

GENERAL REPORT  
OF THE JOINT  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
TO THE  
2011-12 LEGISLATURE



Criminal Justice Funding and Strategies

Health Care Access

Health Care Reform Implementation

Infant Mortality

Judicial Discipline and Recusal

Law Revision Committee

Local Service Consolidation

Nanotechnology

Public Assistance Program Integrity

Review of Emergency Detention and Admission of  
Minors Under Chapter 51

Review of Higher Education Financial Aid Programs

Review of Records Access of Circuit Court Documents

Review of Spousal Maintenance Awards in Divorce  
Proceedings

Review of the Managed Forest Land Program

Single-Use Plastics

Strategic Job Creation

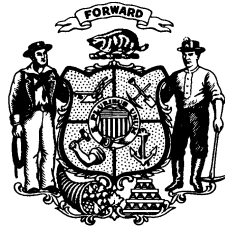
State-Tribal Relations

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One East Main Street, Suite 401  
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June 2012

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State Senate

**JOAN BALLWEG**  
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*Director*  
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*Deputy Director*

June 2012

To the Honorable Governor Scott Walker  
and Members of the 2011 Wisconsin Legislature:

We are pleased to submit this ***General Report*** of the Joint Legislative Council. This General Report summarizes the work of the Joint Legislative Council and its committees during the period from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2012. These committees were established to examine major issues and problems identified by the Council or referred to the Council.

Sincerely,

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Senator Mary Lazich  
Co-Chair  
Joint Legislative Council

---

Representative Joan Ballweg  
Co-Chair  
Joint Legislative Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL REPORT  
OF THE  
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
TO THE  
2011-12  
LEGISLATURE

JUNE 2012



## JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

*[Joint Legislative Council Members Receiving Final Committee Reports]*  
s. 13.81, Stats.

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This 22-member committee consists of the majority and minority party leadership of both houses of the Legislature, the co-chairs and ranking minority members of the Joint Committee on Finance, and 5 Senators and 5 Representatives appointed as are members of standing committees.

*Terry C. Anderson, Director*  
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## PREFACE

This **General Report** of the Joint Legislative Council to the 2011-12 Legislature is prepared pursuant to s. 13.81 (3) of the Wisconsin Statutes. It summarizes the work of the Joint Legislative Council from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2012 and of those statutory and special study committees established by the Council to report to the 2011-12 Legislature.

The Joint Legislative Council continued two statutory committees and established 15 special committees to conduct various studies and to make reports to the 2011-12 Legislature. [See list on page 1 of Part I.]

As of June 30, 2012, the following 13 reports containing the recommendations of study committees were submitted to the 2011-12 Legislature dealing with the substantive issues considered by these committees. These reports are listed below. Copies may be obtained from the Legislative Council staff offices or website (<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc>).

RL 2011-01	Strategic Job Creation (No recommendation)
RL 2011-02	Review of the Managed Forest Land Program (2011 Senate Bill 161 and 2011 Assembly Bill 402)
RL 2011-03	Review of Higher Education Financial Aid Programs (2011 Assembly Bills 141, 142, 143, and 144) [ <b>Note:</b> 2011 Assembly Bill 144 became 2011 Wisconsin Act 176.]
RL 2011-04	Local Service Consolidation (2011 Assembly Bills 138, 139, and 140; and 2011 Assembly Joint Resolution 41)
RL 2011-05	Criminal Justice Funding and Strategies (No recommendation)
RL 2011-06	Review of Spousal Maintenance Awards in Divorce Proceedings (2011 Assembly Bill 134)
RL 2011-07	Single Use Plastics (No recommendation)
RL 2011-08	Judicial Recusal and Discipline (No recommendation)
RL 2011-09	Review of Records Access of Circuit Court Documents (No recommendation)
RL 2011-10	Nanotechnology (2011 Senate Bill 533)
RL 2011-11	Public Assistance Program Integrity (2011 Senate Bill 400)
RL 2011-12	Infant Mortality (2011 Senate Bill 532 and 2011 Assembly Bill 693)
RL 2011-13	Health Care Access (2011 Senate Bill 450)

The Council's Law Revision Committee does not report to the Council; rather, it introduces its legislation separately.

This General Report is organized into the following parts:

Part I describes the Joint Legislative Council, and particularly the activities of the 2010-11 Council.

Part II contains a list of, and briefly describes the work of, each of the Council's committees as well as Joint Legislative Council and legislative actions on the committee recommendations.

The Appendix lists the members of study committees that were established during the period covered by this report.

Complete information on each study committee from the 2010 interim, and previous interims, are available at the Council's website: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc>.



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PART I

WORK OF THE 2011-12 JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



## **WORK OF THE 2011-12 JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

The Joint Legislative Council held three meetings between January 1, 2011 and June 30, 2012 (the period covered by this report) on the following dates:

May 4, 2011  
May 18, 2011  
January 18, 2012

The proposals introduced by the Joint Legislative Council and the Law Revision Committee are discussed in Part II of this report.

### **Council Study Committees**

During the period covered by this report, the Council functioned with two statutory committees and 15 special committees that were established to report to the 2011-12 Joint Legislative Council.

The statutory committees were:

- Law Revision
- State-Tribal Relations

The special committees that the Council created to report to the 2011-12 Council were:

- Criminal Justice Funding and Strategies
- Health Care Access
- Health Care Reform
- Infant Mortality
- Judicial Discipline and Recusal
- Local Service Consolidation
- Nanotechnology
- Public Assistance Program Integrity
- Review of Emergency Detention and Admission of Minors Under Chapter 51
- Review of Higher Education Financial Aid Programs
- Review of Records Access of Circuit Court Documents

- Review of Spousal Maintenance Awards in Divorce Proceedings
- Review of the Managed Forest Land Program
- Single-Use Plastics
- Strategic Job Creation

## **Organization and Activities of the Joint Legislative Council**

The Joint Legislative Council is composed of 22 legislators, 11 from the Senate and 11 from the Assembly. Twelve of these members are *ex officio*--that is, they serve on the Council because of their positions as legislative leaders--and are the following: the Speaker of the Assembly, the President of the Senate, the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Assembly and Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, the two Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance, and the ranking minority member of the Joint Committee on Finance from each house. The other 10 members are appointed as are members of standing committees; five are appointed by the Chair of the Senate Committee on Organization, and five by the Speaker of the Assembly. [s. 13.81 (1), Stats.]

The Joint Legislative Council establishes study committees during the recess periods of the Legislature. The Council determines which studies will be conducted and assigns these studies to particular committees created by the Council for these committees' review, study, and recommendations. These studies generally are of four types:

1. Intensive examination of problems that are expected to confront a succeeding Legislature.
2. Review of controversial subjects that were unresolved by the previous Legislature.
3. Major codifications and revisions of portions of the law.
4. Methods of improving the operation and effectiveness of state agencies.

There are two continuing Council committees currently required by statute [s. 13.83, Stats.]: the State-Tribal Relations Committee and the Law Revision Committee.

Under s. 13.82 (1), Stats., all studies or investigations that are proposed by the Legislature to be conducted are referred to the Council. Individual legislators and others often request, by letter, that a particular study be undertaken. Also, the Council is given specific statutory authority to initiate such studies as it feels will be of value to the citizens of the state. The Council determines which of the studies will be conducted, based on its judgment of which studies should have priority within the limits of the Council appropriation and staff resources.

The end result of this study activity is the submission by the committees of reports and, in almost all cases, implementing legislation to the Joint Legislative Council. The Council reviews the legislative proposals and introduces in the Legislature those it approves by a majority of the membership of the Council (12 votes).

## Operation of Council Staff

The Joint Legislative Council and the Council's study committees are staffed by a central nonpartisan legislative service agency. The Legislative Council staff serves in the unclassified service. As of June 30, 2012, the Council staff included, in addition to the Director, 16 attorneys, 2 analysts, and 6 fiscal and support staff.

The basic duties of the staff include:

1. To provide legal, scientific and policy research, and administrative-secretarial services for the Council and its committees.
2. To provide legal, scientific and policy research, and analysis services for the Legislature's substantive standing committees and joint committees.
3. To provide legal, scientific, and policy research services for individual legislators.
4. To serve as the Administrative Rules Clearinghouse for review of all proposed administrative rules.
5. To provide information to the public.

Each of these activities is discussed briefly below.

*Services for the Council and its Committees.* The Council staff provides services for the Joint Legislative Council and its study committees.

*Services for Legislative Committees.* The Council staff provides nonpartisan legal counsel and scientific and policy research for standing committees and their subcommittees, select or special committees of the Legislature, and a number of joint statutory committees. The Council staff serves as the secretariat for the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization and for the Joint Committee on Employment Relations. Council staff also provides services to ad hoc or informal legislative study committees.

*Services for Individual Legislators.* Upon request, the Council staff provides legal analysis and other research to individual legislators.

*Administrative Rules Clearinghouse.* Prior to any public hearing on a proposed rule, or prior to notification of the chief clerks if no hearing is required, the agency proposing the rule must submit the proposed rule to the Council staff for review. The Council staff is required to review the rule for various technical requirements, such as statutory authority for promulgation of the rule and the form and clarity of the rule and issue a clearinghouse report with its comments on the rule. The Council staff also works with and assists the appropriate standing committees throughout the rule-making process. For additional information, see the Clearinghouse's 2011 Annual Report to the Legislature, which is available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc>. [See s. 227.15, Stats.]

*Services to the Public.* The Council staff is available to answer questions from members of the general public and from research agencies and legislators of other states. Information about the Council staff, as well as publications prepared by the staff, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc>.





PART II

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEES



## CRIMINAL JUSTICE FUNDING AND STRATEGIES

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Criminal Justice and Strategies and appointed the chairperson by May 7, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The committee was directed to study funding of the criminal justice system and strategies to adequately and sustainably fund the criminal justice system. The study was required to include consideration of funding for prosecutors, defense attorneys, and courts and collection of fees and surcharges imposed on criminal defendants.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by June 30, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. Final committee membership consisted of one Senator, three Representatives, and 13 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held three meetings on the following dates:

August 30, 2010  
September 27, 2010  
December 2, 2010

In addition, the following subcommittees were established and met on the following dates:

*Subcommittee on Courts and Effective Justice Strategies*: October 21 and November 8, 2010, and January 3, 2011.

*Subcommittee on Funding Components*: October 22 and November 14, 2010.

*Subcommittee on Justice System Funding, Organization, and Strategies*: October 25, 2010 and January 10, 2011.

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

Because the members of the Special Committee could not reach consensus regarding draft legislation, the chairperson permanently adjourned the Special Committee. The Special Committee made no recommendation to the Joint Legislative Council.

The Joint Legislative Council received the final report of the Special Committee on May 4, 2011.

## HEALTH CARE ACCESS

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Health Care Access and appointed the chairperson by May 7, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The committee was directed to study potential solutions to the shortage of health care providers, particularly in rural areas and inner cities, and the adequacy of funding for public health. The Special Committee was directed to study possible state assistance to underserved areas and an expansion of Wisconsin's capacity for training family practice physicians and nurses, and additional funding sources for public health.

Membership of the Special Committee, appointed by June 30, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots, consisted of one Senator, two Representatives, and 14 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held six meetings on the following dates:

August 24, 2010  
October 1, 2010 (Marshfield)  
October 22, 2010 (Milwaukee)  
November 22, 2010  
January 7, 2011  
February 14, 2011

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its January 18, 2012 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2011 Senate Bill 450, relating to collecting workforce survey information from health care providers.

### Actions of the Legislature

The committee's recommendation failed to be enacted during the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

## HEALTH CARE REFORM IMPLEMENTATION

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Health Care Reform Implementation and appointed the co-chairpersons by May 7, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The committee was directed to study and make recommendations on what changes should be made to Wisconsin's statutes and administrative rules in response to recently enacted federal health care reform legislation. The committee was directed to study all aspects of the federal legislation that affect Wisconsin including insurance market reforms, coverage for uninsured persons, preventive care, taxation, quality improvement, and health workforce issues.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by a June 30, 2010 mail ballot. Final committee membership consisted of two Senators, three Representatives, and 16 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held four meetings on the following dates:

August 19, 2010

September 21, 2010

November 9, 2010

December 13, 2010

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

In January 2011, the Joint Legislative Council appointed Senator Alberta Darling and Representative Pat Strachota as the new co-chairpersons of the committee. The committee did not report to the Joint Legislative Council since the co-chairpersons did not schedule any further meetings after their appointment.

## INFANT MORTALITY

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Infant Mortality and appointed the chairperson by a May 7, 2010 mail ballot. The committee was directed to study: (a) the causes of infant mortality in Wisconsin; (b) evaluation of efforts that have been undertaken to address this problem in both the private and public sectors; (c) coordination of public health and Medicaid funding; (d) evaluation of infant mortality prevention programs that have been successful in other cities and states; (e) evaluation of the public health costs of not addressing the causes of infant mortality in Wisconsin; and (f) developing a strategic proposal, including any necessary legislation, to address infant mortality in Wisconsin, particularly disparities in infant mortality rates in different geographic areas of the state.

Membership of the Special Committee, appointed by June 30 and July 14, 2010 mail ballots, consisted of one Senator, three Representatives, and 15 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

September 8, 2010  
September 22, 2010  
October 13, 2010  
November 16, 2010  
December 16, 2010

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its January 18, 2012 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce:

- Senate Bill 532 and 2011 Assembly Bill 693 (companion bills), relating to evidence-based home visitation program services for persons who are at risk of poor birth outcomes or of abusing or neglecting their children; designating race and ethnicity on birth certificates; requiring informed consent for performance of certain elective procedures prior to the full gestational term of a fetus; and granting rule-making authority.

### Actions of the Legislature

The recommendation of the committee failed to be enacted during the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

## JUDICIAL DISCIPLINE AND RECUSAL

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Judicial Discipline and Recusal and appointed the chairperson by a May 7, 2010 mail ballot. The committee was directed to: (a) review the current method by which justices and judges are disciplined; (b) examine alternative methods of judicial discipline, including methods of judicial discipline in other states and in the federal court system; and (c) recommend a method by which justices and judges should be disciplined. The Special Committee was also directed to review the current system of judicial recusal and to recommend an objective standard for judicial recusal.

Membership of the Special Committee, appointed by a June 30, 2010 mail ballot, consisted of one Senator, three Representatives, and eight public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held four meetings on the following dates:

August 5, 2010  
September 16, 2010  
October 14, 2010  
November 18, 2010

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its January 18, 2012 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council declined to introduce the following legislation:

- LRB-1326/1, relating to filing a statement of reasons when a judge or justice denies a motion for disqualification.
- LRB-1327/1, relating to temporary service by a court of appeals judge in the supreme court in judicial disciplinary proceedings (first consideration).

There was no further action taken.

## LAW REVISION COMMITTEE

[A summary of the committee’s meetings, materials, and membership are available at [http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/.](http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/)]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Law Revision Committee was first created by the Legislative Council at its May 30, 1980 meeting, as a statutory committee of the Council, pursuant to s. 13.83 (1), Stats., as created by Ch. 204, Laws of 1979. The membership of the committee is to be appointed in “each biennium.” Members were most recently appointed on September 13, 2011. The membership of the committee consists of two Senators and four Representatives. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The committee is directed to:

1. Review remedial legislation based on nonsubstantive changes recommended by agencies;
2. Review court decisions and opinions of the Attorney General which state that a statute is unconstitutional, ambiguous, or otherwise in need of revision; and
3. Review correction bills and minor substantive revision bills prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau.

The committee is directed to introduce the bills prepared on these subjects directly, not through the Council, into the Legislature.

The committee’s activity for the period covered by this report is summarized below.

During the period covered by this report, the committee held three meetings in Madison on the following dates:

- November 3, 2011
- December 13, 2011
- February 2, 2012

### Remedial Legislation and Correction Bills

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Recommended By</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Status</i>
<b>Remedial Legislation</b>			
S.B. 288	Department of Natural Resources	federal financial hardship assistance under the Clean Water Fund program	<b>2011 Act 261</b>
S.B. 330	Department of Transportation	limitations on the issuance of a certificate of title for a motor vehicle involved in certain operating while intoxicated offenses, technical changes that affect the period of revocation of a person's operating privilege, vehicle and insurance registration for motor carriers operating in multiple jurisdictions, and vehicle identification numbers assigned by the Department of Transportation	<b>2011 Act 262</b>



<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Recommended By</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Status</i>
S.B. 348	Department of Public Instruction	eliminating an obsolete reference governing pilot payments to Second Chance Partnership to establish a work-based learning program; changing the name of the Division for Libraries, Technology, and Community Learning, the name of the Reference and Loan Library, and the name of the Division for Learning Support, Equity and Advocacy; participation in a public library system; and the appropriation to the Department of Public Instruction for children-at-risk programs	<b>2011 Act 158</b>
S.B. 349	Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection	the confidentiality of information related to exemptions from the requirement to register livestock premises; membership of county land conservation committees; vehicle scale operators; and changing a reporting requirement for pesticide sales	<b>2011 Act 263</b>
S.B. 454	Wisconsin Judges Association	the role of the clerk of a circuit court in filing the oath and bond of a municipal judge; signatures on citations or complaints alleging a violation of a municipal ordinance; the fee for a transcript of an electronic recording of municipal court proceedings; and the authority of a municipal court judge to order a default judgment against a defendant who fails to appear at trial	<b>Failed to pass pursuant to SJR 1</b>
S.B. 460	Department of Children and Families	the provision of notices to, and the exercise of rights by, an unborn child's guardian ad litem in unborn child in need of protection or services proceedings investigations when the individual who is suspected of the abuse or neglect cannot be identified; eliminating a voluntary foster care education program developed by the Department of Children and Families; releasing a frozen bank account of a support obligor; deleting a reference to minors acknowledging paternity; parties on whom the summons and petition must be served in a paternity action when the respondent is deceased; and the maximum prison term length stated in the form for a paternity action summons	<b>Failed to pass pursuant to SJR 1</b>
A.B. 485	Department of Transportation	personalized registration plates for vehicles registered by certain veterans with a disability that limits the ability to walk	<b>2011 Act 264</b>
A.B. 486	Department of Transportation	the definitions of vehicle and motor vehicle	<b>2011 Act 265</b>
<b><i>Correction Bills</i></b>			
S.B. 284	Legislative Reference Bureau	affecting various provisions of the statutes to correct errors and reconcile conflicts	<b>2011 Act 257</b>
S.B. 285	Legislative Reference Bureau	affecting various provisions of the statutes to correct errors and reconcile conflicts	<b>2011 Act 258</b>
S.B. 286	Legislative Reference Bureau	revising various provisions of the statutes for the purpose of supplying omissions and eliminating defects	<b>2011 Act 259</b>
S.B. 287	Legislative Reference Bureau	affecting various provisions of the statutes to correct errors and reconcile conflicts	<b>2011 Act 260</b>

Copies of the Acts shown above and memoranda describing those Acts are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.

## LOCAL SERVICE CONSOLIDATION

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Local Service Consolidation and appointed the chairperson by a May 7, 2010 mail ballot. The committee was directed to review current law and practice regarding the provision of services by local units of government in order to determine whether current law should be amended to facilitate the methods by which local units of government can partner to efficiently and cost-effectively provide services, including police, fire, and educational services, to their constituents.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by June 30, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The final committee membership consisted of three Representatives and 14 public members. A list of committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held four meetings on the following dates:

August 31, 2010  
October 5, 2010  
November 10, 2010 (Milwaukee)  
December 14, 2010

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its May 4, 2011 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2011 Assembly Bill 138, relating to county and municipal expenditures for emergency services.
- 2011 Assembly Bill 139, relating to loans to study or implement the consolidation, or cooperation for the provision, of local governmental unit services or the consolidation of local governmental units and granting rule-making authority.
- 2011 Assembly Bill 140, relating to exceptions to county and municipal levy limits and school district revenue limits for expenditures related to the implementation of service consolidation or cooperation, or to the implementation of political subdivision or school district consolidation.
- 2011 Assembly Joint Resolution 41, relating to different property tax levy rates for parts of cities, villages, towns, counties, and school districts added by attachments to school districts, consolidations, and boundary changes under cooperative agreements (first consideration).

### Actions of the Legislature

2011 Assembly Bill 138, 2011 Assembly Bill 139, 2011 Assembly Bill 140, and 2011 Assembly Joint Resolution 41 failed to be enacted during the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

## NANOTECHNOLOGY

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Nanotechnology and appointed the chairperson by May 7, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The committee was directed to examine the human health and environmental concerns related to the manufacture, use, and disposal of nanomaterials and develop legislation to address these concerns. In particular, the Special Committee was required to consider the establishment of methods to monitor nanomaterials by use of a nanotechnology registry system or the imposition of other disclosure requirements. The Special Committee also was required to develop strategies to facilitate the development of nanotechnology to create and retain jobs in Wisconsin, including ways in which government can help nanotechnology researchers, small firms, and start-ups address potential risks and meet regulatory requirements.

Membership of the Special Committee, appointed by June 30, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots, consisted of two Senators, two Representatives, and 10 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

September 16, 2010  
September 30, 2010  
October 26, 2010  
December 7, 2010  
March 2, 2011

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its January 18, 2012 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2011 Senate Bill 533, relating to establishing a nanotechnology information hub and a nanotechnology council.

### Actions of the Legislature

The recommendation of the committee failed to be enacted during the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INTEGRITY

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Public Assistance Program Integrity and appointed the chairperson by May 7, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The committee was directed to study current laws, rules, and policies relating to fraud prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution, and the current fraud penalty structure, in public assistance programs under ch. 49, Stats. The study was required to consider all of the following: (a) the findings and recommendations of recent Legislative Audit Bureau audits of the Wisconsin Shares child care subsidy program and child care regulation in Wisconsin, and implementation of those recommendations; (b) whether current fraud provisions in ch. 49 should be recodified, streamlined, and made uniform throughout the chapter; (c) the effectiveness of current prohibitions and investigatory and enforcement mechanisms; (d) whether current penalties and associated consequences of a finding of public assistance fraud achieve the goals of fraud prevention and deterrence; (e) incentives for fraud detection by entities administering public assistance programs; (f) whether eligibility provisions in certain public assistance programs increase the likelihood of fraudulent activity; and (g) funding for fraud prevention, detection, investigation, and enforcement at the state and local level.

Membership of the Special Committee, appointed by June 30, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots, consisted of two Senators, two Representatives, and 8 public members. A list of the committee and subcommittees' membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

August 4, 2010  
September 8, 2010  
October 12, 2010  
November 16, 2010  
December 14, 2010

In addition, the following subcommittee was established and met on the following dates:

*Drafting Subcommittee*: October 20 and November 10, 2010.

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its May 18, 2011 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2011 Senate Bill 400, relating to reorganization of ch. 49, Stats., changes affecting public assistance programs, granting rule-making authority; and providing a penalty.

### Actions of the Legislature

The recommendation of the committee failed to be enacted during the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

## REVIEW OF EMERGENCY DETENTION AND ADMISSION OF MINORS UNDER CHAPTER 51

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Review of Emergency Detention and Admission of Minors Under Chapter 51 and appointed the chairperson by May 7, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The committee was directed to review the following provisions in ch. 51, Stats.: (a) the appropriateness of, and inconsistencies in, the utilization of emergency detention procedures under s. 51.15, Stats., across this state, and the availability and cost of emergency detention facilities; (b) the inconsistent statutory approaches to emergency detention between Milwaukee County and other counties in the state; and (c) the inconsistent application of procedures relating to admission of minors under s. 51.13, Stats., as modified by 2005 Wisconsin Act 444.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by June 30, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. Final committee membership consisted of one Senator, one Representative, and nine public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

August 31, 2010  
October 4, 2010 (public hearing)  
November 15, 2010  
December 6, 2010  
December 19, 2011

In addition, the following working groups were established and met on the following date:

***Working Group on the Federal Emergency Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) and Emergency Detention:*** January 19, 2012.

***Working Group on Circumstances That Warrant Postponement of an Emergency Detention Hearing:*** January 19, 2012.

In January 2011, the Joint Legislative Council appointed Senator Mary Lazich as the new chairperson of the Special Committee. The Special Committee resumed meeting in December 2011. Because the committee did not complete its assignment in time to report to the 2011-12 Legislature, the Special Committee will continue its work through the 2012 interim, reporting to the 2013-14 Legislature.

## REVIEW OF HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Review of Higher Education Financial Aid Programs and appointed the chairperson by a May 7, 2010 mail ballot. The committee was directed to review current laws relating to financial aid for higher education in order to improve student access to higher education, maximize utilization of higher education resources, and retain qualified graduates in Wisconsin. Policies for review may include: (a) the Wisconsin Covenant; (b) loan forgiveness programs; (c) Wisconsin/Minnesota tuition reciprocity; (d) academic excellence scholarships; and (e) need-based grants and loans.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by June 30, 2010, October 20, 2010, January 6, 2011, and January 27, 2011 mail ballots. The final committee membership consisted of one Senator, one Representative, and 13 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held four meetings in Madison on the following dates:

August 17, 2010

October 7, 2010

November 9, 2010

December 21, 2010

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its May 4, 2011 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce:

- 2011 Assembly Bill 141, relating to the Minnesota-Wisconsin student reciprocity agreement, the Wisconsin higher education grant program, and making an appropriation.
- 2011 Assembly Bill 142, relating to enrollment requirements for recipients of talent incentive grants.
- 2011 Assembly Bill 143, relating to the Wisconsin higher education grant program, tuition grant program, Lawton minority undergraduate grant program, minority undergraduate retention grant program, and making appropriations.
- 2011 Assembly Bill 144, relating to creating a commission on financial aid consolidation and modernization.

### Actions of the Legislature

2011 Assembly Bill 144 became 2011 Wisconsin Act 176 during the 2011-12 Legislative Session. A copy of Act 176 and a memorandum describing the Act are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>. The remaining recommendations failed to be enacted during the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

## **REVIEW OF RECORDS ACCESS OF CIRCUIT COURT DOCUMENTS**

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### **Summary of Committee Activity**

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Review of Records Access of Circuit Court Documents and appointed the chairperson by May 7, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The committee was directed to review how, and by whom, circuit court civil and criminal records may be accessed through the Wisconsin Circuit Court Access website (WCCA). The issues to be considered by the committee included: (a) the length of time a record remains accessible through WCCA; (b) whether accessibility of a record through WCCA should depend on how far a civil or criminal proceeding has progressed; and (c) whether records of proceedings that have: (1) been vacated or dismissed; or (2) resulted in acquittal or other form of exoneration should continue to be accessible through WCCA.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by June 30, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. Final committee membership consisted of three Representatives and 12 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held three meetings on the following dates:

September 15, 2010

November 4, 2010

December 15, 2010

### **Actions of the Joint Legislative Council**

At its January 18, 2012 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council declined to introduce LRB-1736/1, relating to expungement of court records and granting rule-making authority.

There was no further action.

## **REVIEW OF SPOUSAL MAINTENANCE AWARDS IN DIVORCE PROCEEDINGS**

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### **Summary of Committee Activity**

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Review of Spousal Maintenance Awards in Divorce Proceedings and appointed the chairperson by a May 7, 2010 mail ballot. The committee was directed to study: (a) the purpose and goals of awarding maintenance; (b) making application of the maintenance considerations given in s. 767.56, Stats., more uniform and predictable; (c) whether the statutes should provide guidance to the courts relating to amount and duration of a maintenance award; (d) whether cohabitation should be considered when revising maintenance orders under s. 767.59, Stats.; and (e) whether marital fault should be considered when determining a maintenance award.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by a June 30, 2010 mail ballot. Final committee membership consisted of one Senator, three Representatives, and 13 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held three meetings on the following dates:

August 24, 2010  
October 14, 2010  
December 8, 2010

### **Actions of the Joint Legislative Council**

At its May 4, 2011 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2011 Assembly Bill 134, relating to termination of maintenance upon the payee's or payer's death and notices relating to maintenance.

### **Actions of the Legislature**

The recommendation of the committee failed to be enacted during the 2011-12 Legislative Session.



## REVIEW OF THE MANAGED FOREST LAND PROGRAM

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Review of the Managed Forest Land Program and appointed the chairperson by May 7, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The committee was directed to review the MFL program in order to ensure the long-term management and sustainability of private forest lands and to increase participation in the program. The committee was required to review the following issues: (a) the scope and statutory purposes of the MFL program; (b) ways to increase public access on MFL lands; (c) the relationship between local zoning and the entry of parcels in the MFL program; (d) the impact of MFL enrollment on local and county revenues; and (e) trends in forest ownership and trends in forest product markets including biofuels.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by June 30, 2010, October 20, 2010, and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The final committee membership consisted of three Senators, one Representative, and 14 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held four meetings on the following dates:

August 18, 2010  
September 9, 2010  
October 6, 2010  
January 13, 2011

In addition, the following subcommittees were established and met on the following dates:

*Subcommittee on Revenue and Local Planning*: October 27 and November 11, 2010.

*Subcommittee on Public Access*: November 4 and 11, 2010.

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its May 4, 2011 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce 2011 Senate Bill 161, relating to managed forest land. 2011 Assembly Bill 402 was introduced as a companion bill.

### Actions of the Legislature

The recommendation of the committee failed to be enacted during the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

## SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Single-Use Plastics and appointed the chairperson by a May 7, 2010 mail ballot. The committee was directed to: (a) evaluate the economic and environmental costs and benefits of single-use products, such as plastic food and beverage packaging and containers, plastic film products, and agricultural plastics; (b) review costs, benefits, availability, and feasibility of possible alternatives to these products; (c) assess current recycling efforts for these products, the effectiveness of these programs, and opportunities to promote increased recycling; and (d) recommend state policies related to these products that would minimize environmental impacts, maximize recycling, promote desirable alternatives, and benefit the economy of this state.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by June 30 and July 14, 2010 mail ballots. Final committee membership consisted of two Senators, one Representative, and 10 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held four meetings on the following dates:

August 24-25, 2010  
October 19, 2010  
November 16, 2010

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its May 18, 2011 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council declined to introduce the following legislation:

- LRB-1376/1, relating to the collection and recycling of beverage containers at public events and granting rule-making authority actions of the legislature.
- LRB-1377/1, relating to recycling effectiveness improvement grants and making an appropriation.

There was no further action.

## STRATEGIC JOB CREATION

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Special Committee on Strategic Job Creation and appointed the chairperson by May 7, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The committee was directed to study and make recommendations to promote strategic development of high-wage jobs and an educated and skilled workforce in the state by doing the following: (a) examining methods to promote green jobs and industries utilizing solar, wind, geothermal, and biomass technologies, including technologies for converting farm wastes to energy and in this examination, analyze current and potential incentives to encourage investment in research, development, commercialization, and use of these technologies and the development and retention of an educated and skilled workforce in these industries; (b) identifying industry and knowledge sectors with the greatest potential for job growth in the state and recommending steps to align the state's educational and workforce development programs, tax structure, and economic development initiatives to facilitate the growth of those sectors; and (c) analyzing the adequacy of the state's physical infrastructure, including access to high-speed Internet services, to support development of targeted industries and overall economic development of the state.

Membership of the Special Committee was appointed by June 30, 2010 and January 6, 2011 mail ballots. The final committee membership consisted of four Senators, three Representatives, and seven public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The Special Committee held three meetings on the following dates:

August 25, 2010

September 23, 2010 (Kenosha)

November 8, 2010

### Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

Because the January 2011 Special Session of the Legislature was convened to address job creation, the chairperson believed that most items under consideration by the committee were addressed in that Special Session and permanently adjourned the Special Committee.

The Joint Legislative Council received the final report of the Special Committee on May 4, 2011.

## STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/lc/>.]

### Summary of Committee Activity

The Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations is a permanent committee of the Joint Legislative Council established under s. 13.83 (3), Stats. The committee is directed by statute to:

...study issues related to American Indians and the American Indian tribes and bands in this state and develop specific recommendations and legislative proposals relating to these issues.

The membership of the committee, appointed by the Joint Legislative Council, consists of not fewer than six nor more than 12 legislator members of the Senate and Assembly, including at least one member of the majority party and at least one member of the minority party from each house, and not fewer than six nor more than 11 members selected from names submitted by the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands in this state (tribes) or the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC), including not more than one member based on the recommendation of any tribe or GLITC. The committee is assisted by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) composed of a representative of each of the following state departments: Children and Families; Health Services; Justice; Natural Resources; Public Instruction; Revenue; Transportation; and Workforce Development. A list of the committee membership and the TAC membership can be found in the *Appendix* to this report.

The 2010-12 Special Committee held two meetings on the following dates:

September 12, 2010

November 17, 2010

The Special Committee will be reappointed, with a new membership, and continue its work through the 2012 interim, reporting to the 2013-14 Legislature.

## APPENDIX

### COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP LISTS



# Criminal Justice Funding and Strategies

Representative Ed Brooks, **Chair**  
(Chair 1/11 to completion)  
S 4311 Grote Hill Road  
Reedsburg, WI 53959

Senator Lena Taylor  
(Chair 5/10 to 1/11)  
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Milwaukee, WI 53206

John Barrett  
Clerk of Circuit Ct., Milw. Cty.  
Courthouse Room 104  
901 North Ninth Street  
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Thomas Caywood  
Criminal Justice Dept.  
UW-Platteville  
550 South Court  
Platteville, WI 53818

Jeffrey A. Kremers, Judge  
Milwaukee County Courthouse  
901 North Ninth Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Scott Needham, Judge  
St. Croix County  
1101 Carmichael Road  
Hudson, WI 54106-7710

Dennis Rome  
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Oak Creek, WI 53154

John Skilton, Attorney  
Perkins Coie  
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Madison, WI 53703

Noble Wray, Chief  
City of Madison Police Department  
211 S. Carroll Street  
Madison, WI 53709

Representative Robert Turner, **Vice-Chair**  
36 McKinley Avenue  
Racine, WI 53404

Representative John Steinbrink  
8640 88th Avenue  
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

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Birdsall Law Office  
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Ben Kempinen  
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3353 Law  
Madison, WI 53706

Sherri McNamara  
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Appleton, WI 54914

David O'Leary  
District Attorney, Rock County  
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Janesville, WI 53548-2795

Ragen Shapiro  
Dane County District Attorney Office  
215 S. Hamilton Street, Room 3000  
Madison, WI 53703-3297

Marla Stephens  
Wisconsin Public Defender  
Appellate Division Director  
735 N. Water Street, Suite 912  
Milwaukee, WI 53202-4116

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to study funding of the criminal justice system and strategies to adequately and sustainably fund the criminal justice system. The study shall include consideration of funding for prosecutors, defense attorneys, and courts and collection of fees and surcharges imposed on criminal defendants.

**17 MEMBERS:** 1 Senator; 3 Representatives; and 13 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Anne Sappenfield, Senior Staff Attorney; Katie Bender-Olson, Staff Attorney; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.





# CRIMINAL JUSTICE FUNDING AND STRATEGIES

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON COURTS AND EFFECTIVE JUSTICE STRATEGIES

Dennis Rome, **Lead**  
220 E. Fieldstone Circle #3  
Oak Creek, WI 53154

Representative Robert Turner  
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Racine, WI 53404

Ben Kempinen  
UW Law School  
975 Bascom Mall  
3353 Law  
Madison, WI 53706

Judge Scott Needham  
St. Croix County  
1101 Carmichael Road  
Hudson, WI 54106-7710

Chief Noble Wray  
City of Madison Police Department  
211 S. Carroll Street  
Madison, WI 53709

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The subcommittee is directed to develop recommendations relating to effective collaboration between the courts and other elements of the criminal justice system. The subcommittee should consider best practices and current effective programs in Wisconsin that have the goal of reducing costs, reducing recidivism, and increasing public safety.

**5 MEMBERS:** 1 Representative; and 4 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Anne Sappenfield, Senior Staff Attorney; Katie Bender-Olson, Staff Attorney; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE FUNDING AND STRATEGIES

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON FUNDING COMPONENTS

David O'Leary, **Lead**  
District Attorney, Rock County  
2930 Yale Drive  
Janesville, WI 53548-2795

Representative John Steinbrink  
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Ragen Shapiro  
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Representative Ed Brooks  
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Marla Stephens  
Wisconsin Public Defender  
Appellate Division Director  
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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The subcommittee is directed to develop recommendations regarding the number of prosecutors and public defender positions needed in Wisconsin. The recommendation should include a suggested methodology to make this determination. The subcommittee is also directed to consider funding sources for any additional positions recommended or alternative funding sources for these positions, in general.

**7 MEMBERS:** 2 Representatives; and 5 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Anne Sappenfield, Senior Staff Attorney; Katie Bender-Olson, Staff Attorney; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.



# CRIMINAL JUSTICE FUNDING AND STRATEGIES

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON JUSTICE SYSTEM FUNDING, ORGANIZATION, AND STRATEGIES

Thomas Caywood, **Lead**  
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Senator Lena Taylor  
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Judge Jeffrey Kremers  
Milwaukee County Courthouse  
901 North Ninth Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Sherry McNamara  
3008 W. Brewster Street  
Appleton, WI 54914

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The subcommittee is directed to develop recommendations relating to funding the court system. The subcommittee should review the current funding structure for the courts, ways to decrease court costs by increasing efficiency in the criminal justice system, and the potential reinvestment of funding if costs can be reduced. In addition, the subcommittee should create recommendations for statewide implementation of efficiencies in the court system and successful criminal justice strategies.

**5 MEMBERS:** 1 Senator; and 4 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Anne Sappenfield, Senior Staff Attorney; Katie Bender-Olson, Staff Attorney; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.



## Health Care Access

Senator Luther Olsen, **Chair**  
(Chair 1/11 to completion)  
1023 Thomas Street  
Ripon, WI 54971

John Townsend  
297 Roosevelt Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Sandy Anderson  
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11221 W. Sanctuary Drive  
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Representative Amy Sue Vruwink  
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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to study potential solutions to the shortage of health care providers, particularly in rural areas and inner cities, and the adequacy of funding for public health. The Special Committee is directed to study possible state assistance to underserved areas and an expansion of Wisconsin's capacity for training family practice physicians and nurses, and additional funding sources for public health.

**17 MEMBERS:** 1 Senator; 2 Representatives; and 14 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Richard Sweet, Senior Staff Attorney; Heidi Frechette, Staff Attorney; and Joan Bloom, Support Staff.





# Health Care Reform Implementation

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Senator Jon Erpenbach, **Co-Vice-Chair**  
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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to study and make recommendations on what changes should be made to Wisconsin's statutes and administrative rules in response to recently enacted federal health care reform legislation. The committee is directed to study all aspects of the federal legislation that affect Wisconsin including insurance market reforms, coverage for uninsured persons, preventive care, taxation, quality improvement, and health workforce issues.

**21 MEMBERS:** 2 Senators; 3 Representatives; and 16 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Laura Rose, Deputy Director; Heidi Frechette and Margit Kelley, Staff Attorneys; and Julie Learned, Support Staff.



# Infant Mortality

Judith Robson, **Chair**  
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2701 90th St.  
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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to study: (a) the causes of infant mortality in Wisconsin; (b) evaluation of efforts that have been undertaken to address this problem in both the private and public sectors; (c) coordination of public health and Medicaid funding; (d) evaluation of infant mortality prevention programs that have been successful in other cities and states; (e) evaluation of the public health costs of not addressing the causes of infant mortality in Wisconsin; and (f) developing a strategic proposal, including any necessary legislation, to address infant mortality in Wisconsin, particularly disparities in infant mortality rates in different geographic areas of the state.

**19 MEMBERS:** 1 Senator; 3 Representatives; and 15 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Mary Matthias and Rachel Letzing, Senior Staff Attorneys; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.



# Judicial Discipline and Recusal

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Madison, WI 53703-2500

Professor David Schultz  
University of Wisconsin Law School  
975 Bascom Mall  
Madison, WI 53706-1399

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to: (a) review the current method by which justices and judges are disciplined; (b) examine alternative methods of judicial discipline, including methods of judicial discipline in other states and in the federal court system; and (c) recommend a method by which justices and judges should be disciplined. The Special Committee is also directed to review the current system of judicial recusal and to recommend an objective standard for judicial recusal.

**12 MEMBERS:** 1 Senator; 3 Representatives; and 8 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Don Salm and Ronald Sklansky, Senior Staff Attorneys; Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, Staff Attorney; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.



# Law Revision Committee

Senator Glenn Grothman, Co-Chair  
151 University Drive 312 N  
West Bend, WI 53095

Senator Jessica King  
1523 Hazel Street  
Oshkosh, WI 54901

Representative Chris Taylor  
2910 Oakridge Avenue  
Madison, WI 53704

Representative Jim Ott, Co-Chair  
11743 N. Lakeshore Drive  
Mequon, WI 53092

Representative Bill Kramer  
2005 Cliff Alex Court South #3  
Waukesha, WI 53189

Representative Louis Molepske, Jr.  
1800 Main Street  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The committee is directed, pursuant to s. 13.83 (1), Stats., to (a) review remedial legislation based on nonsubstantive changes recommended by agencies; (b) review court decisions and opinions of the Attorney General which state that a statute is unconstitutional, ambiguous or otherwise in need of revision; (c) review Legislative Reference Bureau correction bills; (d) review suggestions for major codifications and revisions of the statutes; and (e) perform functions related to interstate compacts and agreements.

**6 MEMBERS:** 2 Senators and 4 Representatives.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Laura Rose, Deputy Director and Anne Sappenfield, Senior Staff Attorney, and Tracey Young, Support Staff.





# Local Service Consolidation

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Representative Mark Pocan  
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Ken Hartje  
Chair, Public Works Committee  
City of Nekoosa  
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Michael Woodzicka  
State President, Professional Fire Fighters of WI  
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Hortonville, WI 54944

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to review current law and practice regarding the provision of services by local units of government in order to determine whether current law should be amended to facilitate the methods by which local units of government can partner to efficiently and cost-effectively provide services, including police, fire, and educational services, to their constituents.

**17 MEMBERS:** 3 Representatives; and 14 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Scott Grosz, Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, and Melissa Schmidt, Staff Attorneys; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.



# Nanotechnology

Senator Sheila Harsdorf, **Chair**  
N6627 County Road E.  
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Representative Terese Berceau  
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Chuck Benedict  
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Richard Peterson, Ph.D.  
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University of Wisconsin-Madison  
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Madison, WI 53705

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to examine the human health and environmental concerns related to the manufacture, use, and disposal of nanomaterials and develop legislation to address these concerns. In particular, the Special Committee shall consider the establishment of methods to monitor nanomaterials by use of a nanotechnology registry system or the imposition of other disclosure requirements. The Special Committee shall also develop strategies to facilitate the development of nanotechnology to create and retain jobs in Wisconsin, including ways in which government can help nanotechnology researchers, small firms, and start-ups address potential risks and meet regulatory requirements.

**14 MEMBERS:** 2 Senators; 2 Representatives; and 10 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Mary Matthias and Pam Shannon, Senior Staff Attorneys; Larry Konopacki, Staff Attorney; and Julie Learned, Support Staff.



# Public Assistance Program Integrity

Senator Alberta Darling, **Chair**  
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Senator Robert Jauch  
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Linda Struck  
Employment & Economic Resource Team  
Leader  
Eau Claire County Dept. of Human Services  
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Eau Claire, WI 54702-0840

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to study current laws, rules, and policies relating to fraud prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution, and the current fraud penalty structure, in public assistance programs under ch. 49, Stats. The study shall include consideration of all of the following: (a) the findings and recommendations of recent Legislative Audit Bureau audits of the Wisconsin Shares child care subsidy program and child care regulation in Wisconsin, and implementation of those recommendations; (b) whether current fraud provisions in ch. 49 should be recodified, streamlined, and made uniform throughout the chapter; (c) the effectiveness of current prohibitions and investigatory and enforcement mechanisms; (d) whether current penalties and associated consequences of a finding of public assistance fraud achieve the goals of fraud prevention and deterrence; (e) incentives for fraud detection by entities administering public assistance programs; (f) whether eligibility provisions in certain public assistance programs increase the likelihood of fraudulent activity; and (g) funding for fraud prevention, detection, investigation, and enforcement at the state and local level.

**12 MEMBERS:** 2 Senators; 2 Representatives; and 8 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Anne Sappenfield and Pam Shannon, Senior Staff Attorneys; Anna Henning, Staff Attorney; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.



# Public Assistance Program Integrity

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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The subcommittee is directed to review the provisions of ch. 49, Stats., Public Assistance and Children and Family Services, relating to fraud investigation, identification and collection of benefit overpayments, sanctions for program violations, and the procedures for imposing and appealing sanctions; make recommendations to recodify these provisions; and consider whether sections of the chapter should be reorganized.

**5 MEMBERS:** 1 Representative; and 4 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Anne Sappenfield and Pam Shannon, Senior Staff Attorneys; Anna Henning, Staff Attorney; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.





# Review of Emergency Detention and Admission of Minors Under Chapter 51

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**Brenda E. Wesley**

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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to review the following provisions in ch. 51, Stats.: (a) the appropriateness of, and inconsistencies in, the utilization of emergency detention procedures under s. 51.15, Stats., across this state, and the availability and cost of emergency detention facilities; (b) the inconsistent statutory approaches to emergency detention between Milwaukee County and other counties in the state; and (c) the inconsistent application of procedures relating to admission of minors under s. 51.13, Stats., as modified by 2005 Wisconsin Act 444.

**17 MEMBERS:** 2 Senators; 3 Representatives; and 12 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Laura Rose, Deputy Director; Richard Sweet, Senior Staff Attorney; and Wendy Ulrich, Support Staff.



# Review of Higher Education Financial Aid Programs

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Rolf Wegenke  
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Wisconsin Association of Independent  
Colleges and Universities  
122 W. Washington Ave., Ste. 700  
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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to review current laws relating to financial aid for higher education in order to improve student access to higher education, maximize utilization of higher education resources, and retain qualified graduates in Wisconsin. Policies for review may include: (a) the Wisconsin Covenant; (b) loan forgiveness programs; (c) Wisconsin/Minnesota tuition reciprocity; (d) academic excellence scholarships; and (e) need-based grants and loans.

**15 MEMBERS:** 1 Senator; 2 Representatives; and 12 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Dan Schmidt, Senior Analyst; Scott Grosz and Anna Henning, Staff Attorneys; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.



# Review of Records Access of Circuit Court Documents

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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to review how, and by whom, circuit court civil and criminal records may be accessed through the Wisconsin Circuit Court Access website (WCCA). The issues to be considered by the committee include: (a) the length of time a record remains accessible through WCCA; (b) whether accessibility of a record through WCCA should depend on how far a civil or criminal proceeding has progressed; and (c) whether records of proceedings that have: (1) been vacated or dismissed; or (2) resulted in acquittal or other form of exoneration should continue to be accessible through WCCA.

**15 MEMBERS:** 3 Representatives; and 12 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Don Salm, Senior Staff Attorney; Dan Schmidt, Senior Analyst; Melissa Schmidt, Staff Attorney; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.



# Review of Spousal Maintenance Awards in Divorce Proceedings

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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to study: (a) the purpose and goals of awarding maintenance; (b) making application of the maintenance considerations given in s. 767.56, Stats., more uniform and predictable; (c) whether the statutes should provide guidance to the courts relating to amount and duration of a maintenance award; (d) whether cohabitation should be considered when revising maintenance orders under s. 767.59, Stats.; and (e) whether marital fault should be considered when determining a maintenance award.

**17 MEMBERS:** 1 Senators; 3 Representatives; and 13 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Don Salm, Senior Staff Attorney; Margit Kelley and Chadwick Brown, Staff Attorneys; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.





# Review of the Managed Forest Land Program

Representative Fred Clark, **Vice Chair**  
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**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to review the Managed Forest Land (MFL) Program in order to ensure the long-term management and sustainability of private forest lands and to increase participation in the program. The committee shall review the following issues: (a) the scope and statutory purposes of the MFL program; (b) ways to increase public access on MFL lands; (c) the relationship between local zoning and the entry of parcels in the MFL program; (d) The impact of MFL enrollment on local and county revenues; and (e) trends in forest ownership and trends in forest product markets including biofuels.

**18 MEMBERS:** 3 Senators; 1 Representative; and 14 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Rachel Letzing, Senior Staff Attorney; Scott Grosz, Staff Attorney; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.



# REVIEW OF THE MANAGED FOREST LAND PROGRAM

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCESS

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Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Subcommittee on Public Access is directed to make recommendations to the Special Committee on Review of the Managed Forest Land Program on the public access requirements of the Managed Forest Land Program.

**8 MEMBERS:** 2 Representative; and 7 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Rachel Letzing, Senior Staff Attorney; Scott Grosz, Staff Attorney; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.



# REVIEW OF THE MANAGED FOREST LAND PROGRAM

## SUBCOMMITTEE ON REVENUE AND LOCAL PLANNING

Representative Fred Clark, **Chair**  
E12367 County Hwy W  
Baraboo, WI 53913

Senator Jim Holperin  
3575 Monheim Road  
Conover, WI 54516

Mike Carlson  
Government Relations Director  
Gathering Waters Conservancy  
211 South Paterson Street, Suite 270  
Madison, WI 53703

E.G. Nadeau  
Wisconsin Forest Owner Cooperation Project  
Cooperative Development Services  
131 West Wilson Street, Suite 302  
Madison, WI 53703

Fred Souba, Jr.  
NewPage Corporation  
P.O. Box 8050  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Representative Donald Friske  
N2998 County Hwy K  
Merrill, WI 54452

Mark Abeles-Alison  
Bayfield County Administrator  
P.O. Box 878  
Washburn, WI 54851

Bill Horvath  
350 McDill Avenue  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Mark Rickenbach  
Associate Professor and Extension Specialist  
Forest & Wildlife Ecology, UW-Madison  
1630 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 54706

Richard J. Stadelman  
Executive Director, WI Towns Association  
W76686 County Road MMM  
Shawano, WI 54166

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Subcommittee on Revenue and Local Planning is directed to make recommendations to the Special Committee on Review of the Managed Forest Land Program on issues of revenue and local planning related to the Managed Forest Land Program, including managed forest land tax rates and incentives and the distribution of Managed Forest Land Program fees and payments.

**10 MEMBERS:** 1 Senator; 2 Representatives; and 7 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Rachel Letzing, Senior Staff Attorney; Scott Grosz, Staff Attorney; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.



# Single-Use Plastics

Representative Spencer Black, **Chair**  
5742 Elder Place  
Madison, WI 53705

Senator Robert Cowles  
300 West St. Joseph St.  
Green Bay, WI 54301

George Dreckmann  
City of Madison Recycling Coordinator  
1501 West Badger Road  
Madison, WI 53713

John Kelly  
Market Area Vice President-Midwest  
Waste Management Recycle America  
W132 N10487 Grant Road  
Germantown, WI 53022

Tim Metcalfe  
Metcalfe Sentry Foods  
726 North Midvale Boulevard  
Madison, WI 53705-3207

John Reindl, retired  
Dane County Department of Public Works  
4514 Gregg Road  
Madison, WI 53705

Joe Van Rossum  
Recycling Specialist  
Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center  
610 Langdon Street, Room 533  
Madison, WI 53703-1195

Senator Jim Holperin, **Vice-Chair**  
3575 Monheim Road  
Conover, WI 54516

Win Clemmons, Plant Manager  
Pactiv Corporation  
Chippewa Falls Facility  
1500 West River Street  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729-1954

Charles Evenhouse  
Oneida County Solid Waste Department  
7450 County Highway K  
Rhinelander, WI 54501

Brian Lawless  
Section Manager  
Kraft Foods  
910 Mayer Avenue, 5S  
Madison, WI 53704

Rick Meyers  
Recycling Manager  
City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works  
841 North Broadway, Room 620  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Roger Springman  
Genesis Poly Recycling  
P.O. Box 27  
Wyocena, WI 53969

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to: (a) evaluate the economic and environmental costs and benefits of single-use products, such as plastic food and beverage packaging and containers, plastic film products, and agricultural plastics; (b) review costs, benefits, availability, and feasibility of possible alternatives to these products; (c) assess current recycling efforts for these products, the effectiveness of these programs, and opportunities to promote increased recycling; and (d) recommend state policies related to these products that would minimize environmental impacts, maximize recycling, promote desirable alternatives, and benefit the economy of this state.

**13 MEMBERS:** 2 Senators; 1 Representative; and 10 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** David L. Lovell, Senior Analyst; Larry Konopacki, Staff Attorney; and Julie Learned, Support Staff.





# Strategic Job Creation

Senator Robert Wirch, **Vice-Chair**  
(Chair 5/10 to 1/11)  
3007 Springbrook Road  
Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158

Senator Tim Carpenter  
2957 South 38<sup>th</sup> St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53215

Senator Randy Hopper  
W5192 Rienzi Road  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Representative Keith Ripp  
7131 Cty Rd. V  
Lodi, WI 53555

Jennifer K. Brown  
Executive Director  
Kewaunee County Economic Dev. Corp.  
1178 Division St.  
Green Bay, WI 54303

Paul Gabriel  
Executive Director  
WI Technical College District Boards Association  
22 North Carroll Street, Suite 103  
Madison, WI 53703

Connie Loden  
President  
Heart of Wisconsin Business Alliance  
P.O. Box 1562  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Representative Pat Strachota, **Chair**  
(Chair 1/11 to completion)  
639 Ridge Road  
West Bend, WI 53095

Senator Jim Holperin  
3575 Monheim Road  
Conover, WI 54516

Representative Louis Molepske, Jr.  
1800 Main Street  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Frederick Brookhouse  
Senior Business & Education Partnership Mgr.  
Snap-on Industrial  
P.O. Box 1410  
Kenosha, WI 53141-1410

John Daven, Jr.  
681 Letendre Avenue  
Port Edwards, WI 54469

Kim Kindschi  
Executive Director  
Div. of Entrepreneurship & Economic Dev.  
UW-Extension  
432 Lake Street, Room 432  
Madison, WI 53706

Todd Timmerman  
Timmerman's Talents  
5381 Beagle Lane  
Platteville, WI 53818

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The Special Committee is directed to study and make recommendations to promote strategic development of high-wage jobs and an educated and skilled workforce in the state by doing the following: (a) examining methods to promote green jobs and industries utilizing solar, wind, geothermal, and biomass technologies, including technologies for converting farm wastes to energy. In this examination, analyze current and potential incentives to encourage investment in research, development, commercialization, and use of these technologies and the development and retention of an educated and skilled workforce in these industries; (b) identifying industry and knowledge sectors with the greatest potential for job growth in the state and recommending steps to align the state's educational and workforce development programs, tax structure, and economic development initiatives to facilitate the growth of those sectors; and (c) analyzing the adequacy of the state's physical infrastructure, including access to high-speed Internet services, to support development of targeted industries and overall economic development of the state.

**14 MEMBERS:** 4 Senators; 3 Representatives; and 7 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** Jessica Karls-Ruplinger and Chadwick Brown, Staff Attorneys; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.



## State-Tribal Relations

Senator Spencer Coggs, **Chair**  
7819 West Potomac Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Representative Gary Sherman  
P.O. Box 157  
Port Wing, WI 54865

Senator Scott Fitzgerald  
N4692 Maple Road  
Juneau, WI 53039

Senator Robert Jauch  
5271 South Maple Drive  
Poplar, WI 54864

Daniel Brown  
Ho-Chunk Nation  
W9814 Airport Road  
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Agnes Fleming  
Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewa Indians  
13394 West Trepania Road  
Hayward, WI 54843

Mark Montano  
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewas  
88385 Pike Road, Highway 13  
Bayfield, WI 54814

Philip Shopodock  
Forest County Potawatomi Community  
P.O. Box 340  
Crandon, WI 54520

Representative Jeffrey Mursau, **Vice-Chair**  
4 Oak Street  
Crivitz, WI 54114

Representative James Soletski  
496 Menlo Park Road  
Green Bay, WI 54302

Senator Dave Hansen  
920 Coppens Road  
Green Bay, WI 54303

Andrew Adams III  
St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin  
24663 Angeline Avenue  
Webster, WI 54893

Gregg Duffek  
Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican  
Indians  
N8705 Moh He Con Nuck Road  
Bowler, WI 54416

Dee Ann Mayo  
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior  
Chippewa Indians  
P.O. Box 67  
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

Patricia Ninham Hoelt  
Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 365  
Oneida, WI 54155

Lisa S. Waukau  
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin  
P.O. Box 910  
Keshena, WI 54135

**STUDY ASSIGNMENT:** The committee is directed to study issues relating to American Indians and the American Indian tribes and bands in this state and develop specific recommendations and legislative proposals relating to these issues. [s. 13.83 (3), Stats.]

**16 MEMBERS:** 4 Senators, 3 Representatives, and 9 Public Members.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF:** David L. Lovell, Senior Analyst; Heidi Frechette, Staff Attorney; and Julie Learned, Support Staff.

# State-Tribal Relations

## Technical Advisory Committee

TOM BELLAVIA  
**Department of Justice**  
17 West Main Street, Room 707  
INTER-D

GWEN CARR  
**Department of Transportation**  
Div. of Transportation System Development  
Bureau of Equity & Environmental Services  
4802 Sheboygan Avenue, Room 451  
INTER-D

J.P. LEARY  
**Department of Public Instruction**  
125 South Webster Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
INTER-D

MICHAEL LUTZ  
**Department of Natural Resources**  
101 South Webster LS/5  
INTER-D

RACHELLE ASHLEY  
**Department of Workforce Development**  
201 East Washington Avenue, Room E200  
INTER-D

THOMAS D. OURADA  
**Department of Revenue**  
2135 Rimrock Road, #624A  
INTER-D

JIM WEBER  
**Department of Health and Family Services**  
1 West Wilson Street, Room 618  
INTER-D

TO BE ANNOUNCED  
**Department of Children and Families**  
Second Floor  
201 East Washington Avenue  
INTER-D

**ASSIGNMENT:** Established pursuant to s. 13.83 (3) (f), Stats., to assist the Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations in performing its statutory functions.

**8 MEMBERS:** One representative designated by the following departments: Children and Families; Health Services; Justice; Natural Resources; Public Instruction; Revenue; Transportation; and Workforce Development.

