March 13, 2007 – Introduced by Senators LASSA, DARLING, GROTHMAN and OLSEN, cosponsored by Representatives GOTTLIEB, BALLWEG, FIELDS, HAHN, MURSAU, A. OTT, PETROWSKI and VAN ROY. Referred to Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs.

AN ACT to create 66.0603 (1m) (b) 5., 66.0603 (1m) (b) 6. and 66.0603 (3) (c) of the statutes; relating to: the investment by certain local units of government of funds held in trust to provide post-employment benefits.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, a school district may invest and reinvest funds that are held in trust, other than funds held in the public employee trust fund, solely to provide post-employment benefits in the manner provided under the Uniform Prudent Investor Act, which took effect in Wisconsin on April 30, 2004. This bill requires that such funds be held in segregated accounts, and extends the same provisions to other local governmental units, including cities, villages, towns, counties, and technical college districts.

For further information see the 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. 66.0603 (1m) (b) 5. of the statutes is created to read:

66.0603 (1m) (b) 5. A city, village, town, county, drainage district, technical college district, or other governing board as defined by s. 34.01 (1) may invest and
reinvest funds that are held in trust, other than funds held in the public employee
trust fund, solely to provide any of the following benefits, in the same manner as is
authorized for investments under s. 881.01:
   a. Post-employment health care benefits provided either separately or through
      a defined benefit pension plan.
   b. Other post-employment benefits provided separately from a defined benefit
      pension plan.

SECTION 2. 66.0603 (1m) (b) 6. of the statutes is created to read:
   66.0603 (1m) (b) 6. Funds that are held in trust to provide the benefits
described in subds. 3. and 5. shall be held in a trust fund or account that is separate
from all other trust funds or accounts created by, or under the control of, the local
governmental unit.

SECTION 3. 66.0603 (3) (c) of the statutes is created to read:
   66.0603 (3) (c) 1. In addition to the authority granted under sub. (2), a city,
village, town, county, drainage district, technical college district, or other governing
board as defined by s. 34.01 (1) may delegate the investment authority over the funds
described under sub. (1m) (b) 5. to an investment manager who meets the
requirements and qualifications specified in the trust’s investment policy and who
is registered as an investment adviser under 15 USC 80b-3.
   2. If a unit of government described under subd. 1. has established a trust
described in sub. (1m) (b) 5., it shall annually publish a written report that states the
amount in the trust, the investment return earned by the trust since the last report
was published, the total disbursements made from the trust since the last report was
published, and the name of the investment manager if investment authority has
been delegated under subd. 1.

(END)