AN ACT to repeal 13.40; to renumber and amend 20.003 (4m); to amend 16.518 (title), 20.875 (1) (a) and 25.60; and to create 20.003 (4m) (b) and 20.003 (4m) (c) of the statutes; relating to: limits on appropriations from general purpose revenues and requiring the secretary of administration to transfer certain moneys to the budget stabilization fund.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law, with exceptions, limits the amount of general purpose revenues (GPR) that may be appropriated in any fiscal biennium. The limit is tied to the annual percentage change in state aggregate personal income. Current law also prohibits the legislature from passing any bill that would cause GPR appropriations for any fiscal year to exceed GPR deposited in the general fund in that fiscal year. This bill prohibits the legislature from passing any bill that would cause GPR appropriations for any fiscal year to exceed 99 percent of the amount of GPR deposited in the general fund in that fiscal year.

The bill also provides that if in any fiscal year the amount of GPR deposited in the general fund exceeds the amount of GPR that is appropriated, the secretary of administration must transfer to the budget stabilization fund all excess GPR, less any statutory balance required to be maintained in the general fund and any amount already transferred to the budget stabilization fund in that fiscal year.

Finally, the bill provides that if the balance of the budget stabilization fund on June 30 of a fiscal year is at least equal to nine percent of the amount of GPR deposited in the general fund in that fiscal year, the legislature may pass a bill that would cause GPR appropriations for any fiscal year to exceed 99 percent of the amount of GPR deposited in the general fund in that fiscal year, subject to certain conditions.
deposited in the general fund in that fiscal year, the legislature must pass a bill to provide that all moneys in the budget stabilization fund must be used for tax relief in the succeeding fiscal year.

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

1. Section 1. 13.40 of the statutes is repealed.

2. Section 2. 16.518 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

   16.518 (title) Transfers to the budget stabilization fund and the cash building projects fund.

3. Section 3. 20.003 (4m) of the statutes is renumbered 20.003 (4m) (a) and amended to read:

   20.003 (4m) (a) No bill may be adopted by the legislature if the bill would cause in any fiscal year the amount of moneys designated as “Total Expenditures” in the summary under s. 20.005 (1) for that fiscal year, less any amounts transferred to the budget stabilization fund in that fiscal year, to exceed 99 percent of the sum of the amount of moneys designated as “Taxes” and “Departmental Revenues” in the summary under s. 20.005 (1) for that fiscal year.

4. Section 4. 20.003 (4m) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

   20.003 (4m) (b) If in any fiscal year the sum of moneys deposited in the general fund designated as “Taxes” and “Departmental Revenues” in the summary under s. 20.005 (1) for that fiscal year exceeds the moneys that are appropriated and designated as “Total Expenditures” in the summary under s. 20.005 (1) for that fiscal year, the secretary of administration shall transfer to the budget stabilization fund all of the excess taxes and revenues, less any statutory balance required to be
maintained in the general fund under s. 20.003 (4) and any amount transferred to
the budget stabilization fund under s. 16.518 (3) (a).

SECTION 5. 20.003 (4m) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

20.003 (4m) (c) If the balance of the budget stabilization fund on June 30 of a
fiscal year is at least equal to 9 percent of the amount of moneys designated as
“Taxes” and “Departmental Revenues” in the summary under s. 20.005 (1) for that
fiscal year, the legislature shall pass a bill to provide that all moneys in the budget
stabilization fund must be used for tax relief in the succeeding fiscal year.

SECTION 6. 20.875 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

20.875 (1) (a) General fund transfer. A sum sufficient equal to the amount that
is required to be transferred under s. ss. 16.518 (3) and 20.003 (4m) (b).

SECTION 7. 25.60 of the statutes is amended to read:

25.60 Budget stabilization fund. There is created a separate nonlapsible
trust fund designated as the budget stabilization fund, consisting of moneys
transferred to the fund from the general fund under ss. 13.48 (14) (c), 16.518 (3),
16.72 (4) (b), and 16.848, and 20.003 (4m) (b).

SECTION 8. Effective date.

(1) This act takes effect on June 30, 2009.

(END)