



2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 806

November 1, 2005 – Introduced by Representatives HONADEL, DAVIS, GOTTLIEB, MONTGOMERY, NERISON and HAHN, cosponsored by Senators COWLES, KEDZIE and KAPANKE. Referred to Committee on Energy and Utilities.

1 **AN ACT relating to:** low-income assistance grants made from the utility public
2 benefits fund.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the Department of Administration (DOA) makes grants from the utility public benefits fund for “low-income assistance,” which is defined as assistance to low-income households for the following: 1) weatherization and other energy conservation services (weatherization assistance); or 2) payment of energy bills or early identification or prevention of energy crises (bill payment assistance).

Current law specifies a formula for determining the amount of grants for weatherization assistance that DOA must make in a fiscal year. The formula requires DOA to spend 47 percent of the sum of the following on such grants: 1) the amount of grants made in the fiscal year by DOA for both types of low-income assistance (i.e., weatherization and bill payment assistance); 2) all moneys received in the fiscal year by the state under certain federal programs for low-income assistance; 3) all moneys spent in the fiscal year on certain low-income assistance programs administered by electric utilities; and 4) 50 percent of certain monthly fees paid by municipal electric utility customers and members of retail electric cooperatives.

This bill changes the formula for fiscal year 2005–06. Instead of specifying the amount that DOA must make in grants for weatherization assistance, the bill specifies the amount that DOA is allowed to make in grants for bill payment assistance in fiscal year 2005–06. Under the bill, DOA is allowed in fiscal year 2005–06 to spend an amount no greater than \$10,000,000 plus 53 percent of the sum

