



2005 SENATE BILL 598

February 13, 2006 - Introduced by Senators DECKER, TAYLOR, MILLER, ERPENBACH, ROBSON, HANSEN, JAUCH, CARPENTER, WIRCH, LASSA and PLALE, cosponsored by Representatives COLON, POCAN, LEHMAN, CULLEN, FIELDS and SEIDEL. Referred to Committee on Energy, Utilities and Information Technology.

1 **AN ACT to create** 20.505 (1) (qm) of the statutes; **relating to:** increasing
2 low-income energy assistance and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, using federal funds, the Department of Administration (department) administers a low-income energy assistance program. Eligible households receive payments to assist with the cost of home energy. Currently, payments are calculated using a benefit schedule created by the department that takes into account household income, family size, and energy costs. Current law specifies which households are eligible for low-income energy assistance, including households with an annual income that is not more than 150 percent of the federal poverty line.

Under this bill, in fiscal year 2005-06, a household with an annual income that is not more than 206.7 percent of the federal poverty line is eligible to receive low-income energy assistance. The bill provides \$6,000,000 in fiscal year 2005-06 from the petroleum inspection fund for payments to households that qualify under the one-time expansion of eligibility.

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

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

SENATE BILL 598

SECTION 1

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

3						2005-06	2006-07
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4 **20.505 Administration, department of**

5 (1) SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT

6 (qm) Low-income energy assistance;

7	petroleum inspection fund	SEG	A	6,000,000		-0-
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8 SECTION 2. 20.505 (1) (qm) of the statutes is created to read:

9 20.505 (1) (qm) *Low-income energy assistance; petroleum inspection fund.*

10 From the petroleum inspection fund, the amounts in the schedule for low-income
11 energy assistance under 2005 Wisconsin Act (this act), section 3 (1).

12 **SECTION 3. Nonstatutory provisions.**

13 (1) Notwithstanding section 16.27 (5) of the statutes, in fiscal year 2005-06, a
14 household with an annual income that does not exceed 206.7 percent of the federal
15 poverty line is eligible to receive low-income energy assistance under section 16.27
16 of the statutes. Notwithstanding section 16.27 (2), (3), and (6) of the statutes, the
17 department of administration shall pay low-income energy assistance benefits
18 under this subsection from the appropriation accounts under section 20.505 (1) (qm)
19 of the statutes, as affected by this act.

20 (END)