## Fiscal Estimate - 2011 Session

X	Original		Updated		Correcte	d [	Supple	emental	
LRB	Number	11-3202/1		Intro	duction	Number	AB-053	19	
Author	<b>Description</b> Authorizing the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System to establish an optional retirement system for its employeees								
Fiscal	Effect								
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Fund Sources Affected Affected Ch. 20 Appropriations  GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS									
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RET/ Dan Schmidt (608) 267-7251 Dan S				Schmidt (608) 267-7251				2/14/2012	

# Fiscal Estimate Narratives RET 2/14/2012

LRB Number 11-3202/1	Introduction Number	AB-0539	Estimate Type	Original				
<b>Description</b> Authorizing the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System to establish an optional retirement system for its employeees								

#### **Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate**

2011 Assembly Bill 539 authorizes the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin (UW) System (board) to establish an optional retirement system for UW employees initially hired on or after January 1, 2012, who elect to participate in the optional retirement system. The optional retirement system must be established as a governmental plan and as a qualified plan for federal income tax purposes and must be so maintained and administered. The bill specifically provides that any employer contributions paid by the board during any year on behalf of a UW employee may not exceed the employer contributions paid by a participating employer under the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) in that year for a similarly situated employee.

Under the bill, the board must establish a process for employees to elect to participate in the optional retirement system and must determine all benefits for employees who elect to participate in the optional retirement system. The bill also provides that the board may delegate any powers and duties that the board considers necessary or desirable for the purpose of administering the optional retirement system.

The bill further provides that UW employees who elect to participate in the optional retirement system may not, at the same time, also be participating employees in the WRS. Moreover, an employee who participates in the optional retirement system may not subsequently become a participating employee in the WRS during the period of his or her employment with the UW System. Finally, it should be noted, the bill does not affect any current law insurance benefit or coverage for employees in either the WRS or the optional retirement system.

In order to determine the cost to the core trust fund, an actuarial study would be necessary to determine the cost of potential future departures from the current system. As the legislature does not employ an actuary for such studies, the Legislative Council Staff would need to contract with the actuarial firm contracted by the Department of Employee Trust Funds. An approximate cost for the study was not available at the time this fiscal estimate was prepared. The Legislative Council Staff currently has \$15,000 in its budget for actuarial studies. An actuarial study may be requested by the cochairpersons of the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems (JSCRS) for bills referred to the JSCRS or by the presiding officer of either house of the Wisconsin Legislature for a bill that is pending in that house.

### **Long-Range Fiscal Implications**

Long-range implications remain indeterminate until an actuarial study is performed.

## **Fiscal Estimate Worksheet - 2011 Session**

Detailed Estimate of Annual Fiscal Effect

X	Original		Updated			Corrected		] Suppl	emental			
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