February 2006 Special Session

ASSEMBLY BILL 1

February 16, 2006 – Introduced by Joint Committee on Finance, by request of Governor Jim Doyle. Referred to Joint Committee on Finance.

1 AN ACT to create 20.505 (1) (qm) of the statutes; relating to: increasing

low-income energy assistance and making an appropriation.

2

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:

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
4	20.505 Administration, department of
5	(1) SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT
6	(qm) Low-income energy assistance;
7	petroleum inspection fund SEG A $6,000,000$ $-0-$
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)