**2021 SENATE BILL 62**

February 5, 2021 -Introduced by Senators PETROWSKI, WANGGAARD, L. TAYLOR, CARPENTER, FEYEN, RINGHAND, JACQUE, FELZKOWSKI, ROYS, DARLING, TESTIN, LARSON and PFAFF, cosponsored by Representatives LOUDENBECK, BORN, SCHRAA, RAMTHUN, TAUCHEN, NOVAK, SNYDER, SKOWRONSKI, ROZAR, ZIMMERMAN, EDMING, MURSAU, KNODL, JAMES, DOYLE, CABRERA, SUMMERFIELD, VANDERMEER, DITTRICH, SINICKI, MILROY, SPIROS, MOSES, NEUBAUER, HONG, DUCHOW, DRAKE, TRANEL, RIEMER, BOWEN, ANDRACA, SPREITZER, B. MEYERS, SUBECK and BROSTOFF. Referred to Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

AN ACT relating to: merit pay raises for state public defenders.

**Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau**

Under current law, there is an assistant state public defender pay progression plan, which consists of 17 hourly salary steps, with each step equal to one-seventeenth of the difference between the lowest hourly salary and the highest hourly salary. The plan provides that no salary adjustment under the plan may increase an assistant state public defender’s salary by more than 10 percent of his or her base pay during a fiscal year.

This bill allows the Public Defender Board to provide merit-based pay raises under the assistant state public defender pay progression plan in fiscal year 2021–22 that may exceed 10 percent of an assistant state public defender’s base pay.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

**SECTION 1. Nonstatutory provisions.**

(1) Notwithstanding s. 230.12 (11) (c), from the appropriation under s. 20.550 (1) (a), the public defender board may provide merit-based pay raises under the assistant state public defender pay progression plan under s. 230.12 (11) to increase the base pay of assistant public defenders in fiscal year 2021–22. Notwithstanding
s. 230.12 (11) (c), a salary adjustment for an assistant state public defender under this subsection may exceed 10 percent of his or her base pay during a fiscal year.