

1999 DRAFTING REQUEST

Assembly Amendment (AA-AB133)

Received: 05/26/99

Received By: mlief

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Identical to LRB:

For: Legislative Fiscal Bureau 6-5996

By/Representing: Larsen

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Subject: Higher Education - UW System

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Pre Topic:

LFB:.....Larsen -

Topic:

Consolidation of UW appropriations

Instructions:

See Attached

Drafting History:

<u>Vers.</u>	<u>Drafted</u>	<u>Reviewed</u>	<u>Typed</u>	<u>Proofed</u>	<u>Submitted</u>	<u>Jacketed</u>	<u>Required</u>
/?	mlief 05/26/99	jgeller 05/26/99		_____			
/1			martykr 05/27/99	_____	lrb_docadmin 05/27/99		

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1/?	mlief	1 5/26 jlg	2/26	mlief	2/26		

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## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

*yes*

May 25, 1999

Joint Committee on Finance

Paper #999

### Consolidation of Appropriations (UW System)

[LFB 1999-01 Budget Summary: Page 631, #32]

#### CURRENT LAW

The 1998-99 adjusted base budget for the UW System totals approximately \$2,771.1 million, of which \$911.0 million or 32.9% is funded from state, general purpose revenues. The UW System currently has 29 separate GPR appropriations. However, approximately \$735.1 million (80.7%) of the University's GPR budget is provided under the appropriation for general program operations for University education, research and public service.

The Board of Regents is required to award grants totaling not more than \$500 annually per county to sponsors of farm safety education, training or information programs.

The Board of Regents is required to appoint AODA program counselors for UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee. The counselors are required to develop AODA programs and train faculty, academic staff and classified staff in the prevention and early intervention of alcohol and other drug abuse.

#### GOVERNOR

Eliminate three GPR appropriations and transfer the funding currently provided in these appropriations to the appropriation for general program operations for University education, research and public service, [20.285(1)(a)]. The three appropriations that would be eliminated are: (a) UW-Extension outreach [(1)(eo)]; (b) farm safety program grants [(1)(fs)]; and (c) alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) prevention and intervention [(1)(fx)]. In addition to total annual funding of \$368,900, 1.0 position currently funded under the AODA appropriation would be transferred to the general program operations appropriation.

## DISCUSSION POINTS

1. The appropriations that would be consolidated into the general program operations appropriation under the bill, as well as the annual funding amount for each of these appropriations, is shown in the following table.

(1)(eo)	Extension Outreach	\$298,200
(1)(fs)	Farm Safety Program Grants	20,000
(1)(fx)	Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention and Intervention	<u>50,700</u>
Total		\$368,900

2. The Extension outreach appropriation is used to fund the nutrient and pest management program which assists Wisconsin farmers and other agricultural professionals to increase profitability and decrease non-point pollution problems through better management decisions. Extension uses on-site demonstrations and informational materials to help farmers reduce nitrogen fertilizer and herbicide applications while maintaining yields.

3. Current law requires the Board of Regents to award grants to sponsors of farm safety education, training or information programs. In order to be eligible, a sponsor must: (a) provide equal matching funds from private or public sources; (b) demonstrate the need for the program; and (c) demonstrate that the program for which the grant is sought was developed in consultation with UW-Extension personnel, public health personnel, vocational agriculture instructors or other persons with expertise or interest in farm safety topics. Annual grant amounts may not exceed \$500 per county. The UW currently gives priority to counties applying for grants to update tractor and machinery certification programs in response to state training requirements for youth operating farm equipment on public roads. Examples of other purposes for which the grants are used include: farm safety day camps or school programs for youth; emergency personnel training for farm accident rescue; and farm hazard inspections for farmers and farm employees. In 1998-99, grants were awarded to 40 of the 42 applicants.

4. The AODA prevention and intervention appropriation was established in the 1989-91 state budget (1989 Act 39) when funding and position authority for two AODA counselors, at UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee, was provided. A separate appropriation was created for the positions because they were funded with SEG monies from the pari-mutuel tax. However, a provision in the 1991-93 state budget (1991 Act 39) transferred the funding for the AODA counselors from SEG to GPR, but maintained the separate appropriation.

5. The total amount currently provided in the three appropriations is less than 0.1% of the total GPR budget for the University. According to UW System staff, consolidating these appropriations into the general program operations appropriation would increase administrative efficiency by providing additional flexibility in the management of the funds. However, staff also indicate that there are no plans to alter the amounts allocated for the programs.

6. Two of the three appropriations that would be consolidated have associated statutory language which would be unchanged under the bill. However, this language does not specify the amounts to be allocated for these purposes. Therefore, if the appropriations were to be consolidated into the larger GPR appropriation, the Board of Regents would be under no obligation to continue to allocate the same level of funding that is currently provided for these purposes under the separate appropriations.

7. In the 1993-95 budget bill, the Governor proposed consolidating a number of the UW System's GPR appropriations with the goal of moving towards a "unified" budget for the University. Under the unified budget concept, the Board of Regents would request funds for a single, continuing GPR appropriation, indicating general System priorities. The Legislature would then approve a funding level within which the Board would determine the allocation of the funds among those priorities. At the time, it was argued that the unified budget proposal represented a shift in oversight from the elected Legislature to the appointed Board of Regents and the provision was deleted by the Legislature. While the total dollar amount of the appropriations that would be consolidated under the bill represents only a small portion of the System's total GPR budget, one could view the Governor's proposal as a step towards the creation of a unified budget for the University.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Approve the Governor's recommendation to eliminate the current GPR appropriations for UW-Extension outreach, farm safety program grants and AODA prevention and intervention and transfer the funding and position currently provided in these appropriations to the appropriation for general program operations for University education, research and public service.

2. Maintain current law.

Prepared by: Merry Larsen

1999

Date (time) needed

soon

To ed. 5/25

LRB b0418 1 1

LFB BUDGET AMENDMENT [ONLY FOR LFB]

MJC: jlg:

See form AMENDMENTS — COMPONENTS & ITEMS.

LFB AMENDMENT TO 1999 ASSEMBLY BILL 133 AND 1999 SENATE BILL 45

>>FOR JT. FIN. SUB. — NOT FOR INTRODUCTION<<

At the locations indicated, amend the bill as follows:

#. Page 397, line 16.: delete lines 16 to 25 ✓

#. Page 398, line 6.: delete lines 6 and 7 ✓

#. Page 398, line 12.: delete that line ✓

#. Page 545, line 19.: delete lines 19 to 23 ✓

(end) ✓

#. Page . . . . ., line . . . . .:

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State of Wisconsin  
1999 - 2000 LEGISLATURE

LRBb0418/1  
MJL:jlg:km

LFB:.....Larsen – Consolidation of UW appropriations

FOR 1999-01 BUDGET — NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION

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6 (END)