDERSON, BILLINGS, BOWEN, CABRERA, EMERSON, FIELDS, HESSELBEIN, KOLSTE, NEUBAUER, SARGENT, SINICKI, SPREITZER, STUBBS, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, VRUWINK, ZAMARRIPA and BROSTOFF, cosponsored by Senators HANSEN, BEWLEY, LARSON, RINGHAND, SCHACHTNER, SMITH and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

1 **AN ACT to create** 20.285 (1) (em) and 36.27 (3q) of the statutes; **relating to:**
2 resident undergraduate tuition remission at the University of Wisconsin
3 System for student teachers and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill provides full remission of undergraduate tuition to resident undergraduate students enrolled in a teaching program in a University of Wisconsin System school during the UW student's semester of student teaching.

For further information see the **state** fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

4 **SECTION 1.** 20.285 (1) (em) of the statutes is created to read:
5 20.285 (1) (em) *Student teacher tuition remission.* A sum sufficient to
6 reimburse the University of Wisconsin System for student teacher tuition remissions
7 under s. 36.27 (3q).

8 **SECTION 2.** 36.27 (3q) of the statutes is created to read:



2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 392

August 28, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives SHANKLAND, SKOWRONSKI, ANDERSON, BILLINGS, BOWEN, CABRERA, EMERSON, FIELDS, GRUSZYNSKI, HESSELBEIN, KOLSTE, NEUBAUER, SARGENT, SINICKI, SPREITZER, STUBBS, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, VRUWINK, ZAMARRIPA and BROSTOFF, cosponsored by Senators HANSEN, BEWLEY, LARSON, RINGHAND, SCHACHTNER, SMITH and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

1 **AN ACT relating to:** providing additional funding to the University of Wisconsin
2 System and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill provides additional funding to the University of Wisconsin System to offset the reduction in funding that results from the resident undergraduate tuition freeze included in the 2019 biennial budget act. The bill does so by increasing the appropriation to the UW System for general program operations by \$16,800,000 in fiscal year 2019-20 and by \$33,600,000 in fiscal year 2020-21.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

3 **SECTION 1. Fiscal changes.**

4 (1) In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the Board of
5 Regents of the University of Wisconsin System under s. 20.285 (1) (a), the dollar
6 amount for fiscal year 2019-20 is increased by \$16,800,000 and the dollar amount
7 for fiscal year 2020-21 is increased by \$33,600,000 to offset the reduction in funding

ASSEMBLY BILL 392

SECTION 1

1 resulting from the resident undergraduate tuition freeze under 2019 Wisconsin Act
2 9, section 9147 (1).

3 (END)