AN ACT to amend 36.11 (56) of the statutes; relating to: reimbursement for lodging expenses for employees of the University of Wisconsin System.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill limits reimbursement amounts for University of Wisconsin System employees for lodging expenses to the maximum reimbursement amounts available to other state employees.

Under current law, the Department of Administration recommends to the legislative Joint Committee on Employment Relations uniform travel schedule amounts for travel by state employees, including maximum amounts allowed for lodging costs. The uniform travel schedule amounts approved by JCOER are incorporated into the state compensation plan and generally apply to state employees but do not apply to employees of the UW System. Instead, the Board of Regents of the UW System must establish travel policies for UW System employees and a schedule for the reimbursement of UW System employees for travel expenses.

Under this bill, the UW System’s schedule for reimbursement of travel expenses may not provide for reimbursement for lodging expenses incurred in this state at a rate that exceeds the maximum rate for lodging expenses incurred in the same location in this state under the approved uniform travel schedule incorporated into the current state compensation plan.
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. 36.11 (56) of the statutes is amended to read:

36.11 (56) TRAVEL POLICIES. Effective July 1, 2013, the board shall establish travel policies for system employees and a schedule for the reimbursement of system employees for travel expenses. This schedule may not provide for reimbursement of system employees for lodging expenses incurred in this state at a rate that exceeds the maximum rate for lodging expenses incurred in the same location in this state under the approved uniform travel schedule incorporated under s. 20.916 (8) (b) into the current compensation plan under s. 230.12 (1).

SECTION 2. Initial applicability.

(1) This act first applies to claims for reimbursement made on the effective date of this subsection.

SECTION 3. Effective date.

(1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 4th month beginning after publication.