February 15, 2007 – Introduced by Senators ROBSON, ROESSLER and SCHULTZ, cosponsored by Representatives BENEDICT, SHERIDAN, GRONEMUS, MUSSER, TURNER, BIES and SINICKI. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Corrections.

AN ACT to create 941.20 (1m) (c) of the statutes; relating to: pointing a firearm at or towards a law enforcement officer and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law prohibits a person from intentionally pointing a firearm at or towards a law enforcement officer who is acting in an official capacity. A person who violates this prohibition is guilty of a felony and may be fined up to $10,000 or sentenced to a term of imprisonment of up to six years (which, if the sentence is for more than one year, includes a term of extended supervision) or both.

This bill prohibits a person from intentionally pointing an object at or towards a law enforcement officer who is acting in an official capacity if the law enforcement officer may reasonably believe that the object is a firearm.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report concerning the proposed penalty and the costs or savings that are likely to result if the bill is enacted.

For further information see the state and local 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:

SECTION 1. 941.20 (1m) (c) of the statutes is created to read:
941.20 (1m) (c) Whoever intentionally points at or towards a law enforcement officer any object that the law enforcement officer could reasonably believe, given the circumstances, is a firearm is guilty of a Class H felony if the law enforcement officer is acting in an official capacity and the person knows or has reason to know that the officer is a law enforcement officer.

(END)