2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 76

February 18, 2021 - Introduced by Representatives LOUDENBECK, MURPHY, NOVAK, TAUCHE N, TRANEL, VANDERMEE R, OLDENBURG, SNYDER, EDMING and SKOWRONS KI, cosponsored by Senators MARKLEIN, BALLWEG, NASS, PETROWSKI, TESTIN and STROEBEL. Referred to Committee on Colleges and Universities.

AN ACT to renumber and amend 36.115 (1); to amend 36.115 (5) (b) and (c); and to create 36.115 (1) (b), 36.115 (8) (c) and (d), 36.65 (2) (dn) and 36.65 (6) (c) of the statutes; relating to: monitoring extension and outreach hours of certain University of Wisconsin System faculty and academic staff who provide extension services in applied agricultural research.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System to monitor the extension and outreach hours of state specialists, which the bill defines as faculty or academic staff at UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, or UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences with appointments partially or fully funded through the Division of Extension at UW-Madison in the field of applied agricultural research.

Under current law, the Board of Regents must develop and implement a plan that includes policies for monitoring teaching workloads of faculty and instructional academic staff, including requirements for reporting the number of hours each spends teaching. 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.

The bill requires the Board of Regents to also develop and implement a plan that includes policies for monitoring extension and outreach workloads of state
specialists. The bill also requires the Board of Regents to include aggregate data on state specialists' extension and outreach hours in the accountability report and on the accountability dashboard described above.

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 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 36.115 (1) (intro.) and amended to read:

36.115 (1) (intro.) In this section, “chancellor”:

(a) “Chancellor” means the chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Madison.

**SECTION 2.** 36.115 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

36.115 (1) (b) “State specialists” means faculty or academic staff at the University of Wisconsin–Platteville, University of Wisconsin–River Falls, University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point, or University of Wisconsin–Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences with appointments partially or fully funded through the division of extension at the University of Wisconsin–Madison in the field of applied agricultural research.

**SECTION 3.** 36.115 (5) (b) and (c) of the statutes are amended to read:

36.115 (5) (b) The board may not implement the personnel system developed under sub. (2) unless it has been approved by the joint committee on employment relations. This paragraph does not apply to revisions made under sub. (8) (b) or (d).

(c) The chancellor may not implement the personnel system developed under sub. (3) unless it has been approved by the joint committee on employment relations. This paragraph does not apply to revisions made under sub. (8) (b) or (d).

**SECTION 4.** 36.115 (8) (c) and (d) of the statutes are created to read:
36.115 (8) (c) No later than the first day of the 6th month beginning after the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date], the board shall develop and implement a plan that includes policies for monitoring extension and outreach workloads of state specialists, including requirements for individual state specialists to report their extension and outreach hours to the system administration.

(d) The board shall revise the personnel systems developed under subs. (2) and (3) and the employment relations policies and practices established under sub. (7) as necessary to ensure that the systems, policies, and practices are consistent with the plan required under par. (c).

SECTION 5. 36.65 (2) (dn) of the statutes is created to read:

36.65 (2) (dn) Extension and outreach hours. Aggregate data on extension and outreach hours of state specialists, as defined in s. 36.115 (1) (b).

SECTION 6. 36.65 (6) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

36.65 (6) (c) The board shall publish on the accountability dashboard aggregate data on extension and outreach hours of state specialists, as defined in s. 36.115 (1) (b).