



2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 645

October 22, 2021 - Introduced by Representatives SHELTON, SHANKLAND, EMERSON, ANDRACA, BALDEH, CABRERA, CONLEY, HEBL, HONG, MCGUIRE, B. MEYERS, MILROY, L. MYERS, NEUBAUER, POPE, S. RODRIGUEZ, SINICKI, SNODGRASS, SPREITZER, VINING, VRUWINK, BROSTOFF, SUBECK and STUBBS, cosponsored by Senators SMITH, LARSON, AGARD, BEWLEY, JOHNSON and RINGHAND. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

- 1 **AN ACT relating to:** University of Wisconsin System resident undergraduate
2 tuition freeze and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

The bill prohibits the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System from charging resident undergraduate academic fees in the 2021-22 and 2022-23 academic years that are more than the fees charged in the 2020-21 academic year, commonly referred to as a "tuition freeze." The freeze is funded by increasing the appropriation to the UW System for general program operations by \$16,800,000 in the fiscal year 2021-22 and by \$33,600,000 in the fiscal year 2022-23.

The bill also provides additional funding for special education aid the Department of Public Instruction pays to school districts, independent charter schools, cooperative educational service agencies, and county children with disabilities education boards in the amount of \$9,155,000 for the 2021-22 fiscal year and \$18,310,000 for the 2022-23 fiscal year, for purposes of maintaining compliance with maintenance of effort requirements of the federal Consolidated Appropriations Act and the federal American Rescue Plan Act.

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:

ASSEMBLY BILL 645**SECTION 1****SECTION 1. Nonstatutory provisions.**

(1) RESIDENT UNDERGRADUATE TUITION. Notwithstanding s. 36.27 (1) (a), the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System may not charge resident undergraduates enrolled in an institution, as defined in s. 36.05 (9), or college campus, as defined in s. 36.05 (6m), in the 2021-22 or 2022-23 academic year more in academic fees than it charged resident undergraduates enrolled in that institution or college campus in the 2020-21 academic year.

SECTION 2. Fiscal changes.

(1) SPECIAL EDUCATION AID. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the department of public instruction under s. 20.255 (2) (b), the dollar amount for fiscal year 2021-22 is increased by \$9,155,000 to increase funding for aids for special education under s. 115.88 and the dollar amount for fiscal year 2022-23 is increased by \$18,310,000 to increase funding for aids for special education under s. 115.88.

(2) UW SYSTEM; GENERAL PROGRAM OPERATIONS. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System under s. 20.285 (1) (a), the dollar amount for fiscal year 2021-22 is increased by \$16,800,000 to offset the cost of the undergraduate tuition freeze under SECTION 1 (1) of this act. In the schedule under s. 20.005 (3) for the appropriation to the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin under s. 20.285 (1) (a), the dollar amount for fiscal year 2022-23 is increased by \$33,600,000 to offset the cost of the undergraduate tuition freeze under SECTION 1 (1) of this act.

(END)