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12/10/2008

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 16.956 (2) (c) and 16.956 (3) (a) and (c); and *to create* 16.956 (1)
 2 (bg) and (br), 16.956 (2) (c) 2. and 3. and 16.956 (4) of the statutes; **relating to:**
 3 duties of the office of energy independence.

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

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This bill draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council’s Special Committee on Domestic Biofuels. The bill draft directs the office of energy independence (OEI) to work on initiatives that have the goals of ensuring that Wisconsin is a national leader in developing biorefineries and advancing the sale and use of intermediate blends of gasoline and ethanol.

The bill draft clarifies that OEI shall serve as the central unit of state government to coordinate the activities of all state agencies in connection with the initiatives specified in the office’s enabling statute and that the other state agencies shall assist the office in fulfilling its duties.

4 **SECTION 1.** 16.956 (1) (bg) and (br) of the statutes are created to read:
 5 16.956 (1) (bg) “Biorefinery” means a facility, including equipment and processes, that
 6 converts biomass into fuels and products and may produce electricity.

COMMENT: This definition is based on the definition of “biorefinery” in sec. 9001 (7) in the 2008 Farm Bill.

7 (br) “Executive branch agency” has the meaning specified in s. 16.70 (4).

COMMENT: The reference in this provision is to the definition of “executive branch agency” in state procurement law. This definition excludes the building commission.

8 **SECTION 2.** 16.956 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

16.956 (2) (c) Ensuring that Wisconsin is a national leader in groundbreaking all of the following: 1. Groundbreaking research that will make alternative energies more affordable and create well-paying jobs in this state.

COMMENT: Current s. 16.956 (2) directs OEI to work on initiatives with the specified goals, including the goal in par. (c).

SECTION 3. 16.956 (2) (c) 2. and 3. of the statutes are created to read:

16.956 (2) (c) 2. Developing biorefineries in this state.

3. Advancing the sale and use of blends of gasoline and ethanol that contain between 10 percent and 85 percent ethanol in all types of motor vehicles.

SECTION 4. 16.956 (3) (a) and (c) of the statutes are amended to read:

16.956 **(3)** (a) Ensure and facilitate the implementation of the initiatives specified in sub. (2) and identify barriers to the implementation of such initiatives. The office shall serve as the central unit of state government to coordinate the activities of all executive branch agencies in connection with these initiatives.

(3) (c) Develop energy independence policy options for consideration by the governor, legislature, and state executive branch agencies.

COMMENT: Section 16.956 (3) specifies the duties of OEI.

SECTION 5. 16.956 (4) of the statutes is created to read:

16.956 (4) Other state agencies shall assist the office in fulfilling its duties under this section to the fullest extent possible.

(END)