2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 556

October 21, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives LOUDENBECK, NOVAK, BALLWEG, DITTRICH, KITCHENS, KULP, MURSAU, RAMTHUN, TAUCHEN, TRANEL, TUSLER, VANDEMEER and WITTKE, cosponsored by Senators MARKLEIN, PETROWSKI, TESTIN, KAPENGA and OLSEN. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

AN ACT to create 36.115 (8) (c) of the statutes; relating to: recognizing teaching hours for providing certain extension services of the University of Wisconsin System.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System to recognize as teaching hours time spent by state specialists providing certain extension services.

Under current law, the Board of Regents must develop and implement a plan that includes 1) policies for monitoring teaching workloads of faculty and instructional academic staff, including requirements for reporting the number of hours each spends teaching; and 2) policies for rewarding faculty and instructional academic staff who teach more than a standard academic load. These teaching hours reported are included, as aggregate data, in an accountability report submitted to the governor and legislature and are included, as aggregate data or individually reported data, directly or by link on the accountability dashboard portion of the UW System’s Internet site.

This bill requires the Board of Regents’ plan to recognize as teaching hours, for state specialists who provide extension services in the field of applied agricultural research at UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, or the UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the time spent by these state specialists teaching graduate students and teaching Wisconsin farmers.
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. 36.115 (8) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

36.115 (8) (c) 1. In this paragraph, “state specialists” means state specialists who provide extension services in the field of applied agricultural research at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, or University of Wisconsin-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and who are faculty or instructional academic staff.

2. The plan under par. (a) shall recognize as teaching hours, to be included in reports to the system administration under par. (a) 1. and eligible for reward under par. (a) 2., time spent by state specialists teaching graduate students and teaching Wisconsin farmers.

SECTION 2. Nonstatutory provisions.

(1) The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System shall revise the plan under s. 36.115 (8) (a), if necessary to comply with s. 36.115 (8) (c), no later than the first day of the 4th month beginning after the effective date of this subsection.

(END)