

GENERAL REPORT
OF THE JOINT
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
TO THE
2015-16 LEGISLATURE



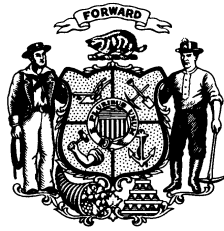
Adoption Disruption and Dissolution
Law Revision Committee
Problem-Solving Courts, Alternatives, and
Diversions
Review of Criminal Penalties
Review of Tax Incremental Financing
Review of Wisconsin Technical College
System Funding and Governance
State-Tribal Relations
Student Achievement Guarantee in
Education (SAGE) Program
Transfer of Structured Settlement Payments
Symposia Series on Personal Property Tax
Symposia Series on Supporting Healthy
Early Brain Development

Wisconsin Legislative Council
One East Main Street, Suite 401
Madison, Wisconsin
July 2016

[Copies of this report are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc.>]

Co-Chairs
MARY LAZICH
Senate President

JOAN BALLWEG
Representative



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF
Terry C. Anderson
Director

July 2016

To the Honorable Governor Scott Walker
and Members of the 2015-16 Wisconsin Legislature:

We are pleased to submit this **General Report** of the Joint Legislative Council. This General Report summarizes the work of the Joint Legislative Council and its committees during the period from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016. These committees were established to examine major issues and problems identified by the Council or referred to the Council.

Sincerely,

Senator Mary Lazich
Co-Chair
Joint Legislative Council

Representative Joan Ballweg
Co-Chair
Joint Legislative Council

STATE OF WISCONSIN
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL REPORT
OF THE
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
TO THE
2015-16
LEGISLATURE

JULY 2016

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

[s. 13.81, Stats.]

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This 22-member committee consists of the majority and minority party leadership of both houses of the Legislature, the co-chairs and ranking minority members of the Joint Committee on Finance, and 5 Senators and 5 Representatives appointed as are members of standing committees.

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PREFACE

This **General Report** of the Joint Legislative Council to the 2015-16 Legislature is prepared pursuant to s. 13.81 (3) of the Wisconsin Statutes. It summarizes the work of the Joint Legislative Council from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2016, and of those statutory and study committees established by the Council to report to the 2015-16 Legislature.

The Joint Legislative Council continued two statutory committees and established seven study committees to conduct various studies and to make reports to the 2015-16 Legislature. [See list on page 1 of Part I.]

As of June 30, 2016, the following eight reports containing the recommendations of the study committees were submitted to the 2015-16 Legislature dealing with the substantive issues considered by these committees. These reports are listed below. Copies may be obtained from the Legislative Council staff offices or website (<http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc>).

LCR 2015-01	Study Committee on the Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) Program
LCR 2015-02	Study Committee on Transfer of Structured Settlement Payments
LCR 2015-03	Study Committee on Problem-Solving Courts, Alternatives, and Diversions
LCR 2015-04	Study Committee on the Review of Tax Incremental Financing
LCR 2015-05	Study Committee on Adoption Disruption and Dissolution
LCR 2015-06	Study Committee on the Review of Wisconsin Technical College System Funding and Governance
LCR 2015-07	Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations
LCR 2015-08	Study Committee on the Review of Criminal Penalties

The Council's Law Revision Committee does not report to the Council; rather, it introduces its legislation separately.

In addition to study committees and statutory committees, the Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council appointed two steering committees for a Symposia Series on Personal Property Tax and a Symposia Series on Supporting Healthy Early Brain Development. The Steering Committee reports to the Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council provide a summary of each symposia series and the recommendations received by the steering committees.

This General Report is organized into the following parts:

Part I describes the Joint Legislative Council, and particularly, the activities of the 2014-15 Council.

Part II contains a list of, and briefly describes the work of, each of the Council's committees, as well as the Joint Legislative Council and legislative actions on the committee recommendations.

The Appendix lists the members of the study committees that were established during the period covered by this report.

Complete information on each study committee from the 2014 interim, and previous interims, are available at the Council's website: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc>.

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PART I

WORK OF THE 2015-16 JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

WORK OF THE 2015-16 JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Joint Legislative Council held two meetings between January 1, 2015 and June 30, 2016 (the period covered by this report), on the following dates:

February 11, 2015

March 18, 2015

The proposals introduced by the Joint Legislative Council and the Law Revision Committee are discussed in Part II of this report.

Council Study Committees

During the period covered by this report, the Council functioned with two statutory committees, seven study committees, and two symposia series that were established to report to the 2015-16 Joint Legislative Council.

The statutory committees were:

- Law Revision
- State-Tribal Relations

The study committees that the Council created to report to the 2015-16 Council were:

- Adoption Disruption and Dissolution
- Problem-Solving Courts, Alternatives, and Diversions
- Review of Criminal Penalties
- Review of Tax Incremental Financing
- Review of Wisconsin Technical College System Funding and Governance
- Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) Program
- Transfer of Structured Settlement Payments

In March 2015, Senator Luther Olsen and Representative Joan Ballweg, Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council, created two steering committees to develop a Symposia Series on Personal Property Tax and a Symposia Series on Supporting Healthy Early Brain Development. The Steering Committees were provided with the following assignments:

The Steering Committee for the Symposia Series on Personal Property Tax is directed to conduct information symposia and develop recommendations regarding the state's personal property tax. The Steering Committee shall study the fiscal effect of the personal property tax and personal property tax exemptions, the constitutional concerns that may arise in the context of personal property tax reform, and the administrative and compliance costs associated with personal property taxation; and shall develop recommendations, in the form of a committee report, for personal property tax reform.

The Steering Committee for the Symposia Series on Supporting Healthy Early Brain Development is directed to conduct information symposia regarding: (a) research on the impact of early brain development on lifetime physical and mental health, educational achievement, and economic security and the factors that hinder or promote healthy early brain development; (b) policy initiatives implemented in other states that are intended to positively influence early brain development; and (c) relevant programs and initiatives currently in place in Wisconsin. The Steering Committee shall also develop policy recommendations designed to improve the early brain development of Wisconsin's infants and young children.

Organization and Activities of the Joint Legislative Council

The Joint Legislative Council is composed of 22 legislators, 11 from the Senate and 11 from the Assembly. Twelve of these members are *ex officio*--that is, they serve on the Council because of their positions as legislative leaders--and are the following: the Speaker of the Assembly; the President of the Senate; the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly; President Pro Tempore of the Senate; the Assembly and Senate Majority and Minority Leaders; the two Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance; and the ranking minority member of the Joint Committee on Finance from each house. The other 10 members are appointed as are members of standing committees: five are appointed by the Chair of the Senate Committee on Organization; and five by the Speaker of the Assembly. [s. 13.81 (1), Stats.]

The Joint Legislative Council establishes study committees during the recess periods of the Legislature. The Council determines which studies will be conducted and assigns these studies to particular committees created by the Council for review, study, and recommendations. These studies generally are of four types:

1. Intensive examination of problems that are expected to confront a succeeding Legislature.
2. Review of controversial subjects that were unresolved by the previous Legislature.
3. Major codifications and revisions of portions of the law.
4. Methods of improving the operation and effectiveness of state agencies.

There are two continuing Council committees currently required by statute [s. 13.83, Stats.]: the State-Tribal Relations Committee and the Law Revision Committee.

Under s. 13.82 (1), Stats., all studies or investigations that are proposed by the Legislature to be conducted are referred to the Council. Individual legislators and others often request that a particular study be undertaken. Also, the Council is given specific statutory authority to initiate such studies as it feels will be of value to the citizens of the state. The Council determines which of the studies will be conducted, based on its judgment of which studies should have priority within the limits of the Council appropriation and staff resources.

The end result of this study activity is the submission by the committees of reports and, in almost all cases, implementing legislation to the Joint Legislative Council. The Council reviews the legislative proposals and introduces in the Legislature those it approves by a majority of the membership of the Council (12 votes).

Operation of Council Staff

The Joint Legislative Council and the Council's study committees are staffed by a central nonpartisan legislative service agency. The Legislative Council staff serves in the unclassified service. As of June 30, 2016, the Council staff included, in addition to the Director, 18 attorneys, one analyst, and five administrative/support staff.

The basic duties of the staff include:

1. To provide legal and policy research, and administrative-secretarial services for the Council and its committees.
2. To provide legal and policy research, and analysis services for the Legislature's substantive standing committees and joint committees.
3. To provide legal and policy research services for individual legislators.

4. To serve as the Administrative Rules Clearinghouse for review of all proposed administrative rules.
5. To provide information to the public.

Each of these activities is discussed briefly below.

Services for the Council and its Committees. The Council staff provides services for the Joint Legislative Council and its study committees.

Services for Legislative Committees. The Council staff provides nonpartisan legal counsel and policy research for standing committees and their subcommittees, select or special committees of the Legislature, and a number of joint statutory committees. The Council staff serves as the secretariat for the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization and for the Joint Committee on Employment Relations. Council staff also provides services to ad hoc or informal legislative study committees.

Services for Individual Legislators. Upon request, the Council staff provides legal analysis and other research to individual legislators.

Administrative Rules Clearinghouse. Prior to any public hearing on a proposed rule, or prior to notification of the chief clerks if no hearing is required, the agency proposing the rule must submit the proposed rule to the Council staff for review. The Council staff is required to review the rule for various technical requirements, such as statutory authority for promulgation of the rule and the form and clarity of the rule and issue a clearinghouse report with its comments on the rule. The Council staff also works with and assists the appropriate standing committees throughout the rule-making process. For additional information, see the Clearinghouse's 2015 Annual Report to the Legislature, which is available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc>. [See s. 227.15, Stats.]

Services to the Public. The Council staff is available to answer questions from members of the general public and from research agencies and legislators of other states. Information about the Council staff, as well as publications prepared by the staff, are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc>.

PART II

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEES

ADOPTION DISRUPTION AND DISSOLUTION

[A summary of the Study Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Study Committee, are available at [http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/.](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/)]

Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Study Committee on Adoption Disruption and Dissolution and appointed the chairperson by a March 19, 2014 mail ballot. The committee was directed to study the extent of adoption disruption and dissolution in Wisconsin and the efforts in Wisconsin to prevent it. The committee was directed to consider legislative options such as preventing disruptions and dissolutions and meeting the needs of adoptive children and parents if this occurs. The committee was also directed to consider options for tracking the number of and reasons for such adoption issues.

Membership of the Study Committee was appointed by a May 21, 2014 mail ballot. Final committee membership consisted of one Senator, four Representatives, and nine public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Study Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

July 22, 2014
August 26, 2014
September 23, 2014
October 23, 2014
December 16, 2014

Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its February 11, 2015 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2015 Assembly Bill 39, relating to jurisdiction and venue in adoption proceedings and investigation of suitability of a home for adoption of a child.
- 2015 Assembly Bill 40, relating to preadoption preparation requirements and referrals to postadoption resource centers.
- 2015 Assembly Bill 41, relating to readoption of a child adopted by a resident of this state under an order of a court of a foreign jurisdiction.
- 2015 Assembly Bill 42, relating to including a statement as to whether a child has been adopted in a petition for a proceeding under the Children's Code or Juvenile Justice Code, or in a voluntary out-of-home care agreement under the Children's Code, and requiring an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on

children who enter out-of-home care after they have been adopted or placed under a guardianship.

Actions of the Legislature

2015 Assembly Bill 39 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 378, 2015 Assembly Bill 40 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 379, 2015 Assembly Bill 41 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 380, and 2015 Assembly Bill 42 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 381 during the 2015-16 Legislative Session. Copies of these Acts and memoranda describing the Acts are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc>. The remaining recommendations failed to be enacted during the 2015-16 Legislative Session.

LAW REVISION COMMITTEE

[A summary of the committee's meetings, materials, and membership are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/>.]

Summary of Committee Activity

The Law Revision Committee was first created by the Legislative Council at its May 30, 1980 meeting, as a statutory committee of the Council, pursuant to s. 13.83 (1), Stats., as created by Ch. 204, Laws of 1979. The membership of the committee is to be appointed in "each biennium." Members were most recently appointed on October 2, 2015. The membership of the committee consisted of four Senators and six Representatives. A list of the committee membership can be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The statute directs the committee to:

1. Review remedial legislation based on nonsubstantive changes recommended by agencies;
2. Review court decisions and opinions of the Attorney General which state that a statute is unconstitutional, ambiguous, or otherwise in need of revision; and
3. Review correction bills and minor substantive revision bills prepared by the Legislative Reference Bureau.

The committee is also directed to introduce the bills prepared on these subjects directly, not through the Council, into the Legislature.

The committee's activity for the period covered by this report is summarized below.

During the period covered by this report, the committee held three meetings in Madison on the following dates:

December 15, 2015

January 6, 2016

January 27, 2016

Remedial Legislation and Correction Bills

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Recommended by</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>Remedial Legislation</i>			
A.B. 676/S.B. 551	Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection	Agricultural Producer Security Council members, expenses for inspection and certification of grain, the American Society for Testing and Materials, service of process for the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, eliminating a reporting requirement for local ordinances relating to pesticides, and making an	2015 Wis. Act 186

<i>Bill Number</i>	<i>Recommended by</i>	<i>Subject Matter</i>	<i>Status</i>
		appropriation.	
A.B. 677/S.B. 552	Department of Children and Families	Appointing a guardian ad litem in certain cases where a paternity action is barred by a statute of limitations.	Failed pursuant to SJR 1
A.B. 678/S.B. 553	Department of Employee Trust Funds	Remedial legislation affecting the Wisconsin Retirement System and the Department of Employee Trust Funds.	2015 Wis. Act 187
A.B. 679/S.B. 554	Department of Health Services	Volunteer health care provider program, changing reference to residential treatment programs, and eliminating a grammatical error in the Well-Woman Program provision on specialized training for rural colposcopic examinations.	2015 Wis. Act 188
A.B. 680/S.B. 555	Department of Military Affairs	The mileage reimbursement rate for travel expenses of national guard members on state active duty.	2015 Wis. Act 189
A.B. 681/S.B. 556	Department of Public Instruction	Grants for national teacher certification or master educator licensure and licensure for alternative education program teachers.	2015 Wis. Act 190
A.B. 682/S.B. 557	Department of Revenue	Technical corrections of various tax statutes.	2015 Wis. Act 191
A.B. 683/S.B. 558	Department of Safety and Professional Services	The appointment of an advisory committee to advise the Department of Safety and Professional Services.	2015 Wis. Act 192
A.B. 684/S.B. 559	Department of Transportation	Certain drinking age reports, the effective date of certain changes to the requirements for issuing operator's licenses and identification cards, and repealing the tax on controlled substances.	2015 Wis. Act 193
A.B. 685/S.B. 560	Department of Workforce Development	Transferring federal moneys received by the Department of Workforce Development to the Labor and Industry Review Commission and making an appropriation.	2015 Wis. Act 194
A.B. 689/S.B. 564	Office of the Director of State Courts	Martin Luther King, Jr. day.	2015 Wis. Act 198
A.B. 690/S.B. 565	Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System	The definition of faculty of the University of Wisconsin System.	2015 Wis. Act 199

PROBLEM-SOLVING COURTS, ALTERNATIVES, AND DIVERSIONS

[A summary of the Study Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Study Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/>.]

Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Study Committee on Problem-Solving Courts, Alternatives, and Diversions and appointed the chairperson by a March 19, 2014 mail ballot. The committee was directed to review the 50+ courts currently in operation in Wisconsin that utilize nontraditional adjudication methods, the effect they have on recidivism, and the net fiscal impact of these courts. The committee was directed to examine courts, such as veterans courts, drug and alcohol courts, mental health courts, and drunk driving courts, in Wisconsin and nationally and consider: (a) effectiveness of existing problem-solving courts in Wisconsin in reducing recidivism, the costs to administer these courts, and the savings realized; (b) best practices of existing problem-solving courts, both in Wisconsin and elsewhere, and potential implementation of these practices at the state level; (c) efforts to establish problem-solving courts that serve multiple counties, impediments to these efforts, and potential changes to improve regionalization of such courts; and (d) appropriate role and structure of state-level training and coordination.

Membership of the Study Committee, appointed by a May 21, 2014 mail ballot, consisted of one Senator, three Representatives, and 10 public members. Final committee membership can be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Study Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

June 25, 2014

July 22, 2014

August 20, 2014

September 17, 2014

October 29, 2014

Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its February 11, 2015 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2015 Assembly Bill 50, relating to access to ignition interlock device reports, occupational license eligibility periods for participants in certain treatment projects, and granting rule-making authority.

- 2015 Assembly Bill 51, relating to creating family treatment court and juvenile treatment court grant programs in the department of children and families and making an appropriation.
- 2015 Assembly Bill 52, relating to creating the criminal justice coordinating council, providing grants to certain county or tribal criminal justice projects, home detention for probation, and making appropriations.

Actions of the Legislature

The recommendations of the committee failed to be enacted during the 2015-16 Legislative Session.

REVIEW OF CRIMINAL PENALTIES

[A summary of the Study Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Study Committee, are available at [http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/.](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/)]

Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Study Committee on the Review of Criminal Penalties and appointed the chairperson by a March 19, 2014 mail ballot. The committee was directed to review the penalties for misdemeanor and low-level felony offenses. The committee was directed to determine whether current misdemeanor or low-level felony penalties are appropriate; whether any crimes should be classified; and whether any offenses are outdated or should be decriminalized.

Membership of the Study Committee was appointed by a May 21, 2014 mail ballot. Final committee membership consisted of one Senator, five Representatives, and nine public members. A list of the final committee membership can be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Study Committee held three meetings on the following dates:

June 24, 2014

November 12, 2014

December 18, 2014

In addition, the following subcommittees were established and met on the following dates:

Subcommittee on Penalty Alignment and Organization: August 6, 2014; and October 17, 2014.

Subcommittee on Obsolete Misdemeanors: October 10, 2014.

Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its March 18, 2015 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce:

- 2015 Assembly Bill 128, relating to classifying misdemeanors, repealing or modifying obsolete misdemeanors, and changing procedure and discovery in certain civil actions.

Actions of the Legislature

The recommendation of the committee failed to be enacted during the 2015-16 Legislative Session.

REVIEW OF TAX INCREMENTAL FINANCING

[A summary of the Study Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Study Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/>.]

Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Study Committee on the Review of Tax Incremental Financing and appointed the chairperson by a March 19, 2014 mail ballot. The committee was directed to study and review the intent behind tax incremental financing (TIF) laws and how the TIF laws are utilized by cities, villages, towns, and counties. The committee was also directed to evaluate current TIF laws and recommend legislation that could improve their effectiveness and study how they impact a local governmental unit's finances and property taxes; economic and community development; and job growth.

Membership of the Study Committee, appointed by a May 21, 2014 mail ballot, consisted of two Senators, four Representatives, and 12 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Study Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

July 17, 2014

August 14, 2014

September 10, 2014

October 9, 2014

November 13, 2014

Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its February 11, 2015 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce:

- 2015 Senate Bill 50 and Assembly Bill 131 (companion bills), relating to industrial zoning requirements in tax incremental districts, planning commission notice for tax incremental district amendments, obsolete references relating to tax incremental districts, allocation of tax increments, joint review board review, and calculation of levy limits following dissolution of a tax incremental district.
- 2015 Senate Bill 51 and Assembly Bill 132 (companion bills), relating to standing joint review boards, annual joint review board meetings, annual reports on tax incremental districts, and granting rule-making authority.
- 2015 Senate Bill 52 and Assembly Bill 133 (companion bills), relating to modifying the requirements for sharing tax increments by tax incremental districts, limiting the participation of certain special purpose districts in tax incremental district financing, and authorizing any tax incremental district to use allocated tax increments donated from another tax incremental district.

- 2015 Senate Bill 53 and Assembly Bill 134 (companion bills), relating to tax incremental financing project plan amendments and extending the life of a tax incremental district if the district is adversely impacted by statutory changes to the method of calculating equalized valuation.
- 2015 Senate Bill 54 and Assembly Bill 135 (companion bills), relating to inclusion of vacant land within the boundaries of a tax incremental district and exclusion of tax-exempt city-owned property from the initial tax incremental base of a tax incremental district.
- 2015 Senate Bill 55 and Assembly Bill 136 (companion bills), relating to limits on TID creation as measured by total TID value.
- 2015 Senate Bill 56 and Assembly Bill 137 (companion bills), relating to designation of tax incremental districts as distressed or severely distressed districts.
- 2015 Senate Bill 57 and Assembly Bill 138 (companion bills), relating to redetermination of base value for tax incremental districts.

Actions of the Legislature

2015 Senate Bill 50 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 256, 2015 Senate Bill 51 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 257, 2015 Senate Bill 53 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 254, and 2015 Senate Bill 54 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 255 during the 2015-16 Legislative Session. Copies of these Acts and memoranda describing the Acts are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc>. The remaining recommendations failed to be enacted during the 2015-16 Legislative Session.

REVIEW OF WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM FUNDING AND GOVERNANCE

[A summary of the Study Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Study Committee, are available at [http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/.](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/)]

Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Study Committee on the Review of Wisconsin Technical College System Funding and Governance and appointed the chairperson by a March 19, 2014 mail ballot. The committee was directed to review the current governance model of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) in the interest of transferring governance responsibilities of local district boards to the state WTCS Board and examine the current funding model for the WTCS with a preference toward reassigning current local property tax revenue to a broader state tax source.

Membership of the Study Committee, appointed by a May 21, 2014 mail ballot, consisted of two Senators, four Representatives, and 10 public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Study Committee held two meetings on the following dates:

July 24, 2014

September 18, 2014

Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

The chairperson permanently adjourned the Study Committee. The Study Committee made no recommendation to the Joint Legislative Council.

The Joint Legislative Council received the final report of the Study Committee on March 18, 2014.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT GUARANTEE IN EDUCATION (SAGE) PROGRAM

[A summary of the Study Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Study Committee, are available at [http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/.](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/)]

Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Study Committee on the Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) Program and appointed the chairperson by a March 19, 2014 mail ballot. The committee was directed to study the SAGE program; whether there are alternatives to current class size limitations that would allow schools to achieve the aims of SAGE; and whether the Department of Public Instruction should be authorized to waive the class size limitations in a school that implements alternative interventions, or to otherwise provide funds and assistance for alternatives to class size limitations.

Membership of the Study Committee was appointed by a May 21, 2014 mail ballot. The final committee membership consisted of two Senators, four Representatives, and eight public members. A list of committee membership can be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Study Committee held five meetings on the following dates:

July 23, 2014

August 14, 2014

September 22, 2014

October 22, 2014

November 10, 2014

Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its February 11, 2015 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2015 Senate Bill 31, relating to a one-year extension of student achievement guarantee in education program contracts.
- 2015 Senate Bill 32, relating to achievement gap reduction contracts requiring participating schools to implement strategies for improving academic performance of low-income pupils in reading and mathematics, granting rule-making authority, and making an appropriation.

Actions of the Legislature

2015 Senate Bill 32 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 53 during the 2015-16 Legislative Session. A copy of Act 53 and a memorandum describing the Act are available at [http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc.](http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/) The remaining recommendation failed to be enacted during the 2015-16 Legislative Session.

STATE-TRIBAL RELATIONS

[A summary of the Special Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Special Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/>.]

Summary of Committee Activity

The Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations is a permanent committee of the Joint Legislative Council established under s. 13.83 (3), Stats. The committee is directed by statute to:

...study issues related to American Indians and the American Indian tribes and bands in this state and develop specific recommendations and legislative proposals relating to these issues.

The membership of the committee, appointed by the Joint Legislative Council, consists of not fewer than six nor more than 12 legislator members of the Senate and Assembly, including at least one member of the majority party and at least one member of the minority party from each house, and not fewer than six nor more than 11 members selected from names submitted by the federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands in this state (tribes) or the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC), including not more than one member based on the recommendation of any tribe or GLITC. The committee is assisted by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) composed of a representative of each of the following state departments: Children and Families; Health Services; Justice; Natural Resources; Public Instruction; Revenue; Transportation; and Workforce Development. A list of the committee membership and the TAC membership can be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Special Committee held three meetings on the following dates:

August 13, 2014 (Wisconsin Dells)
October 16, 2014 (Shawano)
December 4, 2014 (Madison)

Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its March 18, 2015, meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2015 Assembly Bill 130, relating to tribal identification cards.

Actions of the Legislature

The recommendation of the committee failed to be enacted during the 2015-16 Legislative Session.

TRANSFER OF STRUCTURED SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS

[A summary of the Study Committee's meetings, materials, and membership, as well as the final report for the Study Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/>.]

Summary of Committee Activity

The Joint Legislative Council established the Study Committee on Transfer of Structured Settlement Payments and appointed the chairperson by a March 19, 2014 mail ballot. The committee was directed to do the following: (a) review the current method by which structured settlement payments are transferred in Wisconsin; (b) examine statutes regulating the practice in other states and under federal law; and (c) recommend a statute for adoption in Wisconsin that governs transfers of structured settlement payments. The committee shall consider items such as standards for disclosure of information to structured settlement recipients by entities seeking to purchase future settlement payments, the ability of parents and guardians to enter into structured settlements on behalf of minor children, and guidelines for use by judges in approving the transfer of structured settlement agreements.

Membership of the Study Committee, appointed by a May 21, 2014 mail ballot, consisted of one Senator, three Representatives, and six public members. A list of the committee membership can be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Study Committee held four meetings on the following dates:

July 31, 2014
September 11, 2014
October 9, 2014
November 6, 2014

Actions of the Joint Legislative Council

At its March 18, 2015 meeting, the Joint Legislative Council voted to introduce the following legislation:

- 2015 Assembly Bill 129, relating to structured settlement factoring transactions.

Actions of the Legislature

2015 Assembly Bill 129 became 2015 Wisconsin Act 94 during the 2015-16 Legislative Session. A copy of Act 94 and a memorandum describing the Act are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/>.

SYMPOSIA SERIES ON PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX

[A summary of the Steering Committee meetings, materials, and membership, as well as a summary of the symposia conducted by the Steering Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/>.]

Summary of Steering Committee Activity

In March 2014, Senator Luther Olsen and Representative Joan Ballweg, Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council, created a steering committee to develop a symposia series on personal property tax. Chaired by Representative Duey Stroebel and Vice-Chaired by Senator Tom Tiffany, the Steering Committee was provided with the following assignment:

... conduct information symposia and develop recommendations regarding the state's personal property tax. The Steering Committee shall study the fiscal effect of the personal property tax and personal property tax exemptions, the constitutional concerns that may arise in the context of personal property tax reform, and the administrative and compliance costs associated with personal property taxation; and shall develop recommendations, in the form of a committee report, for personal property tax reform.

A list of membership of the Steering Committee may be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Steering Committee held an organizational meeting on July 9, 2014, and conducted two symposiums on the following dates:

July 30, 2014

September 3, 2014

The Steering Committee's Report to the Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council provides a summary of the symposia series and the recommendations received by the Steering Committee.

SYMPOSIA SERIES ON SUPPORTING HEALTHY EARLY BRAIN DEVELOPMENT

[A summary of the Steering Committee meetings, materials, and membership, as well as a summary of the symposia conducted by the Steering Committee, are available at <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc/>.]

Summary of Steering Committee Activity

In March 2014, Senator Luther Olsen and Representative Joan Ballweg, Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council, created a steering committee to develop a symposia series on supporting healthy early brain development. Chaired by Representative Joan Ballweg and Vice-Chaired by Senator Alberta Darling, the Steering Committee was provided with the following assignment:

...conduct information symposia regarding: (a) research on the impact of early brain development on lifetime physical and mental health, educational achievement, and economic security and the factors that hinder or promote healthy early brain development; (b) policy initiatives implemented in other states that are intended to positively influence early brain development; and (c) relevant programs and initiatives currently in place in Wisconsin. The Steering Committee shall also develop policy recommendations designed to improve the early brain development of Wisconsin's infants and young children.

A list of membership of the Steering Committee may be found in the **Appendix** to this report.

The Steering Committee held an organizational meeting on June 19, 2014, and conducted four symposiums on the following dates:

July 24, 2014

September 9, 2014

October 23, 2014

December 15, 2014

The Steering Committee's Report to the Co-Chairs of the Joint Legislative Council provides a summary of the symposia series and the recommendations received by the Steering Committee.

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP LISTS

Adoption Disruption and Dissolution

Chair Joel Kleefisch, Representative
W357 N6189 Spinnaker Dr.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Sam Benedict, Regional Attorney Manager
State Public Defender
407 Pilot Ct., Suite 500
Waukesha, WI 53188

Nikiya Harris Dodd, Senator
2953A N. 52nd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53210

Frederick Kessler, Representative
9312 West Clovermook St.
Milwaukee, WI 53224
[resigned October 17, 2014]

Mary Osgood
S1364 Thompson Rd.
La Valle, WI 53941

Theresa Roetter, Attorney
Annen Roetter, LLC
211 S. Paterson St., Suite 340
Madison, WI 53703

Jaclyn Skalnik, Founder
Adoption Wellness
5757 W. Oklahoma Ave., Suite 203
Milwaukee, WI 53219

Heather Yaeger, Executive Director
Adoption and Out of Home Care
Lutheran Social Services of WI and Upper Michigan, Inc.
W18105 Hemlock Rd.
Wittenberg, WI 54499

Vice Chair LaTonya Johnson, Representative
2363 N. 54th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53210

Oriana Carey, Vice President
Coalition for Children, Youth & Families
6682 W. Greenfield Ave., Suite 310
Milwaukee, WI 53214

André Jacque, Representative
1615 Lost Dauphin Rd.
DePere, WI 54115

Jill List
4370 Citation Ct.
Cottage Grove, WI 53527

Ray Przybelski, Portage County Human Services Director
Portage County
817 Whiting Ave.
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Mark Sanders, Circuit Court Judge
Milwaukee County Juvenile Justice Center
10201 W. Watertown Plank Rd.
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Paul Tittl, Representative
2229 Rheaume Rd.
Manitowoc, WI 54220

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Study Committee shall study the extent of adoption disruption and dissolution in Wisconsin and the efforts in Wisconsin to prevent it. The committee shall consider legislative options such as preventing disruptions and dissolutions and meeting the needs of adoptive children and parents if this occurs. The committee shall also consider options for tracking the number of and reasons for such adoption issues.

14 MEMBERS: 4 Representatives; 1 Senator; and 9 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Margit Kelley, Staff Attorney; and Julie Learned, Support Staff.

Law Revision

Representative Jim Ott, **Co-Chair**
11743 N. Lakeshore Drive
Mequon, WI 53092

Senator Van Wanggaard, **Co-Chair**
1246 Blaine Avenue
Racine, WI 53405

Representative Tyler August
116 Evelyn Lane Unit 3A
Lake Geneva, WI 53147

Representative Dianne Hesselbein
1420 N. High Point Road
Middleton, WI 53562

Representative Adam Jarchow
971 Apple River Court
Balsam Lake, WI 54810

Senator Devin LeMahieu
21 S. 8th Street
Oostburg, WI 53070

Representative Daniel Riemer
3022 South 39th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53215

Senator Fred Risser
100 Wisconsin Avenue, Unit 501
Madison, WI 53703

Senator Lena Taylor
1518 West Capitol
Milwaukee, WI 53206

Representative Dana Wachs
437 Lincoln Avenue
Eau Claire, WI 54701

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The committee is directed, pursuant to s. 13.83 (1), Stats., to (a) review remedial legislation based on nonsubstantive changes recommended by agencies; (b) review court decisions and opinions of the Attorney General which state that a statute is unconstitutional, ambiguous or otherwise in need of revision; (c) review Legislative Reference Bureau correction bills; (d) review suggestions for major codifications and revisions of the statutes; and (e) perform functions related to interstate compacts and agreements.

10 MEMBERS: 4 Senators and 6 Representatives.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Katie Bender-Olson, Senior Staff Attorney, Michael Queensland, Staff Attorney, and Tracey Young, Support Staff.

Problem-Solving Courts, Alternatives, and Diversions

Chair Garey Bies, Representative
2520 Settlement Rd.
Sister Bay, WI 54234

Carol Carlson, Drug Treatment Court Coordinator
Milwaukee County
821 West State St.
Room 417
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Tony Gibart, Public Policy Coordinator
End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin
1245 E. Washington Ave., Ste. 150
Madison, WI 53703

Jane Klekamp, Justice Support Services Manager
Courthouse
333 Vine St., Room 740
La Crosse, WI 54601

Elliott Levine, Circuit Judge
Circuit Court Branch 2
LaCrosse County Courthouse
333 Vine St., Room 3100
La Crosse, WI 54601

Joann Stephens, President
Stable Life, Inc.
W7897 Eagle Ave.
Westfield, WI 53964

Kelli Thompson, State Public Defender
Wisconsin State Public Defender Office
315 N. Henry St.
2nd Floor
Madison, WI 53707

Michael Waupoose, Program Director
UW Health, Behavioral Health and Recovery/Chair of
SCAODA
1102 S. Park St.
Madison, WI 53703

Vice Chair Evan Goyke, Representative
2734 W. State St.
Milwaukee, WI 53208

Troy Cross, Assistant District Attorney
Columbia County
Columbia County Courthouse
P.O. Box 638
Portage, WI 53901

Matthew Joski, Sheriff
Kewaunee County Sheriff's Department
620 Juneau St.
Kewaunee, WI 54216

Dale Kooyenga, Representative
15365 St. Therese Blvd.
Brookfield, WI 53005

Warren Petryk, Representative
S. 9840 Hwy. 93
Eleva, WI 54738

Chris Taylor, Representative
2910 Oakridge Ave.
Madison, WI 53704

Mary Triggiano, Circuit Court Judge
Milwaukee County Juvenile Justice Center
10201 W. Waterwon Plank Rd.
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Robert Wirch, Senator
979 Wood Rd. #104
Kenosha, WI 53144

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Study Committee directed to review the 50+ courts currently in operation in Wisconsin that utilize nontraditional adjudication methods, the effect they have on recidivism, and the net fiscal impact of these courts. The committee shall examine courts, such as veterans courts, drug and alcohol courts, mental health courts, and drunk driving courts, in Wisconsin and nationally and consider: (a) effectiveness of existing problem-solving courts in Wisconsin in reducing recidivism, the costs to administer these courts, and the savings realized; (b) best practices of existing problem-solving courts, both in Wisconsin and elsewhere, and potential implementation of these practices at the state level; (c) efforts to establish problem-solving courts that serve multiple counties, impediments to these efforts, and potential changes to improve regionalization of such courts; and (d) appropriate role and structure of state-level training and coordination.

16 MEMBERS: 5 Representatives; 1 Senator; and 10 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Laura Rose, Deputy Director; Melissa Schmidt, Senior Staff Attorney; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.

Review of Criminal Penalties

Chair Rob Hutton, Representative
17785 Marseille Dr.
Brookfield, WI 53045

Edward Bailey, Inspector
Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office
821 West State St.
Milwaukee, WI 53233

Keith Belzer, Attorney
Devanie Belzer & Schroeder, S.C.
300 N. 2nd St., Suite 200
La Crosse, WI 54601

Scott Horne, Circuit Court Judge
LaCrosse County, Branch 4
333 Vine St.
La Crosse, WI 54601

Ben Kempinen, Clinical Professor
University of Wisconsin Law School
572 Gately Terrace
Madison, WI 53711

David Reddy, Circuit Court Judge
Walworth County, Branch 4
P.O. Box 1001
Elkhorn, WI 53121

John Spiros, Representative
1406 E. Fillmore
Marshfield, WI 54449

Donald Zuidmulder, Circuit Court Judge
Brown County
P.O. Box 23600
Green Bay, WI 54305

Vice-Chair Fred Risser, Senator
100 Wisconsin Ave., Unit 501
Madison, WI 53703

Mandela Barnes, Representative
4800 N. Port Washington Rd., Unit 205
Milwaukee, WI 53217

Adam Gerol, District Attorney
Ozaukee County Justice Center
1201 South Spring St., P.O. Box 994
Port Washington, WI 53074

Jill Karofsky, Executive Director
Department of Justice
17 W. Main St.
Madison, WI 53703

Adam Neylon, Representative
294 Meadowcreek Ct. #4
Pewaukee, WI 53072

Daniel Riemer, Representative
3053 S. 39th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53215

Michael Tobin, Deputy State Public Defender
Wisconsin State Public Defenders Office
315 N. Henry St., 2nd Floor
Madison, WI 53707

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Study Committee is directed to review the penalties for misdemeanor and low-level felony offenses. The committee shall: determine whether current misdemeanor or low-level felony penalties are appropriate; whether any crimes should be classified; and whether any offenses are outdated or should be decriminalized.

15 MEMBERS: 5 Representatives; 1 Senator; and 9 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: David Moore and Michael Queensland, Staff Attorneys; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.

Review of Criminal Penalties

Subcommittee on Penalty Alignment and Organization

John Spiros, Representative (Chair)

Keith Belzer, Public Member

Adam Gerol, Public Member

Jill Karofsky, Public Member

Ben Kempinen, Public Member

Donald Zuidmulder, Public Member

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Subcommittee is directed to make recommendations about aligning the penalties of misdemeanors so that crimes of similar severity have similar penalties, and to determine whether any unclassified misdemeanors should be classified. In carrying out this assignment, the Subcommittee on Penalty Alignment and Organization may also identify misdemeanors that the Study Committee might consider either reducing to a forfeiture or elevating to a felony.

Review of Criminal Penalties

Subcommittee on Obsolete Misdemeanors

Adam Neylon, Representative (Chair)

Edward Bailey, Public Member

Jill Karofsky, Public Member

Daniel Riemer, Representative

Michael Tobin, Public Member

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Subcommittee is directed to identify misdemeanor offenses that may be repealed because they are obsolete or no longer relevant.

Review of Tax Incremental Financing

Chair Richard Gudex, Senator
361 East Division St.
Fond du Lac, WI 54935-4555

Jennifer Andrews, City Planner
City of Waukesha
201 Delafield St., Room 200
Waukesha, WI 53188

Robert Jauch, Senator
5271 South Maple Dr.
Poplar, WI 54864

John Kovari, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Department of Political Science/Public Administration, UW-La
Crosse
425E Wimberly Hall
1725 State St.
La Crosse, WI 54601

Richard Lincoln, Senior Vice President
Mandel Group
301 East Erie St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

David Rasmussen, Senior Planner/Office Manager
MSA Professional Services
15 W. Marshall St.
Suite B
Rice Lake, WI 54868

Jason Serck, Economic Development, Planning and Port
Director
City of Superior
1316 North 14th St.
Superior, WI 54880

Peter Thillman, Vice President, Economic and Workforce
Development
Lakeshore Technical College
716 Chantilly Rue
Green Bay, WI 54301

Hal Wortman, Director of Administration
City of Fond du Lac
160 S. Macy St.
P.O. Box 150
Fond du Lac, WI 54936

Vice Chair Amy Loudbeck, Representative
10737 S. State Rd. 140
Clinton, WI 53525

Michael Harrigan, Chairman/Sr. Financial Advisor
Ehlers
N21W23350 Ridgeview Parkway West
Suite 100
Waukesha, WI 53188-1015

Eileen Kelley, City Planner/Zoning Administrator
City of Middleton
4626 Mineral Point Rd.
Madison, WI 53705

Mike Kuglitsch, Representative
21865 W. Tolbert Dr.
New Berlin, WI 53146

Tod Ohnstad, Representative
3814 18th Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53140

Brian Ruechel, Director, Public Finance
Robert W. Baird & Co.
777 East Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Mike Slavish, President
Hovde Properties
122 W. Washington Ave., Ste. 350
Madison, WI 53703

Thomas Wilson, Attorney/Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer
Town of Westport
5387 Mary Lake Rd.
Waunakee, WI 53597

Josh Zepnick, Representative
1921 W. Plainfield Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53221

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Study Committee directed to study and review the intent behind tax incremental financing (TIF) laws and how the TIF laws are utilized by cities, villages, towns, and counties. The committee shall also evaluate current TIF laws and recommend legislation that could improve their effectiveness and study how they impact a local governmental unit's finances and property taxes; economic and community development; and job growth.

18 MEMBERS: 4 Representatives; 2 Senators; and 12 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Scott Grosz and Melissa Schmidt, Senior Staff Attorneys; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.

Review of Wisconsin Technical College System Funding and Governance

Chair John Nygren, Representative
N2118 Keller Rd.
Marinette, WI 54143

Bruce Barker, President
Chippewa Valley Technical College
620 W. Clairemont Ave.
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Dan Conroy, Vice President, Human Resources
Nexen Group, Inc.
26837 Industrial Ave.
Webster, WI 54893

Stephen Kohler, Director of Human Resources
Pierce Manufacturing, Inc.
2600 American Dr.
P.O. Box 2017
Appleton, WI 54912

Cory Mason, Representative
1948 Michigan Blvd
Racine, WI 53402

Joseph Sheehan, District Administrator
Sheboygan Area School District
830 Virginia Ave.
Sheboygan, WI 53081

David Stark, President
Stark Company Realtors
2980 Arapaho Dr.
Fitchburg, WI 53719

Mark Tyler, President
OEM Fabricators, Inc.
300 McMillan Rd.
Woodville, WI 54028

Vice Chair Sheila Harsdorf, Senator
N6627 County Road E.
River Falls, WI 54022

Allen Buechel, County Executive
Fond du Lac County
160 S. Macy St.
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

David Dull, President/CEO
Allis Roller, LLC
9800 S. 60th St.
Franklin, WI 53132

Debra Kolste, Representative
4105 Parkview Dr.
Janesville, WI 53546

Susan May, President
Fox Valley Technical College
1825 N. Bluemound Dr.
Appleton, WI 54912

Jennifer Shilling, Senator
2608 Main Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Dennis Treu, Member
Western Technical College District Board
606 W. Wisconsin St.
Sparta, WI 54656

Thomas Weatherston, Representative
5300 Santa Anita Dr.
Racine, WI 53402

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Study Committee is directed to review the current governance model of the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) in the interest of transferring governance responsibilities of local district boards to the state WTCS Board and examine the current funding model for the WTCS with a preference toward reassigning current local property tax revenue to a broader state tax source.

16 MEMBERS: 4 Representatives; 2 Senators; and 10 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Mary Matthias, Principal Attorney; Dan Schmidt, Principal Analyst; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.

State-Tribal Relations

Chair Jeffrey Mursau, Representative
4 Oak St.
Crivitz, WI 54114

Dee Ann Allen
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
P.O. Box 67
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

Bryan Bainbridge, Vice Chairman
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
88385 Pike Road, Highway 13
Bayfield, WI 54814

Gary Besaw, Tribal Chair
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 1179
Keshena, WI 54135

Melinda Danforth, Tribal Legislator
Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 365
Oneida, WI 54155

Jon Greendeer, President
Ho-Chunk Nation
701 Sommers St.
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Wallace A. Miller, President
Stockbridge-Munsee Community
N8476 Moh He Con Nuck Road
Bowler, WI 54416

Vice Chair Kathleen Vinehout, Senator
W1490 Cesler Valley Rd.
Alma, WI 54610

Aimee Awonohopay, Council Member
St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
24663 Angeline Ave.
Webster, WI 54893

Russell "Rusty" Barber, Vice President
Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Governing Board
13394 West Trepania Rd.
Hayward, WI 54843

Janet Bewley, Senator
810 Chapple Ave.
Ashland, WI 54806

Harold "Gus" Frank, Chairman
Forest County Potawatomi Community
P.O. Box 340
Crandon, WI 54520

Chris McGeshick, Chairman
Sokaogon Chippewa Community
3160 Indian Route 10
Crandon, WI 54520

Nick Milroy, Representative
4543 S. Sam Anderson Rd.
South Range, WI 54874

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Special Committee is directed to study issues relating to American Indians and the American Indian tribes and bands in this state and develop specific recommendations and legislative proposals relating to these issues. [s. 13.83 (3), Stats.]

14 MEMBERS: 2 Representatives; 2 Senators; and 10 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: David Lovell, Principal Analyst; David Moore, Staff Attorney; and Julie Learned, Support Staff.

State-Tribal Relations

Technical Advisory Committee

TOM BELLA VIA
Department of Justice
Assistant Attorney General
17 W. Main St., Rm. 707
INTER-D

DAVID O'CONNOR
Department of Public Instruction
125 South Webster St., 4th Fl.
INTER-D

TRISTAN COOK
Department of Workforce Development
201 East Washington Ave., Rm. A300
INTER-D

GAIL NAHWAHQUAW
Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson St., Rm. 618
INTER-D

KELLY JACKSON
Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Avenue
P.O. Box 7965
Madison, WI 53707-3761
INTER-D

MICHELE ALLNESS
Department of Natural Resources
101 South Webster St. LS/5
INTER-D

THOMAS D. OURADA
Department of Revenue
2135 Rimrock Rd., #624A
INTER-D

LOA PORTER
Department of Children and Families
201 East Washington Avenue
Second Floor
INTER-D

ASSIGNMENT: Established pursuant to s. 13.83 (3) (f), Stats., to assist the Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations in performing its statutory functions.

8 MEMBERS: One representative designated by the following departments: Children and Families; Health Services; Justice; Natural Resources; Public Instruction; Revenue; Transportation; and Workforce Development.

Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) Program

Chair Luther Olsen, Senator

1023 Thomas Street
Ripon, WI 54971

Jill Billings, Representative

403 13th St. South
LaCrosse, WI 54601

Beth Graue, Professor of Curriculum and Instruction

Wisconsin Center for Academic Research
528-c Teacher Education Building
225 North Mills Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

N. David Kipp, President

Board of Education, School District of Wausaukee
N11929 Lubka Rd.
Wausaukee, WI 54177

Sondy Pope, Representative

9262 Moen Road
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Anne Smith, Past Educator

N7278 River Rd.
Wittenberg, WI 54499

Robert Way

MHLT Elementary, Creative Minds, and Woodland Schools
9830 Baker Lake Rd.
Minocqua, WI 54548

Vice Chair Mary Czaja, Representative

W4587 Hwy S Apt. A
Irma, WI 54442

John Gaier, District Administrator

Neillsville School District
614 E. 5th St.
Neillsville, WI 54456

Dave Hansen, Senator

3489 Blackwolf Run
Green Bay, WI 54311

Randy Nelson, District Administrator

La Crosse School District
807 East Avenue South
La Crosse, WI 54601

Miquel Sanchez, Principal

Lincoln Avenue School
Milwaukee, WI

Jeremy Thiesfeldt, Representative

604 Sunset Lane
Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Angela Wiemer, 2nd Grade Teacher

Cambria-Friesland School District
171 Deer Run Dr.
Fall River, WI 53932

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Study Committee is directed to study the SAGE program; whether there are alternatives to current class size limitations that would allow schools to achieve the aims of SAGE; and whether the Department of Public Instruction should be authorized to waive the class size limitations in a school that implements alternative interventions, or to otherwise provide funds and assistance for alternatives to class size limitations.

14 MEMBERS: 4 Representatives; 2 Senators; and 8 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Katie Bender-Olson and Jessica Ozalp, Staff Attorneys; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.

Transfer of Structured Settlement Payments

Chair Jim Ott, Representative
11743 N. Lakeshore Dr.
Mequon, WI 53092

Bruce Bachhuber, Attorney
Hanaway Ross S.C.
345 S. Jefferson St.
Green Bay, WI 54301

Catherine La Fleur, Attorney
La Fleur Law Office, S.C.
826 N. Plankinton Ave., 3rd Floor
Milwaukee, WI 53203

Elizabeth Nevitt, Attorney
Nevitt Law Office
P.O. Box 337
Pickett, WI 54964

Michael Schraa, Representative
220 Wyldeberry Ln.
Oshkosh, WI 54904

Vice Chair Dana Wachs, Representative
437 Lincoln Ave.
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Michael Fitzpatrick, Circuit Court Judge
Rock County
51 S. Main St.
Janesville, WI 53545

Benjamin Malsch, Vice President to Trust Officer
171 East Fox Dale Rd.
Fox Point, WI 53217

Gerald Ptacek, Circuit Court Judge
Circuit Court Branch 1
County of Racine
Racine County Courthouse
730 Wisconsin Ave.
Racine, WI 53403

Lena Taylor, Senator
1518 West Capitol
Milwaukee, WI 53206

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Study Committee shall be directed to do the following: (a) review the current method by which structured settlement payments are transferred in Wisconsin; (b) examine statutes regulating the practice in other states and under federal law; and (c) recommend a statute for adoption in Wisconsin that governs transfers of structured settlement payments. The committee shall consider items such as standards for disclosure of information to structured settlement recipients by entities seeking to purchase future settlement payments, the ability of parents and guardians to enter into structured settlements on behalf of minor children, and guidelines for use by judges in approving the transfer of structured settlement agreements.

10 MEMBERS: 3 Representatives; 1 Senator; and 6 Public Members.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Anna Henning and Brian Larson, Staff Attorneys; and Julie Learned, Support Staff.

Symposia Series on Personal Property Tax

Chair Duey Stroebel, Representative
2428 Covered Bridge Rd.
Saukville, WI 53080

Mandela Barnes, Representative
4800 N. Port Washington Rd. Unit 205
Milwaukee, WI 53217

Sheila Harsdorf, Senator
N6627 County Rd. E.
River Falls, WI 54022

Bob Kulp, Representative
C4098 Pauline Ln.
Stratford, WI 54484

Jennifer Shilling, Senator
2608 Main St.
La Crosse, WI 54601

Vice Chair Thomas Tiffany, Senator
4973 Willow Dam Rd.
Hazelhurst, WI 54531

Tim Carpenter, Senator
2957 South 38th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53215

Robb Kahl, Representative
5700 Winnequah Rd.
Monona, WI 53716

Joe Sanfelippo, Representative
12024 W. Euclid Ave.
West Allis, WI 53227

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Steering Committee is directed to conduct information symposia and develop recommendations regarding the state's personal property tax. The Steering Committee shall study the fiscal effect of the personal property tax and personal property tax exemptions, the constitutional concerns that may arise in the context of personal property tax reform, and the administrative and compliance costs associated with personal property taxation; and shall develop recommendations, in the form of a committee report, for personal property tax reform.

9 MEMBERS: 5 Representatives and 4 Senators.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Jessica Karls-Ruplinger and Larry Konopacki, Senior Staff Attorneys; and Tracey Young, Support Staff.

Symposia Series on Supporting Healthy Early Brain Development

Chair Joan Ballweg, Representative

170 W. Summit St.
Markesan, WI 53946

Terese Berceau, Representative

4326 Somerset Lane
Madison, WI 53711

Eric Genrich, Representative

1089 Division St.
Green Bay, WI 54303

Mark Miller, Senator

4903 Roigan Terrace
Monona, WI 53716

Jessie Rodriguez, Representative

9312 S. 33rd St.
Franklin, WI 53132

Vice Chair Alberta Darling, Senator

1325 West Dean Rd.
River Hills, WI 53217

Mark Born, Representative

121 Franklin St.
Beaver Dam, WI 53916

Julie Lassa, Senator

Room 126 South, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53707

Luther Olsen, Senator

1023 Thomas St.
Ripon, WI 54971

Mandy Wright, Representative

2016 Ewing St.
Wausau, WI 54403

STUDY ASSIGNMENT: The Steering Committee is directed conduct information symposia regarding: (a) research on the impact of early brain development on lifetime physical and mental health, educational achievement, and economic security and the factors that hinder or promote healthy early brain development; (b) policy initiatives implemented in other states that are intended to positively influence early brain development; and (c) relevant programs and initiatives currently in place in Wisconsin. The Steering Committee shall also develop policy recommendations designed to improve the early brain development of Wisconsin's infants and young children.

10 MEMBERS: 6 Representatives and 4 Senators.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF: Rachel Letzing, Senior Staff Attorney; Jessica Ozalp, Staff Attorney; and Kelly Mautz, Support Staff.