

2019 DRAFTING REQUEST

Bill

For: Legislative Council -law rev com 504-5713 Drafter: mmcgreev

By: Katie Secondary Drafters:

Date: 1/30/2020 May Contact:

Same as LRB: -5570



Submit via email: YES  
Requester's email: katie.bender-olson@legis.wisconsin.gov  
Carbon copy (CC) to: MaryAlice.McGreevy@legis.wisconsin.gov  
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Pre Topic:

No specific pre topic given

Topic:

Various amendments to the Wisconsin Retirement System

Instructions:

See attached

Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	mmcgreev 1/30/2020	swinder 1/30/2020			
/1			lparisi 1/30/2020	mbarman 2/5/2020	

FE Sent For: Not Needed <END>

5546

**McGreevy, Mary Alice**

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**From:** Bender-Olson, Katie  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 30, 2020 9:43 AM  
**To:** McGreevy, Mary Alice  
**Cc:** Young, Tracey  
**Subject:** ETF Law Revision Drafts - Combine and Companion Bills Please

Mary Alice,

The practice of the Law Revision Committee has been to combine all drafts requested by the same agency, that end up being approved by the committee, into one bill draft for introduction. Could you please combine the 6 ETF bill drafts into a single /1?

The ETF drafts are the following:

- 4039/1
- 4040/1
- 4041/1
- 4042/1
- 4043/1
- 4723/3

We will need companion bills for introduction in each house, please.

Thank you!  
Katie



**Katie Bender-Olson**

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State of Wisconsin  
2019 - 2020 LEGISLATURE

LRB-5546(?) 1  
MIM:...

skw  
cjs  
ahc

**PRELIMINARY DRAFT - NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION**

*Compilation*  
*W 4/30*  
*OVE 4/31*  
*gencat*

1 **AN ACT** .;. **relating to:** named various changes to the Wisconsin Retirement  
2 System (suggested as remedial legislation by the Department of Employee  
3 Trust Funds).

***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

Under current law, investment gains and losses of the core and variable retirement investment trust funds are distributed in a ratio of each participating account's average daily balance to the total average daily balance of all participating accounts. The State of Wisconsin Investment Board invests assets of the core and variable investment trust funds, which are commingled under current law, and all activity is not recorded on a daily basis for the separate participating accounts. SWIB provides certified annual earnings reports for the core and variable trust funds.

This bill provides that the Department of Employee Trust Funds may distribute the earnings to each participating account by calculating a simple average balance, which uses beginning and end-of-year balances for each participating account, and comparing that average balance to the total average balance of all participating accounts.

This bill clarifies that only an employee who is currently employed with an participating employer under the Wisconsin Retirement System may purchase other governmental service. As currently written, the statute uses the term "participant" and "participating employee." The term "participant" includes a person who previously worked for a participating employer but has not yet taken a WRS benefit.

Under current law, the Employee Trust Funds Board contracts with employee-funded reimbursement account plan providers to provide accounts to be

used by state agencies. Employee-funded reimbursement accounts are governed by provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. This bill aligns the statutory language with the language in the IRC <sup>the</sup>

Under this bill, references to beneficiaries and named survivors <sup>the</sup> in statutes regarding annuity options under the Wisconsin Retirement System <sup>WRS</sup> are amended to distinguish between a named survivor who will receive a benefit and a beneficiary.

<sup>the</sup> This bill eliminates an expired provision regarding the execution of domestic relations orders (DRO) that divide a Wisconsin Retirement System <sup>WRS</sup> account. Under current law, a DRO must be provided to DETF within 20 years after the judgment of divorce is entered. Under the original DRO law, DETF could not accept a DRO for a judgment of divorce entered before April 28, 1990. The law was amended by 1997 Wisconsin Act 125 to cover DROs for a judgment of divorce entered between January 1, 1982, and April 27, 1990.

The Wisconsin Supreme Court held in *Johnson v. Masters*, 2013 WI 43, 347 Wis. 2d 238, 830 N.W. 2d 647 (2012), that the 20-year limit for execution of DROs issued under the amended law did not begin until the date DETF was able to divide a WRS account. The 20-year period did not begin to toll until May 2, 1998. DETF has not been authorized to accept a DRO to divide an account under the 1997 Wisconsin Act 125 since May 2, 2018.

Finally, under current law, when a disability annuity under the Wisconsin Retirement System <sup>WRS</sup> is terminated, the person's WRS account is reestablished and credited with interest. While a person is receiving an annuity from the WRS, the person cannot also be credited with contributions and service. This bill removes obsolete language from the statute.

For further information, see the NOTES provided by the Law Revision Committee of the Joint Legislative Council.

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 40.04 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           40.04 (3) (a) The net gain or loss of the variable retirement investment trust  
3 shall be distributed annually on December 31 to each participating account in the  
4 same ratio as each account's average daily balance within the respective trust bears  
5 to the total average daily balance of all participating accounts in the trust. The  
6 amount to be distributed shall be the excess of the increase within the period in the  
7 value of the assets of the trust resulting from income from the investments of the  
8 trust and from the sale or appreciation in value of any investment of the trust, over

1 the decrease within the period in the value of the assets resulting from the sale or  
2 the depreciation in value of any investments of the trust.

3 **SECTION 2.** 40.04 (3) (am) 3. (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 40.04 **(3)** (am) 3. (intro.) Annually, on December 31, the sum of all of the  
5 following shall be distributed from the market recognition account to each  
6 participating account in the core retirement investment trust in the same ratio as  
7 each account's average daily balance bears to the total average daily balance of all  
8 participating accounts in the trust:

NOTE: SECTIONS 1 and 2 eliminate the requirement for ETF to distribute the annual certified earnings for the core and variable investment trust funds by calculating an average daily balance, and instead, simply require use of an average balance.

9 **SECTION 3.** 40.08 (1m) (f) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

10 40.08 **(1m)** (f) 1. ~~Subject to subd. 3., if~~ If the participant is not an annuitant on  
11 the decree date, an amount equal to the total of the alternate payee share distributed  
12 under par. (e), including creditable service, shall be subtracted from the participant's  
13 account.

NOTE: SECTIONS 3 and 4 delete cross-references to the statute in SECTION 5.

14 **SECTION 4.** 40.08 (1m) (f) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

15 40.08 **(1m)** (f) 2. ~~Subject to subd. 3., if~~ If the participant is an annuitant on the  
16 decree date, the annuity shall be recomputed using the total value of the participant's  
17 account determined under par. (b) reduced by the total of the alternate payee share  
18 transferred under par. (e) 1., in accordance with the actuarial tables in effect and  
19 using the participant's age on the decree date. The decree date shall be the effective  
20 date of recomputation. If the optional annuity form before division of the  
21 participant's account under par. (b) was not a joint and survivor annuity with the  
22 alternate payee as the named survivor, the same annuity option with no change in

1 the remaining guarantee period, if any, shall be continued upon recomputation to the  
2 participant. The present value of the alternate payee's share of the annuity after  
3 division shall be paid to the alternate payee as a straight life annuity based on the  
4 age of the alternate payee on the decree date. The alternate payee's annuity shall  
5 have the same remaining guarantee period, if any, as the participant's annuity. If  
6 the optional annuity form before division of the participant's account under par. (b)  
7 was a joint and survivor annuity with the alternate payee as the named survivor, the  
8 present value of the annuity after division shall be paid to both the participant and  
9 the alternate payee as a straight life annuity based upon their respective ages on the  
10 decree date. If the participant's account is reestablished under s. 40.63 (10) after the  
11 decree date, the amounts and creditable service reestablished shall be reduced by an  
12 amount equal to the percentage of the alternate payee share computed under this  
13 subdivision.

14 **SECTION 5.** 40.08 (1m) (f) 3. of the statutes is repealed.

NOTE: This SECTION repeals an obsolete statute relating to the division of Wisconsin Retirement System benefits for any participant whose marriage is terminated by a court during the period that begins on January 1, 1982, and ends on April 27, 1990, and for whom the Department of Employee Trust Funds receives a qualified domestic relations order after May 2, 1998.

15 **SECTION 6.** 40.24 (7) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 40.24 (7) (a) (intro.) Any participant who has been married to the same spouse,  
17 or in a domestic partnership with the same domestic partner, for at least one year  
18 immediately preceding the participant's annuity effective date shall elect the  
19 annuity option under sub. (1) (d), the annuity option under sub. (1) (e), if the reduced  
20 annuity under sub. (1) (e) is payable in an optional life form provided under sub. (1)  
21 (d), or an annuity option in a form provided by rule, if the annuity is payable for life  
22 with monthly payments of at least 75 percent of the amount of the annuity to be

1 continued to the ~~beneficiary~~ named survivor, for life, upon the death of the  
2 participant, and the participant shall designate the spouse or domestic partner as  
3 the ~~beneficiary~~ named survivor, unless the participant's application for a retirement  
4 annuity in a different optional annuity form is signed by both the participant and the  
5 participant's spouse or domestic partner or unless the participant establishes to the  
6 satisfaction of the department that, by reason of absence or other inability, the  
7 spouse's or domestic partner's signature may not be obtained. This subsection does  
8 not apply to any of the following:

NOTE: SECTIONS 6 and 7 replace the term "beneficiary" with "named survivor" in statutes relating to annuity options for the Wisconsin Retirement System.

9 **SECTION 7.** 40.24 (7) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 40.24 (7) (b) In administering this subsection, the secretary may require the  
11 participant to provide the department with a certification of the participant's marital  
12 or domestic partnership status and of the validity of the spouse's or domestic  
13 partner's signature. If a participant is exempted from the requirements under par.  
14 (a) on the basis of a certification which the department or a court subsequently  
15 determines to be invalid, the liability of the fund and the department shall be limited  
16 to a conversion of annuity options at the time the certification is determined to be  
17 invalid. The conversion shall be from the present value of the annuity in the optional  
18 form originally elected by the participant to an annuity with the same present value  
19 but in the optional form under sub. (1) (d) and with monthly payments of 100 percent  
20 of the amount of the annuity paid to the annuitant to be continued to the spouse or  
21 domestic partner ~~beneficiary~~ named survivor.

22 **SECTION 8.** 40.285 (2) (b) 1. a. to d. of the statutes are amended to read:

1           40.285 (2) (b) 1. a. The participant participating employee has at least 3  
2 continuous years of creditable service at the time of application.

3           b. The number of years of creditable service applied for under this paragraph  
4 does not exceed the number of years of creditable service that the participant  
5 participating employee has at the date of application, excluding all creditable service  
6 purchased under this section or s. 40.02 (17) (b), 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991,  
7 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, and 2001 stats., s. 40.02 (17) (e), 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993,  
8 1995, 1997, 1999, and 2001 stats., s. 40.02 (17) (i), 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999,  
9 and 2001 stats., s. 40.02 (17) (k), 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, and 2001 stats.,  
10 s. 40.25 (6), 1981, 1983, 1985, 1987, 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, and 2001  
11 stats., or s. 40.25 (7), 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, and 2001 stats., less the number  
12 of years of creditable service previously purchased under this paragraph or s. 40.25  
13 (7), 1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, and 2001 stats.

14           c. At the time of application, the participant participating employee furnishes  
15 evidence of such service that is acceptable to the department.

16           d. Except as provided in sub. (4) (b), at the time of application, the participant  
17 participating employee pays to the department a lump sum equal to the present  
18 value of the creditable service applied for under this paragraph, in accordance with  
19 rates actuarially determined to be sufficient to fund the cost of the increased benefits  
20 that will result from granting the creditable service under this paragraph. The  
21 department shall by rule establish different rates for different categories of  
22 participants, based on factors recommended by the actuary.

NOTE: This SECTION replaces the term “participant” with “participating employee”  
in a statute relating to purchasing creditable service for purposes of the Wisconsin  
Retirement System.

23           **SECTION 9.** 40.63 (10) of the statutes is amended to read:





**Barman, Mike**

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**From:** Bender-Olson, Katie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 05, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** LRB.Legal  
**Subject:** Draft Review: LRB -5546/1

Please Jacket LRB -5546/1 for the ASSEMBLY.