December 1, 2011 – Introduced by Representatives KRAMER, PRIDEMORE, ENDSLEY, LOUDENBECK and BIES, cosponsored by Senators LAZICH and GROTHMAN. Referred to Committee on Ways and Means.

AN ACT to create 13.53 (6) of the statutes; relating to: state agency fiscal and operations reports and quarterly hearings of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires that all executive and judicial branch state agencies submit reports on their fiscal condition and operations to the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC). Under the bill, one-quarter of all the state agencies must submit the report and appear before the JLAC each quarter. The report must report on the agency's fiscal condition and operational health, and must include agency balance sheets, an accounting of all agency expenditures exceeding $100, the number of persons employed by the agency, aggregate payroll data, and a list of all programs administered by the agency, as well as an explanation of each program and an identification of the statutory provision requiring the program. The report must further include data relating to employee salary growth and benefit costs. The report is in addition to any other reports that state agencies are currently required to prepare by law.

The JLAC cochairpersons may determine which state agencies are required to submit the report and appear before JLAC in any given quarter, but no agency may be required to appear before JLAC more than once in a fiscal year. Under the bill, the JLAC cochairpersons must provide each state agency at least 15 business days' notice of its scheduled appearance before JLAC and must provide a copy of the notice to the governor and to each senator and representative to the assembly. If the chief
administrative officer of a state agency is unable to appear at a quarterly meeting, the chief administrative officer must notify the JLAC cochairpersons at least 72 hours before a public notice for a committee hearing is required to be published and must attend the next quarterly meeting of JLAC.

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:

SECTION 1. 13.53 (6) of the statutes is created to read:

13.53 (6) FISCAL AND OPERATIONS REPORTS. (a) In this subsection, “state agency” has the meaning given in s. 20.001 (1), but does not include the legislature.

(b) Quarterly, one-quarter of all state agencies shall submit a report to and appear before the joint legislative audit committee. The cochairpersons of the committee, for the purpose of receiving testimony and reports relating to the fiscal and operational condition of state agencies, shall convene the committee for a meeting each quarter and shall determine which state agencies shall submit the report and appear before the committee during any quarter, except that no state agency may be required to submit a report or appear before the committee more than once in any fiscal year. This meeting shall be in addition to any other meeting the committee is required by law to hold or chooses to hold. The cochairpersons shall provide each state agency at least 15 business days’ notice of its scheduled appearance before the committee and shall provide a copy of the notice to the governor and to each senator and representative to the assembly.

(c) The report submitted by each state agency to the joint legislative audit committee under par. (b) shall report on the fiscal condition and operational health of the state agency. The report shall specifically include agency balance sheets, an accounting of all state agency expenditures exceeding $100, the number of persons
employed by the state agency, aggregate payroll data, and a list of all programs
administered by the state agency, as well as an explanation of each program and an
identification of the statutory provision requiring the program. The report shall
further include data relating to employee salary growth and benefit costs. The report
is in addition to any other reports that the state agency is required to prepare by law.

(d) If the chief administrative officer of a state agency is unable to appear before
the joint legislative audit committee at any quarterly meeting convened under par.
(b), the chief administrative officer shall notify the cochairpersons of the committee
at least 72 hours before a public notice for a committee hearing is required to be
published and shall attend the next quarterly meeting of the committee that is
convened under par. (b).

(END)