

## STANDING COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS OF THE 2001 WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

June 30, 2001

All standing committees and commissions of the 2001 Wisconsin Legislature are described in this section. The standing committees of the senate and the assembly are created by the rules of their respective houses. Joint standing committees and commissions of the legislature include members from both houses and are created by statute. In the case of each senate and assembly standing committee listed below, the names of committee officers are followed by those of the majority party and minority party, separated by a semicolon. An \* indicates the ranking minority member.

### SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

- Administrative Rules** — ROBSON, *chairperson*; GROBSCHMIDT, HANSEN; SCHULTZ\*, COWLES.
- Audit** — GEORGE, *chairperson*; ROBSON, BURKE; ROSENZWEIG\*, LAZICH.
- Economic Development and Corrections** — JAUCH, *chairperson*; M. MEYER; ZIEN\*.
- Education** — GROBSCHMIDT, *chairperson*; JAUCH, SHIBILSKI, BAUMGART, ROBSON, ERPENBACH; ROESSLER\*, DARLING, LAZICH, HARSDORF.
- Environmental Resources** — BAUMGART, *chairperson*; HANSEN, WIRCH; COWLES\*, SCHULTZ.
- Finance** — BURKE, *chairperson*; DECKER, MOORE, SHIBILSKI, PLACHE, WIRCH; DARLING\*, WELCH.
- Health, Utilities, Veterans and Military Affairs** — MOEN, *chairperson*; BRESKE, ROBSON, ERPENBACH, M. MEYER; ROSENZWEIG\*, COWLES, S. FITZGERALD, LAZICH.
- Human Services and Aging** — ROBSON, *chairperson*; MOORE, WIRCH, HANSEN; ROSENZWEIG\*, ROESSLER, WELCH.
- Information Policy and Technology** — JAUCH, *chairperson*; ERPENBACH, SHIBILSKI; LAZICH\*, HARSDORF.
- Insurance, Tourism, and Transportation** — BRESKE, *chairperson*; GROBSCHMIDT, BAUMGART; A. LASEE\*.
- Judiciary, Consumer Affairs, and Campaign Finance Reform** — GEORGE, *chairperson*; RISSER, WIRCH; HUELSMAN\*, S. FITZGERALD.
- Labor and Agriculture** — HANSEN, *chairperson*; DECKER, BAUMGART; A. LASEE\*, HARSDORF.
- Privacy, Electronic Commerce and Financial Institutions** — ERPENBACH, *chairperson*; JAUCH, PLACHE; HUELSMAN\*, S. FITZGERALD.
- Senate Organization** — CHVALA, *chairperson*; RISSER, MOEN; PANZER\*, A. LASEE.
- 2001-03 Biennial Budget** — JAUCH, *chairperson*; ERPENBACH, M. MEYER; SCHULTZ\*, HARSDORF.
- Universities, Housing, and Government Operations** — M. MEYER, *chairperson*; MOORE, GROBSCHMIDT, HANSEN; ELLIS\*, HUELSMAN, ZIEN.

### ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEES

- Administrative Rules** — GROTHMAN, *chairperson*; SERATTI, *vice chairperson*; GUNDERSON; TURNER\*, HEBL.
- Aging and Long-Term Care** — RHOADES, *chairperson*; PETTIS, *vice chairperson*; HUNDERTMARK, KEDZIE, LIPPERT, D. MEYER; KRUSICK\*, CARPENTER, TRAVIS, WASSERMAN.
- Agriculture** — OTT, *chairperson*; HAHN, *vice chairperson*; AINSWORTH, WADE, PETROWSKI, SUDER, KESTELL, LOEFFELHOLZ, BIES; GRONEMUS\*, PLOUFF, REYNOLDS, STEINBRINK, LASSA, SCHNEIDER, HUBLER.
- Assembly Organization** — JENSEN, *chairperson*; FOTI, *vice chairperson*; FREESE, LADWIG, VRAKAS; BLACK\*, KREUSER, BOCK.
- Audit** — LEIBHAM, *chairperson*; STARZYK, *vice chairperson*; GARD; CULLEN\*, GRONEMUS.
- Campaigns and Elections** — FREESE, *chairperson*; LADWIG, *vice chairperson*; STONE, J. FITZGERALD; TRAVIS\*, POCAN.
- Census and Redistricting** — LADWIG, *chairperson*; LEIBHAM, *vice chairperson*; WALKER, FREESE, SUDER; WILLIAMS\*, HUBER, MORRIS-TATUM.

**Children and Families** — KESTELL, *chairperson*; LIPPERT, *vice chairperson*; BIES, GROTHMAN, JESKEWITZ; MILLER\*, SINICKI.

**Colleges and Universities** — KREIBICH, *chairperson*; TOWNSEND, *vice chairperson*; JESKEWITZ, KRAWCZYK, RHOADES, UNDERHEIM; BOYLE\*, LASSA, BALOW, BERCEAU.

**Corrections and the Courts** — WALKER, *chairperson*; SUDER, *vice chairperson*; FRISKE, OWENS, SKINDRUD, UNDERHEIM; BALOW\*, COGGS, POCAN, COLÓN.

**Criminal Justice** — SUDER, *chairperson*; GUNDRUM, *vice chairperson*; BIES, J. FITZGERALD, JESKEWITZ, F. LASEE, LOEFFELHOLZ, OWENS; STASKUNAS\*, WOOD, YOUNG, COLÓN, SHERMAN, BOYLE.

**Economic Development** — TOWNSEND, *chairperson*; WIECKERT, *vice chairperson*; J. FITZGERALD, M. LEHMAN, LIPPERT; LASSA\*, STASKUNAS, CULLEN.

**Education** — OLSEN, *chairperson*; NASS, *vice chairperson*; HAHN, HUNDERTMARK, KESTELL, LOEFFELHOLZ, RHOADES, TOWNSEND, WADE; J. LEHMAN\*, SHERMAN, ZIEGELBAUER, SINICKI, WILLIAMS, RILEY.

**Education Reform** — NASS, *chairperson*; OLSEN, *vice chairperson*; GROTHMAN, GUNDRUM, STONE, UNDERHEIM, MCCORMICK; WILLIAMS\*, CULLEN, SINICKI, J. LEHMAN.

**Energy and Utilities** — HOVEN, *chairperson*; FRISKE, *vice chairperson*; LEIBHAM, OTT, POWERS, VRAKAS; MEYERHOFER\*, PLALE, SCHOOFF, RILEY.

**Environment** — KEDZIE, *chairperson*; JOHNSRUD, *vice chairperson*; GUNDERSON, OTT, POWERS, VRAKAS; POCAN\*, BOCK, MILLER, J. LEHMAN.

**Family Law** — OWENS, *chairperson*; KESTELL, *vice chairperson*; FRISKE, WADE; BERCEAU\*, KRUSICK.

**Finance** — GARD, *chairperson*; KAUFERT, *vice chairperson*; ALBERS, DUFF, HUEBSCH, WARD; HUBER\*, COGGS.

**Financial Institutions** — JESKEWITZ, *chairperson*; MONTGOMERY, *vice chairperson*; J. FITZGERALD, HOVEN, KEDZIE, KREIBICH, RHOADES, STARZYK, WALKER; LA FAVE\*, PLALE, PLOUFF, BALOW, RICHARDS, SHILLING, KRUG.



*Representative Rob Kreibich (left) of the 93rd Assembly District and 86th Assembly District Representative Jerry Petrowski collaborate on issues affecting central and western Wisconsin. (Jay Salvo, Assembly Republican Caucus)*

- Government Operations** — WIECKERT, *chairperson*; LOEFFELHOLZ, *vice chairperson*; STARZYK, STEINBRINK\*.
- Health** — UNDERHEIM, *chairperson*; URBAN, *vice chairperson*; JOHNSRUD, KRAWCZYK, F. LASEE, LIPPERT, OLSEN, SERATTI, WALKER, WIECKERT; WASSERMAN\*, CARPENTER, LA FAVE, MILLER, SCHOOFF, COLÓN, SHILLING.
- Highway Safety** — PETROWSKI, *chairperson*; BIES, *vice chairperson*; AINSWORTH, MUSSER, URBAN; YOUNG\*, RYBA, SHERMAN.
- Housing** — SYKORA, *chairperson*; J. FITZGERALD, *vice chairperson*; D. MEYER, WALKER, WIECKERT; MORRIS-TATUM\*, HEBL, MEYERHOFER.
- Information Policy and Technology** — PETTIS, *chairperson*; HOVEN, *vice chairperson*; MONTGOMERY; SCHNEIDER\*, PLOUFF.
- Insurance** — MONTGOMERY, *chairperson*; PETTIS, *vice chairperson*; HOVEN, KREIBICH, F. LASEE, McCORMICK, WIECKERT; SHILLING\*, LA FAVE, BALOW, RICHARDS, KRUG.
- Judiciary** — GUNDRUM, *chairperson*; McCORMICK, *vice chairperson*; GROTHMAN, MONTGOMERY, STARZYK; HEBL\*, COLÓN, STASKUNAS.
- Labor and Workforce Development** — HUNDERTMARK, *chairperson*; VRAKAS, *vice chairperson*; J. FITZGERALD, McCORMICK, NASS, STONE; TURNER\*, MEYERHOFER, LASSA.
- Natural Resources** — JOHNSRUD, *chairperson*; GUNDERSON, *vice chairperson*; KEDZIE, KRAWCZYK, D. MEYER, OTT, PETTIS, POWERS; GRONEMUS\*, J. LEHMAN, STEINBRINK, MILLER, REYNOLDS.
- Personal Privacy** — POWERS, *chairperson*; MONTGOMERY, *vice chairperson*; NASS, OWENS, WADE; SINICKI\*, SHILLING, SCHNEIDER.
- Public Health** — URBAN, *chairperson*; LIPPERT, *vice chairperson*; FREESE, JOHNSRUD, McCORMICK; CARPENTER\*, WASSERMAN, SCHNEIDER.
- Rules** — FOTI, *chairperson*; JENSEN, *vice chairperson*; FREESE, GROTHMAN, LADWIG, OWENS, VRAKAS; BOCK\*, TRAVIS, WOOD, BLACK, KREUSER.
- Rural Affairs and Forestry** — AINSWORTH, *chairperson*; FRISKE, *vice chairperson*, FREESE, LOEFFELHOLZ, SYKORA; GRONEMUS\*, HUBLER, SCHNEIDER.
- Small Business and Consumer Affairs** — SERATTI, *chairperson*; KRAWCZYK, *vice chairperson*; FRISKE, GUNDRUM, KESTELL, D. MEYER, SKINDRUD; HUBLER\*, J. LEHMAN, SCHNEIDER, KRUSICK.
- State Affairs** — SKINDRUD, *chairperson*; KRAWCZYK, *vice chairperson*, BIES, M. LEHMAN, PETROWSKI; WOOD\*, YOUNG, TRAVIS.
- State and Local Finance** — UNDERHEIM, *chairperson*; MUSSER, *vice chairperson*, LEIBHAM, McCORMICK, URBAN; SCHOOFF\*, ZIEGELBAUER, CARPENTER.
- Tax and Spending Limitations** — F. LASEE, *chairperson*; LEIBHAM, *vice chairperson*, HUNDERTMARK, MUSSER, SERATTI; RICHARDS\*, TURNER.
- Tourism and Recreation** — WADE, *chairperson*; D. MEYER, *vice chairperson*; BIES, FRISKE, SERATTI, SKINDRUD; REYNOLDS\*, RYBA, STEINBRINK, BOYLE.
- Transportation** — STONE, *chairperson*; PETROWSKI, *vice chairperson*; AINSWORTH, GUNDERSON, HAHN, SUDER, LEIBHAM, LIPPERT, LOEFFELHOLZ; SHERMAN\*, MEYERHOFER, PLOUFF, SCHOOFF, PLALE, STASKUNAS, STEINBRINK.
- Urban and Local Affairs** — GUNDERSON, *chairperson*; STARZYK, *vice chairperson*; D. MEYER, MUSSER; WASSERMAN\*, BERCEAU.
- Veterans and Military Affairs** — MUSSER, *chairperson*; HUNDERTMARK, *vice chairperson*; KRAWCZYK, PETROWSKI, SYKORA, TOWNSEND; RYBA\*, BOYLE, HUBLER, SCHNEIDER.
- Ways and Means** — M. LEHMAN, *chairperson*; AINSWORTH, *vice chairperson*; JESKEWITZ, F. LASEE, OLSEN, OWENS, STARZYK, SYKORA; ZIEGELBAUER\*, WOOD, MORRIS-TATUM, TURNER, POCAN.
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**PERSONAL DATA ON WISCONSIN LEGISLATORS  
1991 – 2001 Sessions**

	1991		1993		1995		1997		1999		2001	
	Sen.	Rep.	Sen.*	Rep.	Sen.	Rep.	Sen.	Rep.	Sen.	Rep.	Sen.	Rep.
<b>Party affiliation</b>												
Democrat	19	58	15	52	16	48	17	47	17	44	18	43
Republican	14	41	15	47	17	51	16	52	16	55	15	56
<b>Number with previous legislative service</b>												
In senate	29	0	26	0	32	0	32	0	30	0	30	0
In assembly	20	85	19	76	21	87	23	89	23	78	24	89
Highest number of prior sessions in same house	14	16	15	11	16	12	17	13	18	14	19	15
<b>Occupations</b>												
Full-time legislator	11	48	13	50	12	40	14	38	14	38	15	40
Attorney	9	10	7	9	6	10	6	11	5	10	5	10
Farmer	3	13	3	13	1	14	0	15	1	12	1	13
Other	10	28	7	27	14	35	13	35	13	39	13	33
<b>Education</b>												
Not beyond high school	3	11	2	13	2	15	2	15	2	12	2	13
Beyond high school	30	88	28	86	31	84	31	84	31	87	31	86
Bachelor's or associate degree	25	73	23	68	27	66	28	66	26	67	28	67
Advanced degree	11	29	9	27	8	26	9	30	8	29	8	31
<b>Number with experience on local governing body</b>												
County board	3	15	2	17	2	22	3	21	4	19	4	18
Municipal board	4	19	4	22	8	24	6	29	6	31	5	36
<b>Age</b>												
Oldest	66	78	65	70	67	69	69	71	71	69	73	71
Youngest	32	27	34	24	31	26	33	28	35	27	37	26
Average	47	45	47	46	48	45	48	46	50	46	52	47
<b>Veterans</b>	6	15	4	16	6	14	5	14	4	14	4	15
<b>Marital status</b>												
Single	5	24	3	27	5	28	4	25	6	23	5	23
Married	28	73	27	71	28	70	29	73	27	74	29	76
Widowed	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0
<b>Number of women</b>	5	26	7	29	8	24	9	22	11	19	11	22

Sen. – Senators; Rep. – Representatives.

Note: Most data are recorded as of the date on which the legislature first convened; ages are determined as of January 1.

\*In 1993 there were 3 vacancies when the senate began its session because 3 incumbent senators resigned.

Sources: *Wisconsin Blue Book*, various issues, and data collected by the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau, January 2001.

## STATUTORY LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

### Joint Committee for Review of ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

*Members:* SENATOR ROBSON, REPRESENTATIVE GROTHMAN, *cochairpersons*; SENATORS COWLES, GROBSCHMIDT, HANSEN, SCHULTZ; REPRESENTATIVES GUNDERSON, HEBL, SERATTI, TURNER.

**Mailing Addresses:** Senator Robson, Room 15 South, State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison 53707-7882; Representative Grothman, Room 15 North, State Capitol, P.O. Box 8952, Madison 53708-8952.

**Telephones:** Senator Robson, 266-2253; Representative Grothman, 264-8486.

**E-mail:** Sen.Robson@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.Grothman@legis.state.wi.us

**Statutory References:** Sections 13.56, 227.19, 227.24, and 227.26.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules must review proposed rules when standing committees object to them. It also may suspend rules that have been promulgated; may suspend or extend the effective period of all or part of emergency rules; and may order an agency to put unwritten policies in rule form.

When a standing committee objects to a proposed rule or portion of a rule, it must be referred to the joint committee. The joint committee then has 30 days to review the rule, but that period may be extended for an additional 30 days. The joint committee may uphold or reverse the standing committee's action. If it concurs with the objection, it introduces bills concurrently in both houses to prevent promulgation of the rule. If either bill is enacted, the agency may not adopt the rule unless specifically authorized to do so by subsequent legislative action. If the joint committee disagrees with the objection, it may overrule the standing committee and allow the agency to adopt the rule or it may request the agency to modify the rule.

The joint committee may suspend a rule after holding a public hearing, but suspension must be based on one or more of the following reasons: absence of statutory authority; an emergency related to public health or welfare; failure to comply with legislative intent; conflict with existing state law; a change in circumstances since passage of the law that authorized the rule; or a rule that is arbitrary or capricious or imposes undue hardship. Within 30 days following the suspension, the committee must introduce bills concurrently in both houses to repeal the suspended rule. If either bill is enacted, the rule is repealed and the agency may not promulgate it again unless authorized by the legislature. If both bills fail to pass, the rule remains in effect and may not be suspended again.

The joint committee receives notice of any action in the circuit court of Dane County for declaratory judgments about the validity of a rule and may intervene in the action with the consent of the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization.

**Organization:** The joint committee consists of 5 senators and 5 representatives, and the membership from each house must include representatives of both the majority and minority parties.

**History:** The Joint Committee for Review of Administrative Rules was one of the first of its kind in the country, and it has served as a model widely copied by other states. Chapter 221, Laws of 1955, revised administrative rules procedures and created the committee with "advisory powers only". It could investigate complaints about rules and recommend changes to rule-making agencies but could not directly affect the rule-making process. In 1966, the committee received authority to suspend a rule based on testimony at a public hearing. With enactment of Chapter 34, Laws of 1979, the joint committee acquired the power to review proposed rules based on the objections of a legislative standing committee. Further modifications occurred when 1985 Wisconsin Act 182 authorized the joint committee to extend its 30-day review period and allowed it to negotiate with agencies to modify existing rules.

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### State of Wisconsin BUILDING COMMISSION

**Members:** GOVERNOR SCOTT McCALLUM, *chairperson*; SENATORS MEYER, RISSER, ROESSLER; REPRESENTATIVES HOVEN, PLALE, VRAKAS; BRYCE STYZA (citizen member appointed by governor). Nonvoting advisory members from Department of Administration: GEORGE LIGHTBOURN (departmental secretary), ADEL TABRIZI (chief engineer), WILBERT KING (chief architect).

**Secretary:** ROBERT G. CRAMER, *administrator*, Division of Facilities Development, Department of Administration.

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 7866, Madison 53707-7866.

**Location:** 101 East Wilson Street, 7th Floor, Madison.

**Telephone:** 266-1855.

**Fax:** 267-2710.

**Total Budget 1999-2001:** \$31,837,700\*.

\*Total budget includes bond revenues, building trust fund expenditures, and debt service payments for state office buildings, the State Capitol, and the Executive Residence.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.48.

**Agency Responsibility:** The State of Wisconsin Building Commission coordinates the state building program and establishes long-range plans for development of the state's physical plant. The commission determines the projects to be incorporated into the long-range program and recommends a biennial building program to the legislature, including the amount to be appropriated in the biennial budget. It oversees all state construction, except highway development. In addition, the commission may authorize expenditures from the State Building Trust Fund for construction, remodeling, maintenance, and planning of future development. The commission is the only



Senator Dale Schultz uses his Senate office to showcase work by artists from his 17th Senate District.  
(Richard G.B. Hanson, Senate Photographer)

state body that can authorize the contracting of state debt. All transactions for the sale of instruments that result in a state debt liability must be approved by official resolution of the commission.

**Organization:** The 11-member commission includes 6 legislators. One legislator from each house must be a member of the legislature’s State Supported Programs Study and Advisory Committee, and both the majority and minority parties in each house must be represented. Terms of legislative members expire on the second Wednesday in January of odd-numbered years. The citizen member serves at the pleasure of the governor.

**History:** The State of Wisconsin Building Commission was created by Chapter 563, Laws of 1949, to establish a long-range public building program. Another 1949 law (Chapter 604) gave the commission authority to organize the quasi-public Wisconsin State Public Building Corporation. This legal device, familiarly known as a “dummy building corporation”, was used to finance public buildings to house state agencies because the Wisconsin Constitution prevented direct borrowing by the state for such projects. The quasi-public corporation was first used in 1925, when the University Building Corporation was developed to permit construction of revenue-producing facilities on the Madison campus, including dormitories and athletic buildings. The State Agencies Building Corporation, a similar entity, was formed in 1958 (Chapter 593, Laws of 1957) to finance nonrevenue-producing buildings, such as classroom facilities, and Chapter 267, Laws of 1961, extended the corporation’s authority to the financing of public welfare buildings.

In 1969, voters amended the constitution, and the legislature passed Chapter 259, which provided for direct state borrowing and ended the use of the various building corporations. The law enlarged the powers of the commission to finance capital facilities for all state agencies.

A separate State Bond Board, including 4 members of the Building Commission, was established by Chapter 259 to supervise the contracting of state debt. Chapter 90, Laws of 1973, abolished the bond board and returned its duties and responsibilities to the Building Commission.



*Representative Bonnie Ladwig was well-versed in the role of assistant majority leader as she began her third term in that position with the Assembly Republican leadership in 2001. (Jay Salvo, Assembly Republican Caucus)*

### Joint Committee on EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS

**Members:** SENATOR RISSER (senate president), REPRESENTATIVE JENSEN (assembly speaker), *cochairpersons*; SENATORS CHVALA (majority leader), PANZER (minority leader); REPRESENTATIVES FOTI (majority leader), BLACK (minority leader); SENATOR BURKE, REPRESENTATIVE GARD (*joint finance committee cochairpersons*).

**Mailing Addresses:** Senator Risser, Room 220 South, State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison 53707-7882; Representative Jensen, Room 211 West, State Capitol, P.O. Box 8952, Madison 53708-8952.

**Telephones:** Senator Risser, 266-1627; Representative Jensen, 266-3387.

**E-mail:** Sen.Risser@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.Jensen@legis.state.wi.us

**Statutory References:** Sections 13.111, 20.923, and 230.12; Chapter 111, Subchapter V.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Joint Committee on Employment Relations approves all changes to the collective bargaining agreements that cover state employees represented by unions and the compensation plans for nonrepresented state employees. These plans and agreements include pay adjustments; fringe benefits; performance awards; pay equity adjustments; and other items related to wages, hours, and conditions of employment. The committee also approves the assignment of unclassified positions to the executive salary group ranges.

In the case of unionized employees, the Department of Employment Relations submits tentative agreements negotiated between the department and certified labor organizations to the committee. If the committee disapproves an agreement, it is returned to the bargaining parties for renegotiation.

The secretary of employment relations also submits the compensation plans for nonrepresented employees to the committee. One plan covers all nonrepresented classified employees and certain officials outside the classified service, including legislators, justices of the supreme court, court of appeals judges, circuit court judges, constitutional officers, district attorneys, heads of executive agencies, division administrators, and others designated by law. The faculty and academic staff of the UW System are covered by a separate pay plan, which is based on recommendations made by the UW Board of Regents.

After public hearings on the nonrepresented employee plans, the committee may modify the secretary's recommendations, but the committee's modifications are subject to the governor's veto. A veto may be overridden by the vote of 6 committee members.

When the committee approves an agreement for represented or nonrepresented employees, it introduces those portions requiring legislative approval in bill form and recommends passage without change. In the case of union agreements, if the legislature fails to adopt the bill, the committee returns the agreement to the bargaining parties for renegotiation.

**Organization:** The committee, which was established by Chapter 270, Laws of 1971, is a permanent joint legislative committee comprised of 8 *ex officio* members. It is assisted in its work by the Legislative Council Staff and the Legislative Fiscal Bureau.

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## Joint Committee on FINANCE

**Members:** SENATOR BURKE, REPRESENTATIVE GARD, *cochairpersons*; SENATORS DARLING, DECKER, MOORE, PLACHE, SHIBILSKI, WELCH, WIRCH; REPRESENTATIVES ALBERS, COGGS, DUFF, HUBER, HUEBSCH, KAUFERT, WARD.

**Mailing Addresses:** Senator Burke, Room 316 South, State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison 53707-7882; Representative Gard, Room 308 East, State Capitol, P.O. Box 8952, Madison 53708-8952.

**Telephones:** Senator Burke, 266-8535; Representative Gard, 266-2343.

**E-mail:** Sen.Burke@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.Gard@legis.state.wi.us

**Statutory References:** Sections 13.09-13.11.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Joint Committee on Finance examines all legislation that deals with state income and spending. It also gives final approval to a wide variety of state payments and assessments. Any bill introduced in the legislature that appropriates money, provides for revenue, or relates to taxation must be referred to the joint committee.

The joint committee introduces the biennial budget as recommended by the governor. After holding a series of public hearings and executive sessions, it submits its own version of the budget as a substitute amendment to be considered by the legislature.

At regularly scheduled quarterly meetings, the joint committee considers agency requests to adjust their budgets. It may approve a request for emergency funds if it finds that the legislature has authorized the activities for which the appropriation is sought. It may also transfer funds between existing appropriations and change the number of personnel positions the legislature authorized in the budget or other legislation.

When required, the joint committee introduces legislation to pay claims against the state, resolve shortages in funds, and restore capital reserve funds of the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority to the required level. As an emergency measure, it may reduce state agency appropriations when there is a decrease in state revenues.

The joint committee gives final approval for a variety of fiscal operations including: disposition of federal block grant funds and private gifts, grants, and bequests; changes in supplemental security income payment levels if approved by the governor; plans to take care of shortfalls in state agency fund accounts; disposition of oil overcharge funds; and expenditure plans for federal low-income assistance funds. In addition, the committee may inquire into the operations of any state agency for the purpose of improving agency efficiency.

**Organization:** The committee is a joint standing committee composed of the 8 senators on the Senate Finance Committee and the 8 representatives on the Assembly Finance Committee. It must include members of the majority and minority party in each house. Cochairpersons of the joint committee are appointed in the same manner as standing committees of their respective houses.

**History:** The use of a joint standing committee to consider appropriation bills dates back to 1857 when the legislature created the Joint Committee on Claims. In 1911 (Chapter 6), the Joint Committee on Finance replaced the claims committee and was given authority to consider bills related to revenue and taxation. Chapter 609, Laws of 1915, authorized the governor, secretary of state, and state treasurer to approve emergency appropriations when the legislature was not in session to permit departments with insufficient funds to carry out their normal duties. Chapter 97, Laws of 1929, vested this function in the Emergency Board, which consisted of the governor and the cochairpersons of the joint finance committee. By 1959 (Chapter 228) the power to approve supplemental appropriations, transfer funds between appropriations, and handle other interim fiscal matters was given to a joint legislative committee called the Board on Government Operations (BOGO). The board's functions were later transferred to the Joint Committee on Finance by Chapter 39, Laws of 1975.

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### Joint Committee on INFORMATION POLICY AND TECHNOLOGY

**Members:** SENATOR JAUCH, REPRESENTATIVE PETTIS, *cochairpersons*; SENATORS ERPENBACH, HARS DORF, LAZICH, SHIBILSKI; REPRESENTATIVES HOVEN, MONTGOMERY, PLOUFF, SCHNEIDER.

**Mailing Address:** Senator Jauch, Room 313 South, State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison 53707-7882; Representative Pettis, Room 20 North, State Capitol, P.O. Box 8953, Madison 53708-8953.

**Telephone:** Senator Jauch, 266-3510; Representative Pettis, 267-2365.

**E-mail:** Sen.Jauch@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.Pettis@legis.state.wi.us

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.58.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Joint Committee on Information Policy and Technology reviews information management practices of state and local units of government to ensure economic and efficient service, maintain data security and integrity, and protect the privacy of individuals who are subjects of the databases. It studies the effects of proposals by the state to expand existing information technology or implement new technologies. With concurrence of the Joint Committee on Finance, it may direct the Department of Administration to report on any information technology system project that could cost \$1 million or more in the current or succeeding biennium. The committee may direct the Department of Administration to prepare reports or conduct studies and may make recommendations to the governor, the legislature, state agencies, or local governments based on this information. The committee is composed of 3 majority and 2 minority party members from each house of the legislature. It was created by 1991 Wisconsin Act 317 and its membership was revised by 1999 Wisconsin Act 9.



*Senator Brian Burke and Representative John Gard have cochaired the Joint Committee on Finance for several sessions. Directing the writing of the state's biennial budget is one of the most demanding assignments in the legislature. (Jay Salvo, Assembly Republican Caucus)*

**Joint  
LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**Members:** SENATOR GEORGE, REPRESENTATIVE LEIBHAM, *cochairpersons*; SENATOR BURKE, REPRESENTATIVE GARD (joint finance committee cochairpersons); SENATORS LAZICH, ROBSON, ROSENZWEIG; REPRESENTATIVES CULLEN, GRONEMUS, STARZYK.

**Mailing Addresses:** Senator George, Room 118 South, State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison 53707-7882; Representative Leibham, Room 123 West, State Capitol, P.O. Box 8952, Madison 53708-8952.

**Telephones:** Senator George, (608) 266-2500; Representative Leibham, (608) 266-0656.

**E-mail:** Sen.George@legis.state.wi.us; Rep.L Leibham@legis.state.wi.us

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.53.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Joint Legislative Audit Committee, which was created by Chapter 224, Laws of 1975, advises the Legislative Audit Bureau, subject to general supervision of the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization. Its members include the cochairpersons of the Joint Committee on Finance, plus 2 majority and 2 minority members from each house of the legislature. The committee evaluates candidates for the office of state auditor and makes recommendations to the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization, which selects the auditor.

The committee may direct the state auditor to undertake specific audits and review requests for special audits from individual legislators or standing committees, but no legislator or standing committee may interfere with the auditor in the conduct of an audit.

The committee reviews each report of the Legislative Audit Bureau and then confers with the state auditor, other legislative committees, and the audited agencies on the report's findings. It may propose corrective action and direct that followup reports be submitted to it.

The committee may hold hearings on audit reports, ask the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization to investigate any matter within the scope of the audit, and request investigation of any matter relative to the fiscal and performance responsibilities of a state agency. If an audit



*Representative Dan Schooff explains the responsibilities of a Wisconsin legislator to fourth and fifth graders visiting from Wright School in Beloit. (Brent Nicastro, Assembly Democratic Caucus)*

report cites financial deficiencies, the head of the agency must report to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee on remedial actions taken. Should the agency head fail to report, the committee may refer the matter to the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization and the appropriate standing committees.

When the committee determines that legislative action is needed, it may refer the necessary information to the legislature or a standing committee. It can also request information from a committee on action taken or seek advice of a standing committee on program portions of an audit. The committee may introduce legislation to address issues covered in audit reports.

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## JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**Members:** SENATOR RISSER (senate president), REPRESENTATIVE RHOADES (designated by assembly speaker), *cochairpersons*; SENATORS GEORGE (president pro tempore), CHVALA (majority leader), PANZER (minority leader), BURKE (cochairperson, Joint Committee on Finance), DARLING (ranking minority member, Joint Committee on Finance), BAUMGART, GROBSCHMIDT, ROBSON, ROSENZWEIG, ZIEN; REPRESENTATIVES JENSEN (assembly speaker), FREESE (speaker pro tempore), FOTI (majority leader), BLACK (minority leader), GARD (cochairperson, Joint Committee on Finance), HUBER (ranking minority member, Joint Committee on Finance), BOCK, M. LEHMAN, MEYERHOFER, STONE. (Members designated by title serve *ex officio*.)

**Director of Legislative Council Staff:** TERRY C. ANDERSON, terry.anderson@legis.state.wi.us

**Deputy Director:** LAURA D. ROSE, laura.rose@legis.state.wi.us

**Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse:** RONALD SKLANSKY, *director*, ronald.sklansky@legis.state.wi.us; RICHARD SWEET, *assistant director*, richard.sweet@legis.state.wi.us

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 2536, Madison 53701-2536.

**Location:** 1 East Main Street, Suite 401, Madison.

**Telephone:** 266-1304.

**Fax:** 266-3830.

**Internet Address:** <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc>

**Publications:** Directory of Joint Legislative Council Committees; rules clearinghouse reports; research bulletins, staff briefs, information and legal memoranda on substantive issues considered by council committees; staff memoranda.

**Number of Employees:** 35.17.

**Total Budget 1999-2001:** \$5,468,400.

**Statutory References:** Sections 13.81-13.83, 13.91, and 227.15.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Joint Legislative Council creates special committees made up of legislators and interested citizens to study various problems of state and local government. Study topics are selected from requests presented to the council by law, joint resolution, individual legislators, and others. After research and public hearings, the study committees draft proposals and submit them to the council, which must approve those drafts it wants introduced in the legislature as council bills.

The council is assisted in its work by the Legislative Council Staff, a bureau created in Section 13.91, Wisconsin Statutes, which prepares written studies for the special committees and publishes reports on other topics as the council deems necessary. The staff operates the rules clearinghouse to review proposed administrative rules and assists standing committees in their oversight of rulemaking. The staff also provides legal counsel and scientific and policy research assistance to all of the legislature's substantive standing committees and joint statutory committees (except the Joint Committee on Finance and the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems) and assists individual legislators on request.

By law, the Legislative Council Staff must be “strictly nonpartisan” and must observe the confidential nature of the research and drafting requests received by it. The law requires that state agencies and local governmental units cooperate fully with the council staff in its carrying out of its statutory duties.

**Organization:** The council consists of 22 legislators. The majority of them serve *ex officio*, and the remainder are appointed as are members of standing committees. The president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly serve as cochairpersons of the council, but each may designate another member to assume that office. The council operates two permanent statutory committees and various special committees appointed to study selected subjects. The Legislative Council Staff director is appointed from outside the classified service by the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization, and the director makes staff appointments from outside the service.

**History:** Chapter 444, Laws of 1947, created the council to conduct interim studies on subjects affecting the general welfare of the state. The first council was organized later that year with 12 members. In 1967, the council began to appoint staff members to provide legal counsel and technical assistance to legislative standing committees. The 1979 executive budget (Chapter 34) assigned the administrative rules clearinghouse function to the council. 1993 Wisconsin Act 52 made a number of reorganizational changes. The act renamed the council the Joint Legislative Council and designated the president of the senate and the speaker of the assembly (or their designees) cochairpersons. Under Act 52, the council was directed to reorganize at the beginning of the biennial session, instead of May 1 of the odd-numbered year, and its support agency was officially named the Legislative Council Staff.



*The Wisconsin Senate seated its first woman member, Sen. Kathryn Morrison, in 1975. In contrast, the 11 women elected to the 2001 Senate made up one-third of the 33-member body. Senators Carol Roessler, Joanne Huelsman, and Mary Lazich (l-r) review provisions of a proposal being debated on the floor. (Richard G.B. Hanson II, Senate Photographer)*

## PERMANENT STATUTORY COMMITTEES

**Law Revision Committee**

*Members:* SENATOR MEYER, REPRESENTATIVE GROTHMAN, *cochairpersons*; SENATORS HANSEN, HARSDF, ROESSLER; REPRESENTATIVES BERCEAU, GUNDRUM, SUDER.

The Law Revision Committee is appointed each biennium by the Joint Legislative Council. The membership of the committee is not specified, but it must include majority and minority party representation from each house. The committee reviews minor nonsubstantive remedial changes to the statutes as proposed by state agencies, in attorney general's opinions, or in court decisions declaring a Wisconsin statute unconstitutional, ambiguous, or otherwise in need of revision. It considers proposals by the Revisor of Statutes to correct statutory language and session laws that conflict or need revision, and it may submit recommendations for major law revision projects to the Joint Legislative Council. It serves as the repository for interstate compacts and agreements and makes recommendations to the legislature regarding revision of such agreements. The committee was created by Chapter 204, Laws of 1979, and its composition and duties are prescribed in Section 13.83 (1) of the statutes.

**Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations**

*Members:* REPRESENTATIVE MUSSER, *chairperson*; SENATOR GEORGE, *vice chairperson*; SENATOR BRESKE; REPRESENTATIVES AINSWORTH, BOYLE, COGGS, KREUSER, LA FAVE, PETTIS, SHERMAN, WADE; HOWARD J. BICHLER (St. Croix Tribe), CAROL BROWN BIERMEIER (Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa), EUGENE BIGBOY (Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians), GAIASHKIBOS (Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians), PHILIP C. GORDON (Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa), PAUL NINHAM (Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin), THERESA PUSKARENKO (Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohicans), MYRNA THOMPSON (Ho-Chunk Nation), ROYAL E. WARRINGTON (Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin).

The Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations is appointed by the Joint Legislative Council each biennium to study issues related to American Indians and the Indian tribes and bands in this state and develop specific recommendations and legislative proposals relating to such issues. Legislative membership includes not fewer than 6 nor more than 12 members with at least one member of the majority and the minority party from each house. The joint council appoints no fewer than 6 and no more than 11 members from names submitted by federally recognized Wisconsin Indian tribes or bands or the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. The council may not appoint more than one member recommended by any one tribe or band or the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council. Chapter 39, Laws of 1975, created the committee as the American Indian Study Committee, and 1999 Wisconsin Act 60 renamed it and revised the membership. The committee's composition and duties are prescribed in Section 13.83 (3) of the statutes.

**. . . Technical Advisory Committee**

*Members:* NANCIE YOUNG (Department of Health and Family Services), RACHELLE MILLER (Department of Workforce Development), JOHN GREENE (Department of Justice), MICHAEL LUTZ (Department of Natural Resources), J.P. LEARY (Department of Public Instruction), TOM OURADA (Department of Revenue), EUGENE JOHNSON (Department of Transportation).

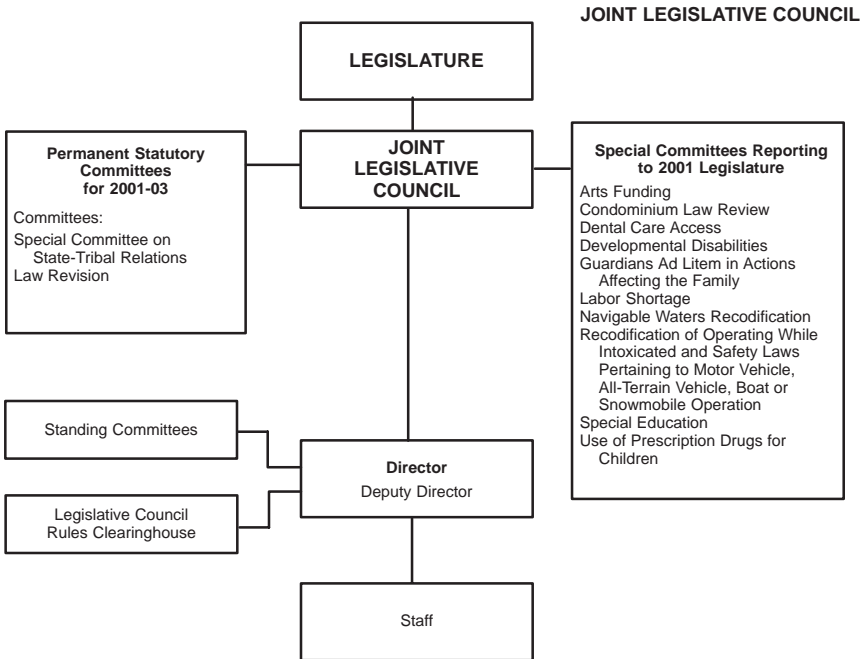
Under Section 13.83 (3) (f), Wisconsin Statutes, as created by Chapter 39, Laws of 1975, the Technical Advisory Committee, consisting of representatives of 7 major executive agencies, assists the Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEES REPORTING IN 2001

**Special Committee on Arts Funding**

*Members:* SENATOR GROBSCHMIDT, REPRESENTATIVE UNDERHEIM, *cochairpersons*; REPRESENTATIVES RICHARDS, SUDER; DEAN R. AMHAUS, JOI A. BROWN, KATHRYN MURPHY BURKE, JANE CAMPBELL HUTCHISON, ELLEN JOHNSON, ANNE KATZ, JAMES S. O'CONNELL, JR., KERRY F. RATHBURN, ELLEN ROSEWALL, KAREN SPAHN.

The council directed the committee to study arts funding through information and develop summaries of funding recommendations received from the arts communities and local governments.



### Special Committee on Condominium Law Review

*Members:* SENATOR ERPENBACH, REPRESENTATIVE SYKORA, *cochairpersons*; SENATOR DARLING; REPRESENTATIVES HEBL, LA FAVE, MUSSER; CHUCK GOBEL, WILLIAM PHARIS HORTON, JOHN KASSNER, ROBERT C. LEIBSLE, JANE LICHT, FRED H. LOEB, ROGER M. RAASCH, MICHAEL SANDS, ROBERT SATHER, NEIL SIEGEL.

The council directed the committee to study ways to protect the investments of current and future condominium unit owners and to facilitate the appropriate development of the condominium form of property ownership. The committee was directed to review all aspects of condominium law, including the development and establishment of condominiums; the governance of condominium associations (including the establishment of an annual budget and maintenance of reserve funds); and the ownership, sale, and rental of condominiums. The committee was directed to study the concerns of local units of government in which condominiums are located.

### Special Committee on Dental Care Access

*Members:* SENATOR MOEN, REPRESENTATIVE WARD, *cochairpersons*; SENATORS BRESKE, ROSENZWEIG; REPRESENTATIVES LASEE, OLSEN, SCHOOFF, SHERMAN; TIM BIRELEY, GREGORY J. BORCA, DAWN COLLINS, ROBERT A. DWYER, TAMMY L. FILIPIAK, THOMAS HUGHES, ROBERT JECKLIN, WILLIAM K. LOBB, PEGGY L. MICHAELIS, DOUG MORMANN, DENNIS L. PETERSON, MIDGE PFEFFER, THERESA REAGAN.

The council directed the committee to examine ways to increase access to dental care for underserved populations in Wisconsin, particularly those enrolled in Medical Assistance (MA) and BadgerCare. The committee was directed to examine the sufficiency of the number of dental care professionals in Wisconsin and the location of their practices; the number of MA, BadgerCare, and other low-income persons served; ways to increase dental services for underserved populations in Wisconsin; and reimbursement and administrative issues surrounding the provision of dental services under MA and BadgerCare.

### **Special Committee on Developmental Disabilities**

*Members:* SENATOR ROBSON, REPRESENTATIVE FOTI, *cochairpersons*; SENATOR ROESSLER; REPRESENTATIVE PLOUFF; DIANE BRINKMAN, TERRY L. FRIESE, SUE HELGESEN, KATHLEEN MCGWIN, NANCY OLSON, KATHRYN RYAN, DALE THOMPSON, MICHAEL WARD, JAYN WITTENMYER.

The council directed the committee to review funding issues, staffing concerns, and ways to streamline the bureaucracy that provides services to people with developmental disabilities. The committee was directed to focus on providing persons with developmental disabilities opportunities to live independently. The committee was specifically instructed to review the *Olmstead* decision, in which the U.S. Supreme Court held that the unjustified isolation of individuals with mental disabilities constitutes discrimination under the Americans With Disabilities Act and that states could be required to provide community-based treatment for persons with mental disabilities under certain circumstances.

### **Special Committee on Guardians Ad Litem in Actions Affecting the Family**

*Members:* SENATOR PLACHE, REPRESENTATIVE GUNDRUM, *cochairpersons*; SENATORS HUELSMAN, SHIBILSKI, WELCH; REPRESENTATIVES OWENS, STASKUNAS; JOHN BARRETT, MARTHA CRANLEY, PATRICIA DELANEY, LIL FAHRENKRUG, CHERYL A. GEMIGNANI, SUSAN A. HANSEN, PHILIP KIRK, MICHAEL ONHEIBER, THOMAS G. PFEIFFER, GERALD P. PTACEK, JOSEPH J. SCRENOCK, ERICA SERLIN.

The council directed the committee to study the guardian ad litem system as it applies to actions affecting the family, including an examination of the appointment, role, supervision, training, and compensation of guardians ad litem. The review included the necessity of appointment in contested custody or placement cases and whether professionals with specialized expertise in the emotional and developmental phases and needs of children should be appointed to act as guardians ad litem. The council directed the committee to prepare a report of recommended legislation and petition the Wisconsin Supreme Court to consider rules for the reform of the guardian ad litem system, as appropriate.

### **Special Committee on Labor Shortage**

*Members:* SENATOR GEORGE, REPRESENTATIVE HUNDERTMARK, *cochairpersons*; SENATORS GROBSCHMIDT, ROESSLER; REPRESENTATIVES MORRIS-TATUM, VRAKAS; A.J. AMATO, LYLE A. BALISTRERI, JIM CAVANAUGH, RICHARD A. GARTNER, CYNTHIA J. GUTKNECHT, ELLIE HEIN, MICHAEL HOFFMAN, CAROLE JOHNSON, LAURENCE JOHNSON, MARK KINDSCHI, CHARLES O. KRONCKE, PAUL LINZMEYER, DAVID LOPEZ, JIM MACEJKOVIC, SUE MARKS, GREGORY MEYER, ERIC PARKER, KATHRYN KOENEN POTOS, LOLA ROEH, JERRY VISCIONE, FRED A. WAEDT, DOROTHY WALKER, HENRY WALLACE, JOHN D. WILEY, JOHN D. WILSON.

The council directed the committee to study the labor shortage in Wisconsin, including strategies to eliminate shortages in critical industries and occupations; review the so-called “brain drain” problem and identify ways that Wisconsin can retain college and university graduates as well as recruit workers from other states; and examine the skilled building trades for barriers to minorities entering those trades, the methods by which schools train students for those trades, and ways to expand trades-related apprenticeship training opportunities.

### **Special Committee on Navigable Waters Recodification**

*Members:* SENATOR BAUMGART, REPRESENTATIVE GUNDERSON, *cochairpersons*; SENATOR SCHULTZ; REPRESENTATIVES GRONEMUS, KESTELL, KREUSER, OLSEN; STEPHEN M. BORN, JERRY BRADLEY, JAMES BURGESS, DARREN BUSH, KEVIN S. DITTMAR, DANIEL P. GUSTAFSON, JEFF KRUEGER, MICHAEL MILLER, KARI ZAMBON.

The council directed the committee to conduct a recodification and review of Wisconsin Statutes Chapter 30 – Navigable Waters, Harbors and Navigation, to update language and make technical corrections, and advise the council of any substantive policy questions requiring further review.

**Special Committee on Recodification of Operating While Intoxicated and Safety Laws Pertaining to Motor Vehicle, All-Terrain Vehicle, Boat or Snowmobile Operation**

*Members:* SENATOR BURKE, REPRESENTATIVE FREESE, *cochairpersons*; SENATOR HUELSMAN; REPRESENTATIVES AINSWORTH, BLACK, HUBER, LEIBHAM, STASKUNAS, STONE; ROGER ALLEN, BARRY S. COHEN, MICHAEL GAVRONSKI, TOM HAMMER, PATRICK HARDING, STEPHEN HARGARTEN, JAMES M. LANGDON, STEVE MADSON, TOM MCADAMS, MIKE ROIGER.

The council directed the committee to study current statutes relating to operating a vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant or drugs. The committee is to reorganize, simplify, modernize, and clarify these statutes and make minor substantive changes necessary to effect these goals. In addition, the committee is directed to study, with respect to an all-terrain vehicle, boat, or snowmobile, whether enforcement mechanisms need to be increased or created to ensure compliance with the law.

**Special Committee on Special Education**

*Members:* To be appointed.

The council directed the committee to review the federal and state criteria currently used to determine whether a child has special needs and to address concerns about lack of consistency in identification of special needs and the potential over-identification of special education students. The committee was requested to examine the extent of the problem of providing services to violent special education students and make recommendations on how to address the problem.

**Special Committee on Use of Prescription Drugs for Children**

*Members:* SENATOR BRESKE, REPRESENTATIVE GROTHMAN, *cochairpersons*; REPRESENTATIVES MCCORMICK, UNDERHEIM, WASSERMAN, WILLIAMS; MATT AUGUSTINE, SUZANNE BALISTRERI-RODEN, JUDITH BRADSHAW-ROUSE, CLARENCE P. CHOU, MICHAEL D. DEAN, AARON FRIEDMAN, JEANNIE GOEDEN, KATHLEEN A. HAYES, ELIZABETH G. KOENINGS HEIGL, JAMES LARSON, ANDREW PAULSON, HELEN SCHAAL, BRIAN SEEFELDT, BRENDA WARD.

The council directed the committee to study issues surrounding the use of prescription drugs to modify children's behavior, including safety, efficacy, and appropriateness of the use of those drugs, and determine whether such drugs are safely and appropriately prescribed and labeled.



*Representatives Antonio Riley and Greg Huber confer during a finance committee meeting. (Brent Nicastro, Assembly Democratic Caucus)*

### Joint Committee on LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION

*Members:* SENATOR RISSE (senate president), REPRESENTATIVE JENSEN (assembly speaker), *cochairpersons;* SENATORS CHVALA (majority leader), PANZER (minority leader), MOEN (assistant majority leader), A. LASEE (assistant minority leader); REPRESENTATIVES FOTI (majority leader), BLACK (minority leader), LADWIG (assistant majority leader), KREUSER (assistant minority leader).

**Mailing Address:** Legislative Council Staff, P.O. Box 2536, Madison 53701-2536.

**Location:** 1 East Main Street, Suite 401, Madison.

**Telephone:** 266-1304.

**Statutory References:** Sections 13.80 and 13.90.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Joint Committee on Legislative Organization is the policy-making body for the legislative service bureaus: the Legislative Audit Bureau, the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, the Legislative Reference Bureau, the Legislative Technology Services Bureau, and the Revisor of Statutes Bureau. In this capacity, it assigns tasks to each bureau, approves bureau budgets, and sets the salary of bureau heads. The joint committee selects the five bureau heads, but it acts on the recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee when appointing the state auditor. The joint committee also selects the director of the Legislative Council Staff.

The committee may inquire into misconduct by members and employees of the legislature. It oversees a variety of operations, including computer use, space allocation for legislative offices and legislative service agencies, parking on the State Capitol Park grounds, and sale and distribution of legislative documents. The joint committee recommends which newspaper should serve as the official state newspaper for publication of state legal notices. It advises the Ethics Board on its operations and, upon recommendation of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, may investigate any problems the Legislative Audit Bureau finds during its audits. The committee may employ outside consultants to study ways to improve legislative staff services and organization.

**Organization:** The 10-member joint committee is a permanent body, consisting of the presiding officers and party leadership of both houses. The committee has established a Subcommittee on Legislative Services to advise it on text processing and other matters. The Legislative Council Staff provides assistance to the committee.

**History:** The joint committee was created by Chapter 149, Laws of 1963, as part of a legislative reorganization proposed by the Committee on Legislative Organization and Procedure under the authority of Chapter 686, Laws of 1961. The 1963 law also transferred the Legislative Reference Bureau and the Statutory Revision Bureau to the legislative branch and placed them under the supervision of the joint committee. The three other service agencies were placed under the committee's authority by later legislation: the Legislative Audit Bureau in Chapter 659, Laws of 1965; the Legislative Fiscal Bureau in Chapter 215, Laws of 1971; and the Legislative Technology Services Bureau in 1997 Wisconsin Act 27.

In 1966, the joint committee was empowered to investigate misconduct by legislators and legislative staff. Actions by subsequent legislatures expanded the joint committee's supervision of legislative operations to include legislative office space, legislative computer operations, and publication of notices and documents.

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*Senate Majority Leader Chuck Chvala and Senate Minority Leader Mary Panzer try to reach consensus on scheduling legislative action. (Richard G.B. Hanson II, Senate Photographer)*

### **Joint Survey Committee on RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

*Members:* SENATOR WIRCH, REPRESENTATIVE VRAKAS, *cochairpersons*; SENATOR GROBSCHMIDT, REPRESENTATIVE LADWIG, *co-vice chairpersons*; JANE HAMBLEN (assistant attorney general appointed by attorney general), *secretary*; SENATOR ELLIS; REPRESENTATIVE PLALE; DAVID STELLA (designated by secretary of employee trust funds), LAURA ILIFF (designated by insurance commissioner); vacancy (public member appointed by governor).

*Research Director:* vacancy.

**Mailing Address:** 110 East Main Street, Room 722, Madison 53703.

**Telephone:** 267-0507.

**Publications:** A summary compilation of the committee's reports is issued at the end of each legislative session.

**Number of Employees:** 3.00.

**Total Budget 1999-2001:** \$459,800.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.50.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems makes recommendations on all legislation that affects retirement and pension plans for public officers and employees, and its recommendations must be attached as an appendix to each retirement bill. Neither house of the legislature may consider such a bill until the joint survey committee submits a written report that describes the proposal's purpose, probable costs, actuarial effect, and desirability as a matter of public policy.

**Organization:** The 10-member joint survey committee includes majority and minority party representation from each legislative house. An experienced actuary from the Office of the Com-

missioner of Insurance may be designated to serve in the commissioner's place on the committee. The public member cannot be a participant in any public retirement system in the state and is expected to "represent the interest of the taxpayers". Appointed members serve 4-year terms unless they lose the status upon which the appointment was based. The joint survey committee employs a research director and staff under the classified service to assist it in developing its reports.

#### RETIREMENT RESEARCH COMMITTEE

*Members:* All members of the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems including the same officers; LEEAN WHITE (designated by secretary of employment relations); vacancy (representing state, county, and municipal employees); vacancy (representing State Teachers Retirement System); ALICE OLSON (representing Milwaukee Teachers Annuity and Retirement Fund); EARL LIEBERG, 2 vacancies (public members); vacancy (chief executive or member of governing body of a participating local government); JAMES GRUENTZEL (annuitant member serving on the Employee Trust Funds Board). (All, except *ex officio* members, are appointed by governor.)

**Mailing Address:** 110 East Main Street, Room 722, Madison 53703.

**Telephone:** 267-0507.

**Publications:** *Staff Report 83: 2000 Comparative Study of Major Public Employee Retirement Systems.*

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.51.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Retirement Research Committee, originally named the Retirement Research Council, was created as a permanent study group by Chapter 375, Laws of 1959. The principal duty of the 19-member committee is to conduct an ongoing review of state retirement benefits and retirement programs. All administrators of public employee pension or retirement plans to which the state contributes must submit financial reports to the committee. The committee investigates and reports to the legislature on the status of public employee retirement systems. It also maintains a library of public employee pension and retirement plans from the United States.

**Organization:** The officers and staff of the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems serve the same functions for the Retirement Research Committee. Employee/employer representatives and public members are appointed for 4-year terms, unless they lose the status upon which the appointment is based.

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### Joint Legislative STATE SUPPORTED PROGRAMS STUDY AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*Members:* Inactive.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.47.

**Agency Responsibility:** Members of the Joint Legislative State Supported Programs Study and Advisory Committee visit and inspect the State Capitol and all institutions and office buildings owned or leased by the state. They are granted free and full access to all parts of the buildings, the surrounding grounds, and all persons associated with the buildings. The committee may also examine any institution, program, or organization that receives direct or indirect state financial support.

**Organization:** The committee consists of 5 senators and 6 representatives. Members appointed from each house must represent the 2 major political parties, and one legislator from each house must also be a member of the State of Wisconsin Building Commission. Assistance to the committee is provided by the Legislative Council Staff.

**History:** The use of a legislative committee to visit and supervise the use of state institutions and property dates back to 1881. The current joint committee was created by Chapter 266, Laws

of 1973. It replaced the Committee to Visit State Properties, which had combined the functions of the Committee to Visit State Institutions, created in 1947 to inspect state property and state institutions, and the Committee on Physical Plant Maintenance, created in 1957 to manage the State Capitol and the single state office building then in existence.

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### Joint Survey Committee on TAX EXEMPTIONS

*Members:* SENATOR DECKER, REPRESENTATIVE HAHN, *cochairpersons*; SENATORS BRESKE, ELLIS; REPRESENTATIVES HEBL, KEDZIE; RICHARD CHANDLER (secretary of revenue); ALAN LEE (Department of Justice representative appointed by attorney general); PAUL VRAKAS (public member appointed by governor).

**Mailing Address:** Legislative Council Staff, P.O. Box 2536, Madison 53701-2536.

**Telephone:** 266-1304.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.52.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions, created by Chapter 153, Laws of 1963, considers all legislation related to the exemption of persons or property from state or local taxes. It is assisted by the Legislative Council Staff.

Any legislative proposal that affects tax exemptions must be referred to the committee immediately. Budget bills containing tax exemptions are referred simultaneously to the joint survey committee and the Joint Committee on Finance. The joint survey committee must report within 60 days on the tax exemptions contained within a budget bill. Neither house of the legislature may consider tax exemption proposals until the joint survey committee has issued its report, attached



*Campaign finance reform has become a major issue of bipartisan concern. Senate Democratic Caucus Chairperson Judy Robson and Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore Stephen Freese (far right) participate in a press conference on reform initiatives. (Richard G.B. Hanson II, Senate Photographer)*

as an appendix to the bill, describing the proposal's legality, desirability as public policy, and fiscal effect. In the course of its review, the committee is authorized to conduct investigations, hold hearings, and subpoena witnesses.

**Organization:** The 9-member committee includes representation from each house of the legislature with 2 members from the majority party and one from the minority party. The public member must be familiar with the tax problems of local government. Members' terms expire on January 15 of odd-numbered years.

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### TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS COMMISSION

**Members:** GOVERNOR McCALLUM, *chairperson*; SENATORS BRESKE, GROBSCHMIDT, HANSEN, LASEE, SCHULTZ; REPRESENTATIVES BALOW, M. LEHMAN, LIPPERT, RICHARDS, STONE; C. DAVID BUGHER, F. JACK PELISEK, RUSSELL OBERMEIER (citizen members appointed by governor). Non-voting member: TERRY MULCAHY (secretary of transportation).

**Commission Secretary:** BARBARA JUREWICZ, barbara.jurewicz@dot.state.wi.us

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 7913, Madison 53707-7913.

**Location:** Hill Farms State Transportation Building, 4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Room 933, Madison.

**Telephone:** 266-5408.

**Fax:** 267-1856.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.489.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Transportation Projects Commission, created by 1983 Wisconsin Act 27, includes representation from each house of the legislature with 3 members from the majority party and 2 from the minority party. The commission reviews Department of Transportation recommendations for major highway projects. The department must report its recommendations to the commission by September 15 of each even-numbered year, and the commission, in turn, reports its recommendations to the governor or governor-elect, the legislature, and the Joint Committee on Finance before December 15 of each even-numbered year. The commission also approves the preparation of environmental impact or assessment statements for potential major highway projects. If the state budget has been enacted, the commission must respond within 30 days after the Department of Transportation recommends that a highway project be upgraded to "major project status", as that term is defined by statute.

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### Commission on UNIFORM STATE LAWS

**Members:** LAWRENCE J. BUGGE (public member appointed by governor), *chairperson*; BRUCE MUNSON (revisor of statutes), *secretary*; SENATORS GEORGE, HUELSMAN; REPRESENTATIVES CULLEN, GUNDRUM; PETER J. DYKMAN (designated by chief, Legislative Reference Bureau); SHAUN P. HAAS (designated by director, Legislative Council Staff); WILLIAM G. CALLOW (public member appointed by governor).

**Mailing Address:** 131 West Wilson Street, Suite 800, Madison 53703-3233.

**Telephone:** 266-2011.

**Fax:** 264-6978.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.55.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Commission on Uniform State Laws advises the legislature on uniform laws and model laws. It examines subjects on which interstate uniformity is desirable and the best methods for achieving it, cooperates with the National Conference of Commissioners

on Uniform State Laws in preparing uniform acts, and prepares bills adapting the uniform acts to Wisconsin. The commission reports biennially to the Law Revision Committee of the Joint Legislative Council.

**Organization:** The commission consists of 9 members, including 2 public members appointed by the governor for 4-year terms. Legislative members serve 2-year terms and must represent the 2 major political parties.

**History:** The commission was originally created by Chapter 83, Laws of 1893, which authorized the governor to appoint 3 members to serve as the Commissioners for the Promotion of Uniformity of Legislation in the United States. In 1931, Chapter 67 designated the Revisor of Statutes as the sole Wisconsin commissioner. Chapter 173, Laws of 1941, added the chief of the Legislative Reference Library as a commissioner. The commission was created in its present form by Chapter 312, Laws of 1957, and its membership was expanded to include 2 members of the State Bar appointed by the governor. Chapter 135, Laws of 1959, added the director (then called the executive secretary) of the Legislative Council Staff as a member. Chapter 294, Laws of 1979, added 4 legislative members and deleted the requirement that public members appointed by the governor be members of the State Bar.

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*Senate President Fred Risser, with a total of 44 years of service in the Wisconsin Legislature, is a veteran of many floor debates. Here he addresses his Senate colleagues, including (l-r) Senators David Zien, Robert Welch, and Alberta Darling. (Richard G.B. Hanson II, Senate Photographer)*

## LEGISLATIVE SERVICE AGENCIES

## LEGISLATIVE AUDIT BUREAU

*State Auditor:* JANICE L. MUELLER, janice.mueller@

*Deputy State Auditor:* JACOB KLAM, jacob.klam@

*Audit Directors:* DIANN L. ALLSEN, diann.allsen@, DON BEZRUKI, don.bezruki@; JULIE GORDON, julie.gordon@; BRYAN NAAB, bryan.naab@, PAUL STUIBER, paul.stuiber@; KATE WADE, kate.wade@

**Mailing Address:** 22 East Mifflin Street, Suite 500, Madison 53703-2512.

**Telephone:** 266-2818.

**Fax:** 267-0410.

**Internet Address:** <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lab>

Address e-mail by combining the user ID and the state extender: [userid@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:userid@legis.state.wi.us)

**Publications:** Audit reports of individual state agencies and programs; biennial reports.

**Number of Employees:** 86.80.

**Total Budget 1999-2001:** \$10,682,900.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.94.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Legislative Audit Bureau is responsible for conducting financial and program audits to assist the legislature in its oversight function. The bureau performs financial audits to determine whether agencies have conducted and reported their financial transactions legally and properly. It undertakes program audits to analyze whether agencies have managed their programs efficiently and effectively and have carried out the policies prescribed by law.

The bureau's authority extends to executive, legislative, and judicial agencies; authorities created by the legislature; special districts or zones; and certain service providers that receive state funds. The bureau may audit any county, city, village, town, or school district at the request of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee.

The bureau audits and reports on the financial transactions and records of every state agency at least once every 5 years. Agencies or funds audited more frequently include the State of Wisconsin Investment Board, the Department of Employee Trust Funds, State Fair Park, Miller Park baseball park district, the state lottery, and various state insurance funds. In addition, the bureau provides an annual audit opinion on the state's comprehensive financial statements, which are prepared by the Department of Administration.

Typically, the bureau's program audits are conducted at the request of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, initiated by bureau staff, or required by legislation. The reports are reviewed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, which may hold hearings on them and may introduce legislation in response to audit recommendations.

**Organization:** The director of the bureau is the State Auditor, who is appointed by the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization. Both the State Auditor and the bureau's staff are appointed from outside the classified service.

**History:** The bureau was created as a legislative service agency under the jurisdiction of the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization by Chapter 659, Laws of 1965. It replaced the Department of State Audit, which was created by Chapter 9, Laws of 1947, as an executive agency.

#### **Statutory Advisory Council**

**Municipal Best Practices Reviews Advisory Council:** 2 vacancies (representing the Wisconsin Counties Association); vacancy (representing the League of Wisconsin Municipalities); vacancy (representing the Wisconsin Alliance of Cities); vacancy (representing the Wisconsin Towns Association). (All are appointed by the State Auditor.)

The 5-member Municipal Best Practices Reviews Advisory Council advises the State Auditor on the selection of county and municipal service delivery practices to be reviewed by the State

Auditor. The auditor is required to conduct periodic reviews of procedures and practices used by local governments in the delivery of governmental services; identify variations in costs and effectiveness of such services between counties and municipalities; and recommend practices to save money or provide more effective service delivery. Council members are chosen from names submitted by the organizations represented. The council was created by 1999 Wisconsin Act 9 in Section 13.94 (8), Wisconsin Statutes, and is identical to the council created by 1995 Wisconsin Act 27 to sunset on July 1, 1999.

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## LEGISLATIVE FISCAL BUREAU

*Director:* ROBERT WM. LANG.

*Assistant Director:* TERRY A. RHODES.

*Program Supervisors:* FRED AMMERMAN, DARYL HINZ, DAVID LOPPNOW, TONY MASON, CHARLES MORGAN, ROB REINHARDT, DEBORAH SALM.

*Administrative Assistant:* VICKI HOLTEN.

**Mailing Address:** 1 East Main Street, Suite 301, Madison 53703.

**Telephone:** 266-3847.

**Fax:** 267-6873.

**Internet Address:** [www.legis.state.wi.us/lfb](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lfb)

**E-mail Address:** [fiscal.bureau@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:fiscal.bureau@legis.state.wi.us)

**Publications:** State budget papers, including summaries of state agency budget requests; cumulative and comparative summaries of the governor's proposals, Joint Committee on Finance provisions and legislative amendments; and separate summaries of legislative amendments when necessary; informational reports and budget papers on various state programs. (Reports and papers available on the Internet or upon request.)

**Number of Employees:** 35.00.

**Total Budget 1999-2001:** \$5,122,800.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.95.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Legislative Fiscal Bureau develops fiscal information for the legislature, and its services must be impartial and nonpartisan. One of the bureau's principal duties is to staff the Joint Committee on Finance and assist its members. As part of this responsibility, the bureau studies the state budget and its long-range implications, reviews state revenues and expenditures, and suggests alternatives to the committee and the legislature. In addition, the bureau provides information on all other bills before the joint committee and analyzes agency requests for new positions and appropriation supplements outside of the budget process.

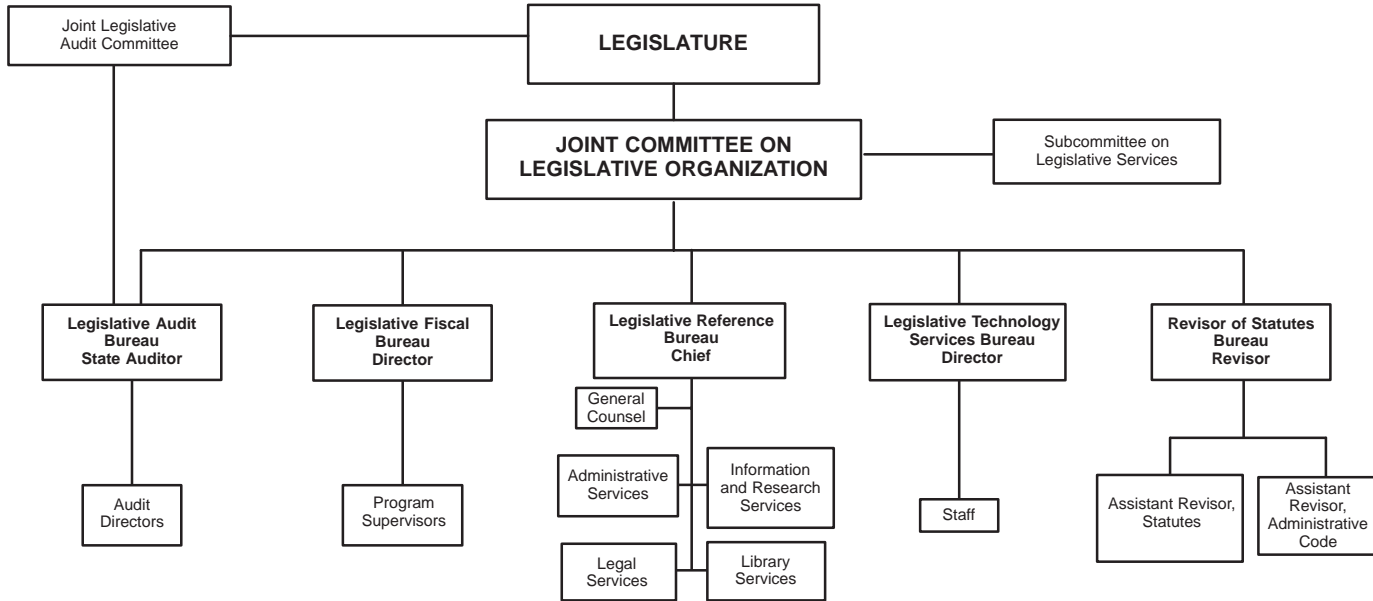
The bureau provides fiscal information to any legislative committee or legislator upon request. On its own initiative, or at legislative direction, the bureau may conduct studies of any financial issue affecting the state. To aid the bureau in performing its duties, the director or designated employees are granted access, with or without notice, to all state departments and to any records maintained by the agencies relating to their expenditures, revenues, operations, and structure.

**Organization:** The Joint Committee on Legislative Organization is the policy-making body for the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, and it selects the bureau's director. The director is assisted by an assistant director and program supervisors responsible for broadly defined subject areas of government budgeting and fiscal operations. The director and all bureau staff are chosen outside the classified service.

**History:** The bureau was created by Chapter 154, Laws of 1969. It evolved from the legislative improvement study that was initiated by Chapter 686, Laws of 1961, using a Ford Foundation grant and state funding. Through the improvement program, the legislature developed its own fiscal staff, known as the Legislative Budget Staff, under the supervision of the Legislative Programs Study Committee. In February 1968, the study committee renamed the budget staff the Legislative Fiscal Bureau and specified its functions. Chapter 215, Laws of 1971, transferred responsibility for the bureau's supervision to the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization.

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LEGISLATIVE SERVICE BUREAUS



### LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

*Chief:* STEPHEN R. MILLER, 267-2175, [steve.miller@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:steve.miller@legis.state.wi.us)

*General Counsel:* PETER J. DYKMAN, 266-7098, [peter.dykman@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:peter.dykman@legis.state.wi.us)

*Administrative Services:* CATHLENE HANAMAN, *manager*, 267-9810, [cathlene.hanaman@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:cathlene.hanaman@legis.state.wi.us)

*Information and Research Services:* LAWRENCE S. BARISH, *research manager*, 266-0344, [larry.barish@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:larry.barish@legis.state.wi.us)

*Legal Services:* PETER R. GRANT, DEBORA A. KENNEDY, JEFFREY T. KUESEL, REBECCA C. TRADEWELL, *managing attorneys*.

*Library Services:* MARIAN G. ROGERS, *managing librarian*, 266-2824, [marian.rogers@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:marian.rogers@legis.state.wi.us)

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 2037, Madison 53701-2037.

**Location:** 100 North Hamilton Street, Madison.

**Telephones:** Legal: 266-3561; Research and Library: 266-0341.

**Fax:** Legal: 264-8522; Research and Library: 266-5648.

**Internet Address:** <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lrb>

**Publications:** *Wisconsin Blue Book*; bulletins and briefs on various subjects; Selective List of Recent Acquisitions; various sections of the *Bulletin of the Proceedings of the Wisconsin Legislature*. (All bulletins and briefs and the *Blue Book* are available on the Internet.)

**Number of Employees:** 58.00.

**Total Budget 1999-2001:** \$7,272,800.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.92.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Legislative Reference Bureau provides nonpartisan, professional, confidential bill drafting, research, and library services to the legislature. Although it is primarily a legislative service agency, the statutes direct the bureau to serve public officials, students of government, and citizens.

By statute, the bureau must draft all legislative proposals and amendments for introduction in the legislature. A major portion of the work of the legislative attorneys involves the drafting of the state's biennial budget. They also prepare plain language analyses that are printed with all bills and most resolutions.



*Assembly leaders (from left) Majority Leader Steven Foti, Minority Leader Spencer Black, and Assistant Minority Leader James Kreuser, discuss the day's legislative calendar. (Jay Salvo, Assembly Republican Caucus)*

At the request of the chief clerk, the bureau engrosses the text of bills significantly amended in the house of origin. It also enrolls the final text of all bills that have passed both houses prior to their submission for the governor's action. The bureau is responsible for publishing each act, and, in consultation with the Revisor of Statutes, it produces the bound volumes of all session laws enacted during the biennial legislative session.

The bureau collects and makes available a broad range of information to aid legislators and other government officials in the performance of their duties. It is required by law to prepare and publish studies and reports on subjects that are or may become topics of legislative concern and, in the odd-numbered years, it writes, edits, and publishes the 1,000-page *Wisconsin Blue Book*, the official almanac of Wisconsin government.

State law requires the bureau to maintain the drafting records of all legislation introduced and to use those records to provide information on legislative intent. Drafting records, beginning with the 1927 session, are available to the public as part of the bureau's noncirculating reference collection.

The Dr. H. Rupert Theobald Legislative Library contains the bureau's extensive collection of material pertaining to government and public policy issues. The collection is the bureau's primary research tool, and it constitutes a resource for legislators, legislative staff, and other patrons. The library staff prepares various sections of the *Bulletin of the Proceedings of the Wisconsin Legislature*, including the subject and author index to legislation; subject indexes to legislative journals, administrative rules, and Wisconsin acts; and, in cooperation with the Ethics Board, a list of lobbyists and their principals.

The bureau carries out interlibrary loan or exchange agreements with other states, prepares maps and other information after each federal census for redistricting purposes, and offers instruction on legislative procedure to students and civic groups. It maintains a reference desk to answer inquiries on legislative matters and state government.

**Organization:** The Joint Committee on Legislative Organization is the policy-making body for the bureau, and it selects the bureau chief. The bureau chief and staff members are appointed from outside the classified service.

**History:** The bureau was created in 1901 by Chapter 168 as the Legislative Reference Library under the governance of the Free Library Commission. It represented the first organized effort in the nation to provide a state legislature with professional staff assistance. Bill drafting responsibilities were officially assigned in 1907 by Chapter 508, although this service actually had been performed earlier. Editing of the *Wisconsin Blue Book* was added to the agency's duties in 1929 (Chapter 194). Chapter 149, Laws of 1963, renamed the agency the Legislative Reference Bureau and placed it under the direction of the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization.

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## LEGISLATIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES BUREAU

*Director:* MARK WAHL.

**Mailing Address:** 17 South Fairchild Street, Suite 400, Madison 53703-3219.

**Telephone:** 264-8582.

**Fax:** 267-6763.

**Internet Address:** <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/ltsb>

**Publications:** *Wisconsin Legislative Strategic Technology Plan*.

**Number of Employees:** 24.00.

**Total Budget 1999-2001:** \$2,868,600.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.96.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Legislative Technology Services Bureau is responsible for providing information technology support to both legislators and legislative agencies. It also coordinates the planning and execution of electronic information programs and services as needed. The

bureau's services must be nonpartisan, and it must protect the confidentiality of the information originated, maintained, and processed by the electronic equipment it supports.

The bureau develops and supports the specialized programs used for bill drafting, production of the *Wisconsin Statutes* and *Administrative Code*, and publication of the *Wisconsin Blue Book*. It maintains and implements improvements in the computer networks that allow legislative offices and service agencies to exchange information and work together. It also provides mapping and redistricting services following each decennial U.S. Census, develops database services that allow legislators to serve their constituents more efficiently, supports the technology for the legislature's Internet site, and offers training services for legislators and staff in the use of information technology. The bureau's duties include maintenance of the legislature's payroll and accounting system, consultation on equipment and procedures for legislative administration, legislative office management, on-line publication and communication, and voice and video production.

**Organization:** The Joint Committee on Legislative Organization is the policy-making body for the bureau. It selects the director and is specifically responsible for reviewing and approving all information technology proposals. The director appoints bureau staff. Both the director and the staff serve outside the classified service.

**History:** The bureau was statutorily created by 1997 Wisconsin Act 27 as the Integrated Legislative Information Staff and was renamed by 1997 Wisconsin Act 237.

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*Speaker Pro Tempore Stephen Freese explains the details of Wisconsin's legislative process to Mkangeli Matomela, Speaker of the Eastern Cape Provincial Legislature of South Africa, and other South African delegates. (Jay Salvo, Assembly Republican Caucus)*

**REVISOR OF STATUTES BUREAU**

*Revisor of Statutes:* BRUCE MUNSON, 267-3536, bruce.munson@legis.state.wi.us

*Deputy Revisor and Assistant Revisor, Statutes:* BRUCE J. HOESLY, 266-7590,  
bruce.hoesly@legis.state.wi.us

*Assistant Revisor, Administrative Code:* GARY L. POULSON, 266-7275,  
gary.poulson@legis.state.wi.us

**Mailing Address:** 131 West Wilson Street, Suite 800, Madison 53703-3233.

**Telephone:** 266-2011.

**Fax:** 264-6978.

**Internet Address:** <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb>

**Publications:** Wisconsin Statutes and Annotations; Wisconsin Administrative Code and Register; Wisconsin Town Law Forms; *WisLaw*® on CD-ROM.

**Number of Employees:** 11.00.

**Total Budget 1999-2001:** \$1,430,800.

**Statutory Reference:** Section 13.93.

**Agency Responsibility:** The Revisor of Statutes Bureau edits, annotates, and publishes the Wisconsin Statutes and Annotations, prepares revision and corrections bills, edits and publishes the Wisconsin Administrative Code and Register, and performs related law publishing and advisory functions.

The bureau incorporates newly enacted laws into the existing statutes, thereby updating the state's statutory code. The statutes are published every two years when the legislature completes its session. The bureau also releases quarterly updated versions of the statutes on *WisLaw*®, its CD-ROM periodical, and on its Internet site.

The bureau prepares revisor's corrections bills to correct errors or resolve conflicts arising from the enactment of laws. It reviews attorney general's opinions, federal district and appellate court decisions, and state appellate or supreme court decisions that declare a Wisconsin statute or session law to be ambiguous, in conflict with other laws, anachronistic, unconstitutional, or otherwise in need of revision. These findings are reported to the Joint Legislative Council's Law Revision Committee. The revisor also systematically examines the statutes and session laws for similar defects and proposes revision bills to the Law Revision Committee.

The bureau edits and publishes the Wisconsin Administrative Code and the semimonthly Wisconsin Administrative Register, which contains rule hearing and publication notices and summaries of emergency rules. It also prepares the Wisconsin Town Law Forms distributed to town officials to aid them in administering town government. These publications are also published on *WisLaw*® and the bureau's Internet site.

**Organization:** The Joint Committee on Legislative Organization is the policy-making body for the bureau and appoints the revisor. The revisor and all bureau staff are members of the classified service.

**History:** Wisconsin was the first state to adopt a plan for continuous revision of its statutes when Chapter 546, Laws of 1909, provided for a Revisor of Statutes to be appointed by the trustees of the state library. The editing and distribution of the Wisconsin Administrative Code and Register were added to the revisor's duties in 1955, but the responsibility for sale and distribution of these documents was transferred in 1963 to the Department of Administration. Chapter 149, Laws of 1963, moved the revisor to the legislative branch by creating the Statutory Revision Bureau under the supervision of the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization. A 1965 law renamed the bureau the Revisor of Statutes Bureau.

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**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION  
ENACTED BY THE 1999 LEGISLATURE**

This section highlights significant legislation enacted by the 1999 Wisconsin Legislature in the biennial session that began January 4, 1999, and concluded January 3, 2001. The legislation summarized here is categorized by subject matter. In some cases, the individual act is described under a single subject heading, but when an act affects more than one area of state law, such as 1999 Wisconsin Act 9 (the budget act), significant provisions are separately described under the appropriate subject headings. The section concludes with a summary of major proposals that failed to be enacted or adopted.

The regular session of the 1999 Legislature was organized into the following floorperiods:

January 14, 1999	March 16-25, 1999	March 7-30, 2000
January 26-28, 1999	May 11-October 6, 1999*	May 2-4, 2000
February 16-18, 1999	October 26-November 11, 1999	May 23-24, 2000
March 2-4, 1999	January 25-February 10, 2000	

\*The ending date of this floorperiod was determined by passage of the biennial budget bill.

The following table summarizes activity in recent legislative sessions:

	Legislative Session				
	1991-92	1993-94	1995-96	1997-98	1999-2000
Total Drafting Requests . . . . .	14,707	13,466	13,631	11,908	9,774
Bills Introduced . . . . .	1,709	2,156	1,781	1,521	1,503
Assembly Bills . . . . .	1,112	1,319	1,103	979	973
Senate Bills . . . . .	597	837	678	542	530
Acts . . . . .	324	497	469	338	198
Percentage of Bills Enacted . . .	19.0%	23.1%	26.3%	22.2%	13.2%
Bills Totally Vetoed . . . . .	33	8	4	3	5
Bills Partially Vetoed . . . . .	13	24	21	8	10

**SIGNIFICANT 1999-2000 LEGISLATION**

**Business and Consumer Law**

**Act 9 (AB-133)** requires certain financial institutions, medical businesses, and tax preparation businesses to shred or otherwise modify records containing personal information before disposing of them to ensure personal information cannot be accessed by an unauthorized person. With limited exceptions, the act also makes it a crime to possess an improperly disposed of record from one of these businesses, if the person in possession intends to use personal information contained in the record for any purpose.

**Constitutional Amendments**

**Enrolled Joint Resolution 2 (Assembly Joint Resolution 2)**, proposed by the 1999 Legislature on second consideration, requires that the net proceeds of the state lottery and moneys received by the state that are attributable to bingo games and pari-mutuel on-track betting (other than moneys used to regulate the games and betting and enforce related laws) must be used for property tax relief for residents of this state only. The amendment creates an exception to the uniformity requirement of the Wisconsin Constitution, which generally requires that taxes must be uniform in their application. It also provides that the distribution of these moneys may not vary based on the income or age of the person receiving the property tax relief. The amendment was ratified by the electorate on April 6, 1999, and the legislature subsequently passed Act 5 (SB-114) to modify the lottery property tax credit so that it no longer applied to all taxable real property but only to property used as the property owner’s principal dwelling.

**Courts and Civil Cases – National Tobacco Settlement**

**Act 122 (SB-122)** was enacted as the result of the November 23, 1998, national master settlement agreement that concluded an action brought in federal court against the major tobacco com-

panies by over 40 states, including Wisconsin. Act 122 requires that tobacco companies that did not participate in the agreement must place in an escrow account an amount of money, determined by the number of cigarettes they sell in Wisconsin. If the nonparticipating companies increase their market share as a result of restrictions placed on the companies participating in the settlement, the amount in escrow is paid to the state.

### **Domestic Relations**

**Act 9 (AB-133)** made various changes related to custody and physical placement of children in actions affecting the family, including those involving divorce, legal separation, paternity, and actions based on voluntary acknowledgment of paternity.

The act provides the court must presume that joint legal custody is in a child's best interest. It may give sole legal custody to one parent only if the parents agree or the court finds that: 1) one parent is not capable of performing parental duties or does not wish to have an active role in raising the child; 2) one or more conditions exist that would substantially interfere with the exercise of joint legal custody; or 3) the parents will not be able to cooperate in future decision making. The court is required to set a schedule that will allow a child regularly occurring periods of physical placement with each parent and maximize the amount of time a child may spend with each parent.

Under the new law, if legal custody or physical placement is contested, each parent must submit a parenting plan before any pretrial conference is held. A parent who fails to submit such a plan waives the right to object to the plan the other parent submits. The law specifies the information the plan must provide, including where the child will go to school, how the holidays will be divided, who will provide child care when the parent cannot, and what doctor or medical care facility will be used for the child.

A parent may petition for enforcement of physical placement if the other parent intentionally and unreasonably denies or interferes with one or more of the first parent's periods of physical placement. The court may order restitution for a financial loss one parent incurs when the other parent has intentionally, unreasonably, and without adequate notice failed to exercise one or more periods of physical placement.

### **Education – Primary and Secondary Education**

**Act 9 (AB-133)** makes various changes relating to primary and secondary schools.

**Milwaukee Public Schools.** Act 9 creates the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) Neighborhood Schools Initiative, which is designed to reduce the number of pupils transferred from their neighborhood schools to other schools within the district and to build more neighborhood schools within MPS. The initiative establishes percentage thresholds for the number of proposed transfers for which the MPS Board must receive written parental consent before transferring the pupils. The board must submit a neighborhood schools plan to the legislature's Joint Committee on Finance and the senate and assembly education committees. The act authorizes the Milwaukee Redevelopment Authority, upon request of the MPS Board, to issue up to \$170 million in bonds to finance the construction and renovation of schools, as outlined in the approved neighborhood schools plan. It also provides that, until the bonds are paid off or for five years if no bonds are issued, MPS will receive, as its intradistrict transfer aid, the greater of the amount it received in the 1998-99 school year or the actual amount of aid generated under the Intradistrict Transfer Program.

**School Safety and Discipline.** Act 9 requires various educational agencies to provide research results on school safety and discipline to school districts and private schools. In addition, the Department of Public Instruction and the Department of Justice must apply for federal funds related to school safety and reducing violence and disruption in schools. The act requires each school board to have in effect a school safety plan for each district school, and it increases a district's or private school's maximum recovery for certain dangerous acts of a minor child from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

**School Term.** Act 9 prohibits a public school from commencing the school term before September 1 unless the school board holds a public hearing after June 30 and adopts a resolution to start school before September 1.

**High School Diplomas.** Act 9 eliminates the prohibition against a school board's granting a high school diploma to a pupil who had not passed the high school graduation test and requires



*Sen. Gary George, as chairperson of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, Consumer Affairs and Campaign Finance Reform, raises questions on a proposal before the committee. (Richard G.B. Hanson II, Senate Photographer)*

a school board to adopt a written policy that specifies criteria for granting a diploma in addition to the requirements relating to the number of credits attained. The act also requires a school board to excuse a pupil from taking the high school graduation test if requested to do so by the pupil's parent or guardian. It applies the high school graduation test provisions to charter schools established or operated by the Milwaukee Charter School Program (MCSP), the City of Milwaukee, UW-Milwaukee, or Milwaukee Area Technical College.

*Promotion.* Act 9 eliminates the prohibition against a school board's promoting to the next grade a 4th or 8th grade pupil who has not achieved the requisite score on the knowledge and concepts examinations administered in those levels. Instead, the act requires a school board to promote a pupil based on his or her score on the 4th or 8th grade examination (unless the pupil is excused from taking the test), the pupil's academic performance, and recommendations of teachers that are based on academic performance. The act also applies these requirements to MCSP schools.

*SAGE.* Act 9 creates a third round of 5-year contracts under the Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) program, under which school boards receive state aid if they reduce class size in kindergarten to grade three and improve academic performance. Under the act, a school district is eligible for a contract regardless of the poverty rate of the beneficiary school or schools. The act also creates a categorical aid program to reimburse school districts, except for MPS, for 20% of debt service costs associated with SAGE building projects.

#### **Education – University of Wisconsin System**

**Act 9 (AB-133)** prohibits the UW Board of Regents from increasing resident undergraduate tuition beyond an amount sufficient to fund certain costs, such as compensation and fringe benefits for UW employees, estimated losses in revenue from declining enrollment, and the costs of nontraditional courses. In addition, the act makes an appropriation change that allows the board

to spend up to the entire amount of tuition received. Under former law, the board could raise tuition as it saw fit but could spend only the amount specified by the legislature.

#### **Education – Other**

**Act 44 (AB-654)** creates a College Savings Program under which a person may contribute money to a college savings account on behalf of a beneficiary to cover the future cost of tuition, fees, room and board, and supplies and equipment at a university or college. Like the existing College Tuition Prepayment Program, under which a person may purchase tuition units that may be redeemed to cover college expenses, the College Savings Program is a qualified state tuition plan under federal tax law, which means that federal tax on the earnings of a college savings account is deferred until the funds are withdrawn, at which time the distributions are taxed as ordinary income to the beneficiary.

#### **Gambling**

**Act 9 (AB-133)** provides that in fiscal year 1999-2000 general program revenue, rather than lottery revenues, will fund the lottery's general program operations, the compensation paid to lottery ticket retailers, farmland tax relief credit, and a portion of gaming law enforcement. (Retailer compensation and the tax credit will again be paid by lottery revenues beginning in 2000-01.)

Act 9 also decriminalizes the possession and operation of five or fewer video gambling machines in an establishment licensed to serve alcohol beverages for consumption on the premises, such as a tavern or restaurant, and reduces the penalty to a civil forfeiture of \$500 per machine. The act does not, however, change the law which makes it a misdemeanor for a patron to gamble using a video gambling machine, and the devices themselves remain subject to seizure. Act 9 specifically states an establishment's alcohol beverage license cannot be revoked solely because of having five or fewer video gambling machines on the premises. Criminal penalties are retained for exceeding the 5-machine threshold or for having a video gambling machine in a place other than the establishments described.

#### **Health and Social Services**

**Act 9 (AB-133)** creates the Family Care (FC) program, a new system for delivery of long-term care (LTC) to elderly persons and adults with physical disabilities. The program, which includes financial assistance for enrollees, will cover 13 counties during the 1999-2001 biennium, expanding the scope and number of pilot projects that existed in eight counties and with the Oneida Tribe under 1997 Wisconsin Act 27.

Under the program, the single entry point for FC services will be the county or tribal resource center, which will offer LTC counseling and referral services, assessment of care needs, determination of eligibility and cost sharing, and information about the range of publicly funded LTC options. Nursing homes, community-based residential facilities, adult family homes, and residential care apartment complexes must inform prospective residents about the FC program, and they must refer certain persons to the resource center before admitting them to the facility.

Act 9 provides appeals procedures regarding denials of FC benefit eligibility or entitlement, determinations of cost-sharing, failure to provide timely services, reduction of services, unacceptable care plans, and benefit terminations.

Act 9 also authorizes the formation of FC care management organizations, similar to health maintenance organizations, which will enroll persons entitled to FC benefits, conduct assessments, develop care plans, and provide or contract for case management and LTC services.

County officials are required to appoint local LTC councils, develop initial plans for the resource centers and care management organizations, and perform other related duties. A county board is authorized to create a Family Care District (a special purpose district) and appoint a district board, which may oversee the operation of a resource center or a care management organization, but not both.

The law creates a 15-member Council on Long-Term Care in the Department of Health and Family Services to assist the department in dealing with issues related to LTC services and policy. The council will sunset on July 1, 2001, or the day after publication of the 2001-03 biennial budget act, whichever is later.

### Insurance

**Act 9 (AB-133)** creates the Private Employer Health Care Purchasing Alliance whereby employers in the private sector may purchase health insurance coverage for their employees through the Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF). The department, in consultation with the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance, must design an actuarially sound health care coverage plan that will provide coverage beginning no later than January 1, 2001. The act also creates the Private Employer Health Care Coverage Board, which must approve the plan before its implementation. Under the act, ETF is required to solicit and accept bids and make every reasonable effort to enter into a contract for the administration of the health care coverage plans. Any employer choosing to participate in the program must offer the coverage to all of its permanent employees who have a normal work week of 30 or more hours. The employer is required to pay for each employee at least 50% of the lowest premium rate available to the employer for that employee. The program ends on January 1, 2010.

**Act 155 (SB-350)** requires that, with some exceptions, every insurer who issues a health benefit plan must provide an internal grievance procedure under which an insured may submit a written grievance to a panel for investigation. The panel must include at least one person authorized to take corrective action and at least one person insured under the plan other than the grievant. With some exceptions, the act also requires insurers issuing health benefit plans to provide an independent review procedure for insureds who receive an adverse determination related to coverage. The insured who has followed the plan's internal grievance procedure (except for an emergency situation) may have the adverse determination reviewed by an independent review organization that is not affiliated with the insurer and that is certified by the Commissioner of Insurance. An independent review organization's decision on an adverse determination, such as whether an experimental treatment should be covered, is binding on both the insured and the insurer.

### Local Law

**Act 9 (AB-133)** provides that a city, village, town, county, or regional planning commission ("local governmental unit") is eligible for a state land use planning grant to create or amend a comprehensive plan. The act requires a comprehensive plan must address certain planning elements, such as housing, transportation, utilities, community facilities, natural and cultural resources, economic development, intergovernmental cooperation, land use, and plan implementation procedures. Beginning on January 1, 2010, any program or action of a local governmental unit that affects land use, such as zoning ordinances and annexation procedures, must be consistent with the local unit's comprehensive plan. The act requires the UW-Extension to develop, no later than January 1, 2001, a model ordinance for traditional neighborhood development and a model ordinance for conservation subdivision. If these models are approved by certain legislative committees, every city and village, and every town with a population of at least 12,500, must enact ordinances similar to the model ordinances. The act also requires the secretaries of the Department of Administration and the Department of Revenue to propose jointly a Smart Growth Dividend Aid Program to distribute aid, beginning in fiscal year 2005-06, to cities, villages, towns, and counties that have zoning and subdivision ordinances consistent with their comprehensive plans. The aid is to be distributed based on credits that these political subdivisions accumulate for certain types of new housing units that were sold or rented in the previous year.

**Act 167 (AB-892)** creates a professional football stadium district in any county with a population of more than 150,000 that contains the home stadium of a professional football team that is a member of a league of professional football teams. (Currently, this law applies only to Brown County and the Green Bay Packers.) A stadium district is a special purpose district, governed by a district board whose members are appointed by local elected officials. The district may issue up to \$16 million in tax-exempt revenue bonds; acquire, construct, and maintain football stadium facilities; and, subject to approval in a referendum of the county's electors, impose sales and use taxes at a rate of 0.5%. The proceeds of the sales and use taxes must first be used to pay current debt service on bonds issued by the district. Any remainder must be used for other specified purposes, including payment of the district's administrative expenses and the maintenance and operating costs of the stadium facilities. Bonds issued by a district are not debts of the state or the county or municipalities located within the district. Under the act, the state pledges that it will protect the rights of bondholders and will not limit or alter the rights vested in the district until

the bonds are fully discharged. The act creates an individual income tax checkoff whereby individuals may donate to the district's maintenance and operating cost fund. It also authorizes the Department of Transportation to create special license plates associated with professional football teams and specifies part of the license fees must be deposited in the district's maintenance and operating cost fund.

#### Natural Resources

**Act 9 (AB-133)** establishes the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship 2000 Program, under which the state may issue bonds totalling up to \$46 million over the next 10 years for various conservation purposes. The program consists of subprograms for land acquisition; property development and local assistance; protection of bluffs along rivers; and the Baraboo Hills. Funding may be used for land acquisition related to habitat and natural areas and preservation and enhancement of state water resources. Local assistance will provide grants to acquire land for local parks and urban green space, including land along urban rivers.

#### Public Employees – Fringe Benefits

**Act 11 (AB-495)** made a number of significant changes affecting benefits provided to state and local government employees participating in the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS). The reader may consult the act or contact the Department of Employee Trust Funds for more detailed information. On December 29, 1999, the Wisconsin Supreme Court enjoined the Department of Employee Trust Funds and the Department of Administration from implementing or enforcing the act until further ordered by the court. On June 12, 2001, the court held the law constitutional (*Employee Trust Fund Board v. Lightbourn*, Case No. 99-3297-OA).



*Politics has been called the art of persuasion. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Chvala and Senator Kevin Shibilski find a moment to exchange views during a break in floor action. (Richard G.B. Hanson II, Senate Photographer)*

### Public Utilities

**Act 9 (AB-133)** provides for the creation of a transmission company to construct and operate electric transmission facilities in order to provide an adequate and reliable electric transmission system. The company must apply by November 1, 2000, for any state or federal approval that is necessary for beginning operations. The act establishes requirements and procedures for public utilities and cooperatives to contribute their electric transmission facilities and associated land rights to the transmission company. It also creates an exception to existing legal limits on the amount of nonutility affiliate assets that may be held within a public utility holding company system if each public utility affiliate in the system commits by September 30, 2000, to contribute its transmission facilities and associated land rights to the transmission company.

Act 9 creates grants for low-income energy assistance, energy conservation and efficiency services, and the development of customer applications of renewable energy resources. The grants are awarded from a utility public benefits fund, made up of public benefits fees charged to customers of electric utilities that are not municipal utilities. Retail electric cooperatives and municipal electric utilities are also required to charge public benefits fees, but they may pay the fees to the state fund or fund their own similar programs.

Act 9 establishes renewable resource requirements for retail electric sales by electric utilities and cooperatives. By December 31, 2011, a minimum of 2.2% of the total retail electric sales by an electric utility or cooperative must be renewable energy. An electric utility or cooperative may comply with this requirement by purchasing renewable resource credits from other electric utilities and cooperatives whose credits exceed the act's requirements.

### Taxation

**Act 9 (AB-133)** modifies the individual income tax structure by reducing the income tax rates, increasing the sliding scale standard deduction, creating personal exemptions, creating a fourth income tax bracket, increasing the married couple credit, making withholding table adjustments, eliminating miscellaneous deductions from the itemized deduction credit, and eliminating the dependent and senior citizen tax credits.

It also imposes annual recycling surcharges on businesses. A corporation with at least \$4 million in gross receipts for the taxable year must pay a recycling surcharge generally equal to 3% of its gross tax liability. Any other business entity with at least \$4 million in gross receipts for the taxable year pays a recycling surcharge generally equal to 0.2% of its net income. Business entities engaged in farming with no more than \$1 million in gross receipts for the taxable year pay a recycling surcharge of \$25.

**Act 10 (October 1999 Special Session AB-1)** and **Act 198 (May 2000 Special Session SB-1)** both dealt with the school property tax rent credit. Act 10 created a one-time sales tax rebate for individuals who were residents, part-year residents, and nonresidents of this state. It also repealed the school property tax rent credit and reduced the amount available under the school levy tax credit. Act 198 restored the school property tax rent credit that Act 10 had repealed.

### Transportation

**Act 9 (AB-133)** establishes graduated driver licensing. The initial stage of licensure involves instructional permits. Persons holding these permits, regardless of age, may drive only when accompanied by a qualified, licensed adult driver. Applicants who complete the instructional permit phase may apply for a 2-year probationary license. In order to apply for a probationary license, the applicant must: 1) have held an instructional permit for not less than six months; 2) have completed at least 30 hours of driving experience (including at least 10 hours of nighttime driving experience); and 3) not have been convicted of a specified traffic offense committed within six months of applying for a driver's license. Demerit points assessed during the probationary period are calculated on a different basis than for regular licenses.

During the first nine months of a probationary license or until a driver reaches 18 (whichever comes first), drivers under 18 years of age may transport no more than one other person, with the exception of immediate family members and certain qualified licensed adults. They also may not drive between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m., except for trips to and from their residences, school, or work, unless accompanied by a qualified licensed adult. The restrictions are extended for six months, or until the licensee's 18th birthday (whichever occurs first), if the driver violates

the restrictions, commits an offense specified by Department of Transportation (DOT) rule, or has operating privilege suspended for any reason other than a mental or physical disability. Passenger and driving time restrictions do not apply to driving in emergency situations or in the service of a qualified teen safe-ride program (any organized program that transports teenagers to their homes free of charge).

**Act 109** (*SB-125*) makes various statutory changes regarding operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of an intoxicant (OWI), most of which took effect on January 1, 2001. It requires the courts to suspend the driver's license of any juvenile convicted of two or more specified underage drinking offenses involving a motor vehicle within a 12-month period.

The act also prohibits a person who has three or more prior OWI convictions, suspensions, or revocations resulting from operating a motor vehicle if the amount of alcohol in the person's blood exceeds a 0.02 alcohol concentration. In determining the number of previous OWI convictions, suspensions, or revocations for purposes of establishing penalties for a current OWI offense, the court must count any convictions within the person's lifetime for killing or causing great bodily harm to another as the result of an OWI offense.

Act 109 increases the range of fines for a second OWI conviction to \$350 to \$1,100. The fine may double, triple, or quadruple, based on a person's alcohol concentration at the time of an offense.

The act permits a court to restrict a person's operating privilege during a revocation period to the use of motor vehicles equipped with an ignition interlock device (IID), paid for by the driver, if the person is convicted of an OWI offense and has one or more prior OWI convictions, suspensions, or revocations. DOT will promulgate the rules for the IID program and select the persons to install and service the devices.

The act permits a court to order a motor vehicle that was used by a person in the commission of an OWI offense to be immobilized for a revocation period at the driver's expense, if the person has one or more prior OWI convictions, suspensions, or revocations. It also permits a court to seize and order the sale of a motor vehicle used by a person in the commission of an OWI offense if the person has two or more prior OWI convictions, suspensions, or revocations, but deletes the requirement that a court must seize and order the sale of such a motor vehicle if the person had three or more prior OWI convictions, suspensions, or revocations.

Act 109 requires DOT to award "safe-ride" grants to pay up to 50% of the costs of local programs that drive intoxicated persons home from premises licensed to sell alcohol beverages.

**Act 88** (*AB-315*) makes several changes to the law relating to the release of personal information that is collected by DOT. It requires the department to include on certain application forms, including those for certificates of title and motor vehicle licenses, a place for an applicant to designate that personal identifiers may not be released in lists of 10 or more people except to certain authorized persons.

The act includes insurers authorized to write life, disability, or long-term care insurance in the categories of persons authorized to receive personal identifiers that are designated for nondisclosure. It prohibits certain persons who are authorized to receive personal identifiers from disclosing such information for marketing purposes.

## MAJOR PROPOSALS THAT FAILED ENACTMENT OR ADOPTION

### Crime and Criminal Procedure

*Assembly Bill 465* and *Senate Bills 237* and *357* would have classified all felonies into a new 9-tier uniform classification system based on the severity of the offense; eliminated certain penalty enhancers and certain minimum penalty requirements; made certain changes regarding extended supervision; and created a sentencing commission to promulgate advisory sentencing guidelines.

### Discrimination

*Assembly Bill 469* would have eliminated the prohibition against discrimination in employment based on conviction record for a convicted felon who has not been pardoned, whether or not the circumstances of the felony substantially relate to the circumstances of the particular job.

### **Education**

*Assembly Bill 690* would have established a Heritage Trust Program, administered by the State Historical Society, for the purpose of awarding grants for historic preservation to state agencies, local governmental units, and nonprofit organizations.

### **Elections**

*Assembly Bills 256 and 701* and *Senate Bills 111, 113, and 190* would have substantially revised the state campaign finance law.

### **Environment**

*Assembly Bill 602* and *Senate Bill 303* would have required DNR to approve or reject applications for certain licenses, permits, approvals, or determinations within a specified time or the application would be considered approved.

*Assembly Bill 775* and *Senate Bill 414* would have established additional criteria for the approval by DNR of permits for high-capacity wells, such as wells used to supply facilities that bottle water.

### **Financial Institutions**

*Assembly Bill 563* would have permitted a state-chartered bank, state-chartered savings bank, or state-chartered savings and loan institution to be certified as a “universal bank”, a new type of financial institution with expanded powers.

*Assembly Bill 612* would have regulated the practice of providing payday loans.

*Senate Bill 96* would have prohibited certain lenders licensed by this state from charging interest at a rate greater than 26%.

*Senate Bill 274* would have changed the laws relating to credit union membership, powers, and operations and would have excluded credit unions from the group of businesses that are regulated under the agriculture, trade and consumer protection statutes.

*Senate Bill 325* would have prohibited, with certain exceptions, a state, national, or federal financial institution from charging a person a fee for a transaction using an automated teller machine.

### **Health and Social Services**

*Assembly Bills 705, 745, and 815* and *Senate Bills 335, 357, 377, and 476* would have created programs to partially fund the costs of prescription drugs for persons at least 65 years of age.

### **Taxation**

*Assembly Bill 735* would have required a corporation that does business both inside and outside the state to apportion its income for income tax and franchise tax purposes, using an apportionment formula based on a single sales factor.

*Assembly Bill 801* and *Senate Bill 411* would have exempted the property of an air carrier company that operates a hub facility in this state from general property taxes and ad valorem taxes.

### **Transportation**

*Assembly Bill 648* would have restored the circuit court and municipal court authority, repealed in Act 9, to suspend or revoke the driving privilege of a juvenile who fails to pay a forfeiture imposed for an ordinance violation unrelated to the operation of a motor vehicle.

*Assembly Bill 143* would have established primary enforcement of safety belt use requirements for persons in motor vehicles.

*Assembly Bill 336* would have created a penalty enhancer for “aggressive driving”, defined as committing at least three moving violations in a single course of conduct.

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