



## 2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 801

January 24, 2020 - Introduced by Representatives NOVAK, SHANKLAND, TRANEL, KRUG, SUMMERFIELD, KURTZ, POPE, HEBL, KITCHENS, FELZKOWSKI, ZIMMERMAN, KULP, GRUSZYNSKI, MURPHY, SARGENT, MURSAU, NEUBAUER, ANDERSON, CONSIDINE, BALLWEG, MAGNAFICI, PETRYK, MACCO, PLUMER, KATZMA, SPREITZER, EDMING, SKOWRONSKI, TAUCHEN, BILLINGS, TUSLER, SINICKI, STUBBS, VINING, SWEARINGEN, KOLSTE, DOYLE, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, ZAMARRIPA, OHNSTAD, CABRERA, MILROY, EMERSON, VRUWINK, ALLEN, OTT and SPIROS, cosponsored by Senators DARLING, COWLES, TESTIN, WIRCH, PETROWSKI, OLSEN and LARSON. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

- 1     **AN ACT to create** 20.285 (1) (ar) and 36.25 (56) of the statutes; **relating to:**  
2             funding a University of Wisconsin System freshwater collaborative and making  
3             an appropriation.

---

### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill makes an appropriation for the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System to fund a freshwater collaborative among no more than six UW institutions that has the following purposes: 1) studying the challenge of water quality management, including a focus on nutrient runoff, farm policy impacts, and other issues; and 2) studying the challenge of water quality and safety, including a focus on treatment, contamination, and other issues. The bill requires the freshwater collaborative to do all of the following to accomplish those purposes: 1) devise new watercentric training programs focused on undergraduates; 2) provide an opportunity for students to participate in a work-study internship program in a state office that coordinates state water policy; 3) provide scholarships and student support to retain and attract new talent; 4) amplify marketing and recruiting relating to Wisconsin's role in freshwater science; 5) enhance workforce development programming; and 6) recruit new faculty and staff for training programs, research, and innovation.

The bill requires the Board of Regents to establish metrics for determining the success of the freshwater collaborative and submit those metrics to the Joint Committee on Finance. The Board of Regents may expend the moneys appropriated under the bill if JCF does not schedule a meeting to review the metrics. However,

**ASSEMBLY BILL 801**

if JCF schedules a meeting, the moneys may be expended only after JCF approves or modifies the metrics.

The Board of Regents must appoint a nine-member committee to advise the board on how to allocate the funding among UW institutions. One member is the UW System president. The Board of Regents must appoint two members who are nationally recognized objective experts who have shown expertise in the field of water science. Those two members must be selected from a list of five individuals recommended by the UW System president. The senate majority leader and assembly speaker each appoint two members with one representing the agricultural industry and the other representing a private sector nonagricultural industry. Finally, the governor appoints two members with one representing a private sector nonagricultural industry and the other representing a municipal water utility of a second class city with a population of less than 150,000.

The bill also requires the Board of Regents to submit a biennial report to the Joint Committee on Finance and other legislative committees that shows how funding under the bill is distributed and expended at each UW institution, as well as information on demographics and accomplishments of the collaborative.

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

---

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert  
2 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

	<b>2019-20</b>		<b>2020-21</b>
<b>20.285 University of Wisconsin System</b>			
(1) UNIVERSITY EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE			
(ar) Freshwater collaborative                      GPR        C	-0-		2,000,000

7           **SECTION 2.** 20.285 (1) (ar) of the statutes is created to read:  
8           20.285 (1) (ar) *Freshwater collaborative*. As a continuing appropriation, the  
9 amounts in the schedule to provide funding for a freshwater collaborative under s.  
10 36.25 (56) (a).

**ASSEMBLY BILL 801**

1           **SECTION 3.** 36.25 (56) of the statutes is created to read:

2           **36.25 (56) FRESHWATER COLLABORATIVE.** (a) From the appropriation under s.  
3           20.285 (1) (ar) and subject to par. (c), the board shall fund a freshwater collaborative  
4           among no more than 6 institutions that has the following purposes:

5           1. Studying the challenge of agriculture water management, including a focus  
6           on nutrient runoff and groundwater contamination, water withdrawal for irrigation,  
7           and the impact of water management practices on farm policy, including changes to  
8           farm efficiencies, production, and profit margins.

9           2. Studying the challenge of water quality and safety, including a focus on  
10          emerging contaminants, effective treatment techniques, nutrient contamination,  
11          well contamination, surface water contamination, lead contamination, legacy  
12          contamination, and safe drinking water compliance.

13          (b) The freshwater collaborative funded under par. (a) shall do all of the  
14          following to accomplish the purposes specified in par. (a):

15          1. Devise new watercentric training programs focused on undergraduates.

16          2. Provide an opportunity for students to participate in a work-study  
17          internship program in a state office that coordinates state water policy. The board  
18          shall determine the number of credits that students earn in the program.

19          3. Provide scholarships and student support to retain and attract new talent.

20          4. Amplify marketing and recruiting relating to Wisconsin's role in freshwater  
21          science.

22          5. Enhance workforce development programming, including internships,  
23          research experiences, training institutes, and graduate research.

24          6. Recruit new faculty and staff for training programs, research, and  
25          innovation.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 801****SECTION 3**

1           (c) The board shall establish metrics for determining the success of the  
2 freshwater collaborative in accomplishing its purposes. No moneys may be expended  
3 from the appropriation under s. 20.285 (1) (ar) unless the board submits the metrics  
4 to the joint committee on finance and, within 14 working days after the submittal,  
5 the cochairpersons of the committee do not notify the board that the committee has  
6 scheduled a meeting to review the metrics. If, within 14 working days after the  
7 submittal, the cochairpersons of the committee notify the board that the committee  
8 has scheduled a meeting to review the metrics, no moneys may be expended from the  
9 appropriation under s. 20.285 (1) (ar) unless the committee approves or modifies the  
10 metrics.

11           (d) The board shall appoint a committee to advise the board on how to allocate  
12 the funding under par. (a) among the institutions. The committee shall consist of the  
13 following:

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

15           2. Two members appointed by the board who are nationally recognized  
16 objective experts who have shown expertise in the field of water science. The 2  
17 members shall be selected from a list of 5 individuals recommended by the president  
18 of the system or his or her designee.

19           3. Two members appointed by the majority leader of the senate. One of the  
20 members shall represent the agricultural industry and the other member shall  
21 represent a private sector nonagricultural industry.

22           4. Two members appointed by the speaker of the assembly. One of the members  
23 shall represent the agricultural industry and the other member shall represent a  
24 private sector nonagricultural industry.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 801**

1           5. Two members appointed by the governor. One of the members shall  
2 represent a private sector nonagricultural industry and the other member shall  
3 represent a municipal water utility of a 2nd class city with a population of less than  
4 150,000.

5           (e) No later than December 31 of each odd-numbered year, the board shall  
6 submit a report to the joint committee on finance and to the chief clerk of each house  
7 of the legislature for distribution under s. 13.172 (3) to the standing committees  
8 having jurisdiction over matters regarding the University of Wisconsin System or  
9 natural resources. The report shall show the amount of the funding under par. (a)  
10 that is distributed to each institution and show how those amounts compare to the  
11 amounts requested, if any, by each institution. The report shall also describe all of  
12 the following:

13           1. How the funding is expended, including the number and types of positions  
14 created.

15           2. Freshwater collaborative demographics, including the numbers of resident,  
16 nonresident, undergraduate, and graduate students who participate in the  
17 collaborative.

18           3. The accomplishments of the freshwater collaborative, including the type and  
19 number of degrees conferred, research projects completed, and internships provided  
20 under the collaborative.

21

(END)