



State of Wisconsin
2025 - 2026 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1943/1

MDE:cdc

2025 SENATE BILL 62

February 21, 2025 - Introduced by Senators FEYEN, JAMES and DASSLER-ALFHEIM, cosponsored by Representatives ARMSTRONG, DITTRICH, KNODL, KREIBICH and NOVAK. Referred to Committee on Government Operations, Labor and Economic Development.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 231.02 (2), 231.03 (13) and 231.08 (8); *to create* 231.03 (6) (L)
2 of the statutes; **relating to:** financing the operating costs and certain out-of-
3 state projects of nonprofit institutions and compensation of employees of the
4 Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill makes the following changes to laws governing the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority, which is a public body corporate and politic created outside of official state government:

1. Under current law, WHEFA may issue bonds to finance certain projects of health, educational, research, and other nonprofit institutions. The bill authorizes WHEFA to issue bonds for the purpose of financing working capital of such institutions to cover operating costs.

2. Current law authorizes WHEFA to help finance the costs of projects located outside of Wisconsin provided that the project includes a substantial component located within the state. The bill instead authorizes the financing of a project outside the state if the owner or operator of the project, or an affiliate of the owner or operator, has a presence within the state.

3. Under current law, WHEFA appoints an executive director to administer the authority. The executive director's compensation may not exceed the maximum

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of the salary range established for state government positions assigned to executive salary group six. This bill increases that maximum assignment to executive salary group eight.

4. Similarly, current law provides that all other WHEFA employees may not receive compensation that exceeds the maximum of the salary range established for state government positions assigned to executive salary group three. This bill increases that maximum assignment to executive salary group five.

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:

1 **SECTION 1.** 231.02 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 231.02 (2) The authority shall appoint an executive director and associate
3 executive director who shall not be members of the authority and who shall serve at
4 the pleasure of the authority. They shall receive such compensation as the
5 authority fixes, except that the compensation of the executive director shall not
6 exceed the maximum of the salary range established under s. 20.923 (1) for
7 positions assigned to executive salary group ~~6~~ 8 and the compensation of each
8 other employee of the authority shall not exceed the maximum of the salary range
9 established under s. 20.923 (1) for positions assigned to executive salary group ~~3~~ 5.

10 The executive director or associate executive director or other person designated by
11 resolution of the authority shall keep a record of the proceedings of the authority
12 and shall be custodian of all books, documents, and papers filed with the authority,
13 the minute book or journal of the authority, and its official seal. The executive
14 director or associate executive director or other person may cause copies to be made
15 of all minutes and other records and documents of the authority and may give
16 certificates under the official seal of the authority to the effect that such copies are

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1 true copies, and all persons dealing with the authority may rely upon such
2 certificates.

3 **SECTION 2.** 231.03 (6) (L) of the statutes is created to read:

4 231.03 **(6)** (L) In an amount not to exceed that approved by the authority,
5 finance working capital of any participating health institution, participating
6 educational institution, participating nonprofit institution, or participating
7 research institution for the purpose of covering operating expenses. Bonds issued
8 for purposes of this paragraph are not exempt from taxation under s. 71.05 (1) (c)
9 14., 71.26 (1m) (o), or 71.45 (1t) (n).

10 **SECTION 3.** 231.03 (13) of the statutes is amended to read:

11 231.03 **(13)** Make loans to any participating health institution, participating
12 educational institution, participating nonprofit institution, or participating
13 research institution for the cost of a project or to finance working capital under sub.
14 (6) (L) in accordance with an agreement between the authority and the
15 participating health institution, participating educational institution, participating
16 nonprofit institution, or participating research institution. The authority may
17 secure the loan by a mortgage or other security arrangement on the health facility,
18 educational facility, nonprofit facility, or research facility granted by the
19 participating health institution, participating educational institution, participating
20 nonprofit institution, or participating research institution to the authority. The
21 loan may not exceed, as applicable, the total cost of the project as determined by the
22 participating health institution, participating educational institution, participating
23 nonprofit institution, or participating research institution and approved by the

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1 authority or the amount of working capital approved by the authority under sub. (6)

2 (L).

3 **SECTION 4.** 231.08 (8) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 231.08 (8) The proceeds of a bond issued under this section may be used for a
5 project in this state or any other state, except that if the proceeds of a bond are used
6 for a project located in another state, ~~that project shall include a substantial~~
7 ~~component located in this state, as determined by the executive director~~ the owner
8 or operator of that project, or its affiliate, shall have a presence in this state.

9 (END)