2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 342

September 21, 2015 –Introduced by Representatives SHANKLAND, DOYLE, BARCA, BARNES, BERCEAU, BROSTOFF, CONSIDINE, DANOU, HEBL, HESSELBEIN, HINTZ, JOHNSON, JORGENSEN, KOLSTE, OHNSTAD, POPE, SARGENT, SINICKI, SPREITZER, SUBECK, C. TAYLOR, WACHS and ZAMARRIPA, cosponsored by Senators HANSEN, ERPENBACH, C. LARSON, LASA, RINGHAND, RISSE and L. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Campaigns and Elections.

AN ACT to create 11.37 (3) of the statutes; relating to: reporting travel expenses for elected state officials seeking national office and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires an elected state official who is considering running for, or pursuing the nomination or election to, a national office to submit monthly statements to the Government Accountability Board identifying the official’s travel expenses from the previous month. The bill also requires the official to reimburse the state for the amount of any state funds that the official used to pay for travel expenses used to consider or pursue the nomination or election to a national office.

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. 11.37 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

11.37 (3) (a) An elected state official, as identified under s. 20.923 (2) and (3), who is considering running for, or pursuing the nomination or election to, a national office shall file a monthly statement with the board, in the manner prescribed by the
board, that provides an itemized list of the official’s travel expenses incurred in the
previous month, including an itinerary of the dates traveled; the destination,
location, and purpose of such travel; and the total cost of security protection and staff
expenses. The statement shall also specify the source from which those costs were
paid.

(b) If the elected state official used state funds to pay for any of the costs
identified in a statement filed under par. (a) for purposes of considering or pursuing
the nomination or election to a national office, the official shall reimburse the state
for the amount of the state funds used for such purposes by paying that amount to
the department of administration no later than 30 days after filing the report under
par. (a). An official who fails to reimburse the state before the 30−day period expires
shall pay to the department of administration a penalty of $500 for each day that the
official is late making the payment.

SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to travel expenses incurred on the effective date of this
subsection.