AN ACT to amend 20.445 (1) (b) and 106.27 (3); and to create 106.27 (1r) of the statutes; relating to: requiring the Department of Workforce Development to provide student internship coordination and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Department of Workforce Development, as part of its workforce training program, commonly referred to as the Fast Forward Program, to provide coordination between institutions of higher education and employers to increase the number of students who are placed with employers for internships and increases the authorized full-time equivalent positions for that department by 2.0 positions for that purpose.

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. 20.445 (1) (b) of the statutes, as affected by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, is amended to read:

20.445 (1) (b) Workforce training program; grants and services. As a continuing appropriation, the amounts in the schedule for workforce training grants and
services under s. 106.27 (1) and (1g), and (1r) and for career and technical education incentive grants under s. 106.273.

Section 2. 106.27 (1r) of the statutes is created to read:

106.27 (1r) Student internship coordination. From the appropriation under s. 20.445 (1) (b), the department shall provide coordination between institutions of higher education, as defined in 20 USC 1001 (a) and (b), and employers to increase the number of students who are placed with employers for internships.

Section 3. 106.27 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

106.27 (3) Annual report. Annually, by December 31, the department shall submit a report to the governor and the cochairpersons of the joint committee on finance providing an account of the department’s activities and expenditures under this section during the preceding fiscal year. The report shall include information on the number of unemployed and underemployed workers and incumbent employees who participate in training programs under sub. (1); the number of unemployed workers who obtain gainful employment, underemployed workers who obtain new employment, and incumbent employees who receive increased compensation after participating in such a training program; and the wages earned by those workers and employees both before and after participating in such a training program. The report shall also include information on the extent to which waiting lists for enrollment in courses and programs provided by technical colleges in high-demand fields are reduced as a result of grants under sub. (1g) (a), on the number of high school pupils who participate in certification programs under sub. (1g) (b), and on the number of persons with disabilities who participate in employment enhancement activities under sub. (1g) (c). In addition, the report shall
provide information on the number of student interns who are placed with employers as a result of the coordination activities conducted under sub. (1r).

**SECTION 4. Fiscal changes.**

(1) **Student internship coordinators.** In the schedule under section 20.005 (3) of the statutes for the appropriation to the department of workforce development under section 20.445 (1) (b) of the statutes, as affected by the acts of 2015, the dollar amount for fiscal year 2016–17 is increased by $200,000 to increase the authorized FTE positions for that department by 2.0 GPR positions for the purpose of providing coordination between institutions of higher education and employers to increase the number of students who are placed with employers for internships.

(END)