March 3, 2016 – Introduced by Senators L TAYLOR and HARRIS DODD, cosponsored by Representatives BERCEAU, GOYKE, JOHNSON and SINICKI. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

AN ACT to create 175.57 of the statutes; relating to: requiring training for law enforcement offices on cultural competency.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires law enforcement agencies in counties with a population of 500,000 or more to establish a policy that requires law enforcement officers to attend training programs concerning cultural diversity, including sensitivity toward racial and ethnic differences. The training must be designed to prevent the use of race, racial profiling, racial stereotyping, or other race-based discrimination or selection as a basis for detaining, searching, or arresting a person or for otherwise treating a person differently from persons of other races and must emphasize the fact that the primary purposes of enforcement of traffic regulations are safety and equal and uniform enforcement under the law. Under the bill, a law enforcement officer must attend the training annually for the first three years he or she is employed by the law enforcement agency and at least every two years thereafter.

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. 175.57 of the statutes is created to read:
175.57 Cultural diversity and sensitivity training. (1) In this section:

(a) “Law enforcement agency” has the meaning given in s. 165.83 (1) (b).

(b) “Law enforcement officer” has the meaning given in s. 165.85 (2) (c).

(2) (a) Each law enforcement agency that is located in a county with a population of 500,000 or more shall have a written policy requiring each law enforcement officer employed by the law enforcement agency to attend, pursuant to par. (c), training concerning cultural diversity, including sensitivity toward racial and ethnic differences.

(b) The training shall be designed to prevent the use of race, racial profiling, racial stereotyping, or other race-based discrimination or selection as a basis for detaining, searching, or arresting a person or for otherwise treating a person differently from persons of other races and shall emphasize the fact that the primary purposes of enforcement of traffic regulations are safety and equal and uniform enforcement under the law.

(c) A law enforcement officer shall attend the training required under this subsection annually for the first 3 years he or she is employed by a law enforcement agency and at least every 2 years thereafter.

(END)