2001 SENATE BILL 331

November 27, 2001 – Introduced by Senators Burke and George, cosponsored by Representatives Krusick, Berceau, Bock, Carpenter, Meyerhofer, Plale, Richards, Sinicki, Sykora, Turner, Williams and Young. Referred to Committee on Labor and Agriculture.

AN ACT to amend 111.70 (8) (a) and 111.77 (8) (a) of the statutes; relating to:

collective bargaining and binding arbitration coverage under the Municipal

Employment Relations Act for fire fighting supervisors employed by a 1st class city.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, fire fighters are covered under the Municipal Employment Relations Act (MERA) and, for those fire fighters employed by a city, village, or town having a population of 2,500 or more, are entitled to binding arbitration. The binding arbitration process that applies to fire fighters provides that the arbitrator must select the final offer of either of the parties on all of the matters on which there is no mutual agreement, unless the parties agree to allow the arbitrator to determine individually the items relating to wages, hours, and conditions of employment on which there is no mutual agreement. Current law, however, does not provide coverage under MERA to fire fighting supervisors.

This bill provides that fire fighting supervisors who are employed by a 1st class city (currently, only Milwaukee) are covered under MERA and are subject to the same binding arbitration law covering fire fighters who are not supervisors.

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For further information see the *state and local* 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:

Section 1. 111.70 (8) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

111.70 (8) (a) This section, except subs. (1) (nm), (4) (cm), and (7m), applies to law enforcement supervisors employed by a 1st class city. This section, except subs. (1) (nm), (4) (cm) and (jm), and (7m), applies to law enforcement supervisors employed by a county having a population of 500,000 or more. This section, except subs. (1) (nm), (4) (cm) and (jm), and (7m), applies to fire fighting supervisors employed by a 1st class city. For purposes of such application, the term "municipal employee" includes any such — supervisor.

Section 2. 111.77 (8) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

111.77 (8) (a) This section applies to law enforcement supervisors employed by a county having a population of 500,000 or more and to fire fighting supervisors employed by a 1st class city. For purposes of such application, the term "municipal employee" includes such a supervisor.

14 (END)