February 17, 2022 - Introduced by Representatives Kurtz, Brandtjen, Cabral-Guevara, Dittrich, Duchow, Edming, Kerkman, KuGlitsch, Magnafici, Skowronski, Thiesfeldt, Tranel and Zimmerman, cosponsored by Senators Testin, Ballweg, Darling and Felzkowski. Referred to Committee on Government Accountability and Oversight.

AN ACT to create 16.414 of the statutes; relating to: an online dashboard relating to the state’s receipt and expenditure of federal COVID–19 relief funds.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the governor has authority to accept aid made available to the state by the U.S. government, including moneys the federal government makes available to the state in connection with the COVID–19 pandemic.

This bill requires the Department of Administration to develop, maintain, and update at least weekly a publicly available and fully searchable dashboard on its Internet site that provides a full accounting of all of the following:

1. The amount of federal COVID–19 relief funds DOA reasonably anticipates that this state will receive and when the state will receive the funds.

2. The amount of federal COVID–19 relief funds accepted by the state and the date of each acceptance of the funds.

3. The amount of federal COVID–19 relief funds allocated to each state agency, including an identification of the state agency and a detailed description of the purposes for which the funds were allocated.

4. The amount of federal COVID–19 relief funds allocated to each nonentitlement unit of local government, as defined under federal law, including an identification of each nonentitlement unit of local government and a detailed description of the purposes for which the funds were allocated.

5. The amount of federal COVID–19 relief funds expended by each state agency, an identification of the appropriation from which the funds were expended, the purposes for which the funds were expended, and the date of each expenditure.
6. An identification of each vendor, including zip code, receiving COVID-19 relief funds from the state, the amount of the funds expended by each vendor, and the date of each expenditure.
   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. 16.414 of the statutes is created to read:

16.414 Disclosures relating to federal COVID-19 relief funds. (1)

DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) “Federal COVID-19 relief funds” means all moneys made available by the U.S. government and accepted by the governor under s. 16.54 in connection with the outbreak of COVID-19 in this state.

(b) “State agency” means an association, authority, board, department, commission, independent agency, institution, office, society, or other body in state government created or authorized to be created by the constitution or any law, including the legislature and the courts.

(2) DASHBOARD. (a) No later than July 1, 2022, the department shall develop, and shall maintain thereafter, a publicly available and fully searchable dashboard on its Internet site that provides a full accounting of all of the following:

1. The amount of federal COVID-19 relief funds the department reasonably anticipates that this state will receive and when the state will receive the funds.

2. The amount of federal COVID-19 relief funds accepted by the state and the date of each acceptance of federal COVID-19 relief funds.
3. The amount of federal COVID-19 relief funds allocated to each state agency, including an identification of the state agency and a detailed description of the purposes for which the funds were allocated.

4. The amount of federal COVID-19 relief funds allocated to each nonentitlement unit of local government, as defined in section 603 (g) (5) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, including an identification of each nonentitlement unit of local government and a detailed description of the purposes for which the funds were allocated.

5. The amount of federal COVID-19 relief funds expended by each state agency, an identification of the appropriation from which the funds were expended, the purposes for which the funds were expended, and the date of each expenditure.

6. An identification of each vendor, including zip code, receiving federal COVID-19 relief funds from the state, the amount of federal COVID-19 relief funds expended by each vendor, and the date of each expenditure.

   (b) The department shall fully update the dashboard under par. (a) at least weekly.

(END)