

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

Senate Amendment 1

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Under *current law*, the spouse or child of certain protective service employees killed in the line of duty are eligible for a full remission of fees for attending the University of Wisconsin (UW) or Technical College System.

Under *current law*, if the student is the child of the fallen protective service employee, the student is eligible for the fee remission only if the parent died before the student reaches the age of 21. The *bill* repeals this provision. It specifies, though, that, if the student is the child of the fallen protective service employee, the student is eligible for the fee remission for attendance in the UW System only if the student is not more than 30 years of age; it makes no age limit for technical college students.

Under *current law*, the remission of fees for UW students remains in effect until the student has earned enough credits for a bachelor's degree in the student's chosen major, but not for more than five consecutive years; the remission of fees for technical college students remains in effect until the student has earned enough credits for the program in which the student is enrolled, but not for more than three consecutive years. The *bill* repeals the limit on UW fee remissions (but not the limit on technical college fee remissions) and specifies instead that the UW fee remission is for 128 credits or eight semesters, whichever is longer.

The *bill* specifies that these changes first apply to fee remissions in the first academic semester that begins after the effective date of the changes. *Senate Amendment 1* specifies that the changes first apply retroactively to persons enrolled in the 2007-08 fall or spring semester or both.

Legislative History

On February 20, 2008, the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Higher Education introduced Senate Amendment 1 and recommended adoption of the amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, on votes of Ayes, 5; and Noes, 0.

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