AN ACT relating to: increasing wages for state employees employed at veterans homes and making an appropriation.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Division of Personnel Management to include in the 2017-19 state employee compensation plan a wage increase for state employees who are employed at state veterans homes for the purpose of improving recruitment and retention in positions that have high vacancy rates. The bill specifies that these wage increases must include at least a $1 per hour increase for certified nursing assistants employed at state veterans homes. Under the bill, DPM is required to develop the wage increases so that the estimated cost is approximately $2,000,000 in each fiscal year.

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. Nonstatutory provisions.

(1) VETERANS HOME PERSONNEL; COMPENSATION PLAN.

(a) In this subsection, “veterans home” has the meaning given in section 45.01 (12m) of the statutes.
(b) The administrator of the division of personnel management in the department of administration shall include in the compensation plan under section 230.12 of the statutes for the 2017-19 fiscal biennium a wage increase for individuals employed at a veterans home. The administrator shall include wage increases under this paragraph that are designed to improve recruitment and retention in position classifications that have a high vacancy rate. The wage increases under this paragraph shall include at least a $1 per hour increase for certified nursing assistants employed at a veterans home.

(c) The administrator of the division of personnel management in the department of administration shall propose wage increases under paragraph (b), the estimated cost of which, including any associated increase costs in benefits, is approximately $2,000,000 per fiscal year.

(d) If, on the effective date of this paragraph, the compensation plan under section 230.12 of the statutes has been adopted for the 2017-19 biennium and the compensation plan does not include the wage increases required under paragraph (b), by no later than 30 days after the effective date of this paragraph, the administrator of the division of personnel management in the department of administration shall propose an amendment under section 230.12 (3) (c) of the statutes to include the wage increases required under paragraph (b) in the compensation plan for the 2017-19 biennium.

SECTION 2. Fiscal changes.

(1) Veterans home personnel; wage increases. In the schedule under section 20.005 (3) of the statutes for the appropriation to the department of veterans affairs under section 20.485 (1) (gk) of the statutes, the dollar amount for fiscal year 2017-18 is increased by $2,000,000 for the purpose of funding the wage increases required
under Section 1 (1) of this act. In the schedule under section 20.005 (3) of the statutes for the appropriation to the department of veterans affairs under section 20.485 (1) (gk) of the statutes, the dollar amount for fiscal year 2018-19 is increased by $2,000,000 for the purpose of funding the wage increases required under Section 1 (1) of this act.