



**Summary of the
2015–16 Wisconsin Legislative Session
Acts 1 to 392**

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One East Main Street, Suite 200
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
(608) 266-3561

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Abbreviations

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| AB. | Assembly Bill |
| DATCP | Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection |
| DCF. | Department of Children and Families |
| DFI | Department of Financial Institutions |
| DHS. | Department of Health Services |
| DNR. | Department of Natural Resources |
| DOA. | Department of Administration |
| DOC. | Department of Corrections |
| DOJ | Department of Justice |
| DOR. | Department of Revenue |
| DOT. | Department of Transportation |
| DPI | Department of Public Instruction |
| DSPS | Department of Safety and Professional Services |
| DVA. | Department of Veterans Affairs |
| DWD | Department of Workforce Development |
| GAB. | Government Accountability Board |
| JCF | Joint Committee on Finance |
| PSC | Public Service Commission |
| SB | Senate Bill |
| UW | University of Wisconsin |
| WEDC | Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation |
| WHEDA | Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority |
| WRS. | Wisconsin Retirement System |
| WTCS. | Wisconsin Technical College System |

Administrative Law

Act 391 (AB-582) requires an economic impact analysis of a proposed rule to analyze any limitations that the rule would place on the free use of private property, allows for the substitution of a hearing examiner in a contested case hearing involving a decision of DNR or DATCP, and requires a court to accord no deference to a state agency's interpretation of law when reviewing an agency action or decision that restricts a property owner's free use of the owner's property. *See also Local Law; Natural Resources—Navigable Waters and Wetlands.*

Agriculture

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following:

1. Eliminates the requirement that bulk milk tankers obtain a license to operate in the state, requires a tanker permit in order to transport milk in bulk for sale or distribution as grade A milk or grade A milk products, and allows a permit issued by an equivalent regulatory agency in another state to satisfy the tanker permit requirement.
2. Requires DATCP to provide grants to organizations made up of agricultural producers in a watershed to assist other agricultural producers in the watershed in abating nonpoint source water pollution.
3. Authorizes \$7,000,000 in bonding for cost-sharing grants under the soil and water resource management program.
4. Establishes a one-year freeze on fees charged by DHS for restaurants, temporary restaurants, and certificates of food protection practices, the oversight for which is transferred to DATCP under the act. *See also Health and Social Services—Health.*

Act 112 (SB-286) changes the type of injury that must occur before a dog owner may be held liable for two times the amount of damages caused by the dog biting a person, and expands the category of who may request a court order to kill a dog that has caused serious injury on at least two occasions.

Act 186 (AB-676) updates the names of two organizations that are members of the Agricultural Producer Security Council, updates the name of the American Society for Testing and Materials to ASTM International, changes the address to which DATCP may make service of process by registered mail, and removes references to DATCP's inspection and certification of grain received in or shipped from ports other than the port of Superior.

Act 207 (SB-318) eliminates certain requirements relating to horse racing at local fairs and makes changes to the regulation of local fairs.

Act 233 (SB-450) provides that an animal may be taken into custody if there is reason to believe it has been involved in a crime against animals or there is evidence of such a crime; establishes a procedure under which the owner of such an animal may apply to the court for the return of the animal; establishes a procedure under which animal's custodian may demand payment from the animal's owner for the cost of custody, care, and treatment; and provides that, if the animal's owner is convicted of a crime against animals, the animal must be treated as an unclaimed animal.

Act 242 (SB-512) provides that a licensed food processing plant that processes dairy products into prepared foods that are not dairy products does not need to obtain a dairy plant license if the dairy products used at the plant are produced by a licensed dairy plant and are pasteurized or otherwise treated for safe consumption.

Act 243 (SB-513) makes various changes to the licensing and inspection program for establishments that slaughter animals or poultry or that process meat products or poultry products.

Act 244 (SB-514) changes the penalties for violations of certain requirements for manufacturers and distributors of commercial feed and feed products for animals and birds.

Act 310 (AB-760) expands the type of enforcement actions in which a court may order a defendant to reimburse DATCP for its prosecution costs to include actions relating to future service plans, rental vehicles, self-service storage facilities, time shares, and foreclosure consultants.

Beverages

Act 8 (SB-37) allows painting studios to hold alcohol beverage licenses and allows underage persons to be at these painting studios without a parent or guardian.

Act 10 (AB-18) allows “Class A” retailers, which are “package” stores like liquor, grocery, or convenience stores, to provide taste samples of distilled spirits products, subject to certain restrictions.

Act 55 (SB-21) requires a municipality, upon application, to issue without fee a retail license for the sale of hard apple or pear cider, for consumption off the premises, if the applicant holds a beer license for the same premises. The act also creates an exception to the liquor license quota for the town of Wyoming in Iowa County, allowing the town to issue one additional license.

Act 62 (SB-236) makes various changes related to temporary alcohol beverage retail licenses, including allowing wine licenses to be issued for multiple-location events such as wine walks. The act also allows temporary licenses to be issued to chambers of commerce.

Act 88 (AB-324) substitutes the “Eagle Ridge Festival Grounds” for the “Wisconsin Renaissance Faire” in an exception to the prohibition against underage persons being on alcohol licensed premises.

Act 221 (SB-226) allows an underage person, without a parent or guardian, to be at an indoor golf and baseball facility licensed to sell beer.

Act 279 (AB-808) prohibits issuance of an underage alcohol beverage citation to a victim of sexual assault or certain other crimes, or to a bystander present with the victim, if the victim or bystander cooperates with emergency responders. *See also Education—Higher Education.*

Act 286 (AB-612) modifies certain aspects of the liquor license quota system and creates new liquor license quota exceptions. The act allows a municipality to transfer a liquor license to another municipality for issuance, with an adjustment to the liquor license quota of each municipality. The act also allows a municipality to designate an economic

development district and issue two above-quota liquor licenses within the district. The act prohibits municipalities from rebating or refunding certain liquor license fees and modifies an existing quota exception for full-service restaurants.

Act 339 (AB-864) provides that an alcohol beverage server, not the retail licensee, is the person to be issued a citation for selling or providing alcohol beverages to an underage person if the violation is detected by means of an undercover law enforcement sting operation.

Business and Consumer Law

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes to the laws relating to the governance of WEDC and to economic development:

1. With one limited exception, prohibits WEDC from originating new loans totaling more than \$10 million in fiscal year 2015–16 and \$5 million in fiscal year 2016–17 and prohibits WEDC from originating any new loan after June 30, 2017.
2. Removes the governor as a member and the chairperson of the board of directors of WEDC. Instead, the board chooses a chairperson from among its nonlegislative voting members.
3. Requires WEDC to establish policies and procedures with respect to moneys held by WEDC that are not required to be expended for a particular purpose. The policies and procedures must set specific limited targets for the amount of such moneys the corporation holds and must be consistent with best practices recommended by the Government Finance Officers Association.
4. Sunsets the jobs tax credit and the economic development tax credit effective December 31, 2015, and creates the business development tax credit, under which a business certified by WEDC may earn certain income and franchise tax credits for increasing net employment in this state. *See also Taxation.*

5. Requires WEDC to provide detailed information to DOR regarding tax credits administered by WEDC. WEDC must provide the information no later than the end of the first month following each quarter.

Act 316 (SB-549) makes various technical changes to loan guarantee programs administered by WHEDA, including the Agricultural Production, the Farm Assets Reinvestment Management, the Agricultural Production Drought Assistance, and the Agricultural Development loan guarantee programs. The act affects these loan guarantee programs by, in general, increasing the amount of a loan that can be guaranteed by WHEDA; allowing, rather than requiring, WHEDA to make interest reduction payments on loans guaranteed under these programs; changing eligibility requirements under each of these programs; and, when calculating a loan guarantee applicant's debt-to-asset ratio, requiring that WHEDA compare only the debts and assets related to agriculture instead of the applicant's total debt and assets.

OTHER BUSINESS AND CONSUMER LAW

Act 87 (AB-392) allows members of a cooperative to vote electronically on the election or removal of directors.

Act 120 (AB-23) prohibits, with exceptions, a person from bringing a legal action against a financial institution or its affiliate based on a promise or agreement to make or renew a loan, modify a loan, or delay repayment of a loan unless the promise or agreement is in writing, includes relevant terms, and is signed and delivered to the person.

Act 155 (AB-117) makes various changes related to pleading requirements under the Wisconsin Consumer Act, including (1) applying the pleading requirements to a merchant, which includes a creditor and its assignee; (2) changing the manner in which a merchant must plead the amount owed by the customer; (3) changing a defense to entry of judgment for a merchant; and (4) changing the standards for imposing a penalty or attorney fees against a merchant that violates these pleading requirements.

Act 247 (SB-392) prohibits DATCP from promulgating or enforcing a rule that requires the

owner or operator of a motor vehicle fueling facility to have a telephone or other means for contacting emergency services available to the public.

Act 252 (SB-485) specifies additional trade and consumer protection laws for which a court can impose a supplemental forfeiture if a person perpetrates a violation of those laws against an elderly or disabled person.

Act 295 (AB-837) revises the state's partnership law by adopting, with modifications, the most recent version of the Revised Uniform Partnership Act. Under the act, a partnership is a distinct legal entity, not merely an aggregation of individual partners, and can hold property in its own name. Among its numerous changes, the act (1) modifies the fiduciary duties a partner owes to the partnership and other partners; (2) specifies the circumstances under which a partner is dissociated from the partnership and provides that a partner's dissociation from the partnership does not automatically require dissolution of the partnership; (3) requires limited liability partnerships to file annual reports and modifies DFI's administrative procedures; (4) specifies procedures for partnerships to engage in mergers, conversions, interest exchanges, and domestications; and (5) allows partnerships to give public notice of limits on partner or agent authority. The changes in the act apply to partnerships formed on or after January 1, 2018, and apply, on that date, to partnerships formed before that date unless the partnership elects otherwise. *See also Taxation.*

Act 377 (AB-901) increases funding to the Arts Board by \$13,800 for fiscal year 2015-16 to achieve a match required under federal law of federal funding for aids to individuals and organizations related to the arts.

Children

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes in the laws relating to children:

1. Transfers supervision of community-based juvenile delinquency-related services provided by counties from DOC to DCF.

2. Eliminates aftercare and corrective sanctions supervision for juveniles placed under the supervision of DOC and instead requires DOC to provide community supervision for those juveniles.
3. Permits subsidized guardianship and adoption assistance payments to be provided until age 21 for a child with a disability who is a full-time student and for whom an individualized special education program is in effect.
4. Requires DCF to pay for or provide treatment and services to children who are the victims of sex trafficking.
5. Requires DCF to distribute a grant under the Brighter Futures Initiative for a program that reduces the incidence and effects of adverse early childhood experiences in children eight years of age or under.
6. Requires DCF to establish a plan for the placement of children with volunteer host families as an alternative to foster care.
7. Eliminates statutory limits on the amount of certain federal funds received for child welfare services and juvenile delinquency services that DCF may use in each fiscal year and how DCF may use those funds.
8. Authorizes DCF to enter into a pay-for-performance contract with an organization to operate a program to reduce recidivism in the city of Milwaukee.

Act 101 (AB-193) adds the custodial parent of a child's sibling who has custody of that sibling to the list of relatives with whom a child alleged to be in need of protection or services may be placed and to whom notice must be given if a child is removed from the custody of the child's parent.

Act 128 (SB-309) conforms certain provisions of the Children's Code and the Juvenile Justice Code relating to children placed in out-of-home care to recent changes made to Title IV-E of the federal Social Security Act. The act does the following:

1. Requires an out-of-home care provider, when making decisions concerning a child's participation in age or developmentally appropriate activities, to use the reasonable and prudent parent standard.

2. Allows the permanency goal of a child placed in out-of-home care to be placement in a planned permanent living arrangement, other than the child's own home or the home of an adoptive parent, guardian, or relative, only if the child is 16 years of age or over. For a child placed in such an arrangement the permanency plan must ensure that the child has regular, ongoing opportunities to engage in age or developmentally appropriate activities in accordance with the reasonable and prudent parent standard. A permanency plan is designed to ensure that a child placed outside the home is reunified with his or her family or attains a placement providing long-term stability.
3. Requires the agency responsible for a child placed in out-of-home care, during the 90 days before the child attains 18 years of age or the child's juvenile court order expires, whichever is later, to ensure that the child has a copy of his or her birth certificate and health care records, a social security card, information on maintaining health care coverage, and a driver's license or other state-issued identification card.
4. Requires that a permanency plan for a child 14 years of age or over be prepared in consultation with the child, that such a permanency plan include a plan to prepare the child for the transition from out-of-home care to a successful adulthood (transition plan), and that a child's transition plan include a document describing the rights of the child, including the right to receive identification documents and other important information as provided in the act and to receive a copy of the child's credit report as provided under federal law.

Act 129 (SB-308) provides that an agreement under which a guardian of a child in need of protection or services receives monthly subsidized guardianship payments may name a prospective successor guardian of the child on the death or incapacity of the guardian and provides that if certain conditions are met, the successor guardian is eligible for those payments. *See also Act 143.*

Act 132 (SB-304) amends various rules promulgated by DCF governing the following: the certification of child care operators for purposes of reimbursement under the Wisconsin Shares

child care subsidy program; the procedure for renewing a license to operate a child welfare agency; the maintenance of enrollment and health information records by child care providers; and the retention of public assistance records by income maintenance agencies.

Act 134 (SB-386) allows a person 18 years of age or over whose birth parent's parental rights have been terminated in this state to file an affidavit with DCF authorizing DCF to provide the person's birth parent with identifying information about the person. The act also makes certain changes regarding access to medical and genetic information about such a birth parent.

Act 143 (SB-253) provides that a guardian of a child in need of protection or services who develops a familial relationship with the child or the child's family during the child's placement in out-of-home care is eligible for monthly subsidized guardianship payments. Former law limited that eligibility to a relative or a person who had a familial relationship prior to such a placement.

Act 144 (AB-574) requires a juvenile court to make its confidential electronic records available to counties and allows such records to be used and further disclosed only for purposes of providing child welfare or juvenile court intake or disposition services.

Act 159 (AB-627) repeals the Interstate Compact on Juveniles, which has been replaced by the Interstate Compact for Juveniles, and requires a juvenile from another state who is on supervision in this state under that compact for a sex offense to register as a sex offender before entering this state. The compact is enacted by the states to ensure that delinquent juveniles who are sent to another state are provided with adequate supervision and that juveniles who have run away, absconded, or escaped to another state are returned.

Act 161 (AB-478) allows a school board to disclose confidential pupil records to DCF, a county, or a tribe and allows those records to be further disclosed to a court for purposes of addressing the pupil's educational needs or to a person addressing those needs who is authorized by DCF, the county, the tribe, or a juvenile court order to receive that disclosure.

Act 166 (SB-202) allows a person who is aggrieved by a decision of a county denying kinship care payments on the grounds of arrest or conviction record to appeal that denial to DCF and provides that, subject to judicial review, the decision of DCF is final. Under former law, the decision of the county was final and not subject to further administrative or judicial review.

Act 172 (AB-440) makes changes to the ability of DCF to carry forward certain unused children and family services funds and how those carried-forward funds may be used; makes changes to a grant program to fund home visitation programs; and changes certain references to "a county that has a population of 500,000 or more" to "a county that has a population of 750,000 or more" so that those statutes continue to apply only to Milwaukee County.

Act 331 (AB-351) authorizes in an action related to child support, a court to order a noncustodial parent to participate in a work experience and job training program called Children First if the parent resides in, or within a reasonable driving distance from, a county that has a Children First program and that agrees to enroll the parent.

Act 365 (AB-667) requires DCF to develop and implement a plan for identifying and addressing areas in which there is a need for improvement in the practices used to investigate abuse or neglect of a child with a disability.

Act 367 (SB-618) expands what constitutes the crime of child sex trafficking, includes child sex trafficking under the definition of abuse in the Children's Code, requires the reporting and investigation of certain suspected child abuse cases involving prostitution or child sex trafficking, and makes changes to the information required to be in a court order or provided to a care provider when a child is placed outside the home.

Act 368 (AB-745) conforms state law to the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act of 2014 by requiring DCF, DOC, a county, or any other agency that is responsible for the placement, care, or supervision of a child to notify a local law enforcement agency and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children if the agency determines that the child is missing.

Act 373 (SB-387) makes the following changes relating to juvenile court procedures:

1. Creates a procedure for changing the placement of a child who is subject to a temporary physical custody order or who is under the guardianship of an agency following a termination of parental rights.
2. Creates a procedure for amending a consent decree. An amended consent decree may change the placement of the child or revise any other term of the original consent decree.
3. Creates a procedure for an emergency change in placement of a child placed in his or her home under a dispositional order. Former law allowed only an emergency change in placement of a child placed outside the home.
4. Allows the juvenile court to terminate a child's dispositional order and enter a case closure order determining paternity, legal custody, periods of physical placement, visitation rights, and the obligation to provide child support and health care coverage if there is a pending action affecting the family, such as a divorce or paternity action, involving the child or if the child is the subject of an order granted in an action affecting the family.
5. Provides that, subject to certain exceptions, venue for a change-in-placement proceeding or a proceeding for a revision or extension of a dispositional order is in the county where the dispositional order was issued. Under former law, venue for such proceedings was generally in the county where the child resided or was present.
6. Makes certain changes in the procedures for requesting and objecting to a proposed change in placement, including eliminating the authority of a person or agency bound by a dispositional order to request a change in placement.
7. Specifies that a temporary physical custody order remains in effect until a further order of the juvenile court is granted. Former law did not specify the duration of a TPC order.

Act 378 (AB-39) extends jurisdiction and venue for an adoption proceeding to the county in which the petition for termination of parental rights (TPR) to the child was filed or granted, in addition to the

county in which the proposed adoptive parent or child resides. The act also requires a standardized assessment system approved by DCF to be used in conducting a home study of a proposed foster or adoptive home. *See also Acts 379, 380, and 381.*

Act 379 (AB-40) requires a first-time adoptive parent to receive at least 25 hours of preadoptive training, of which at least six hours must be delivered in person and at least six hours must be appropriate to the specific needs of the child; requires that training to cover the topics of attachment, trauma, neglect, and abuse, including sexual abuse; and requires an adoption agency to provide the contact information of an adoptive parent to the postadoption resource center serving the area where that parent resides, unless the parent elects not to have that information provided. *See also Acts 380 and 381.*

Act 380 (AB-41) provides that a foreign adoption order is recognized by this state with all the same rights and obligations as an adoption order granted in this state, requires the adoptive parent of a foreign child to request the juvenile court to register the foreign adoption order, and requires the state registrar of vital statistics to prepare a certification of birth data for a foreign child whose adoption order is so registered, which certification has the full force and effect of a birth certificate issued by the state registrar. *See also Act 381.*

Act 381 (AB-42) requires a statement as to whether a child has been adopted to be included in a petition alleging a child to be delinquent or to be a child in need of protection or services (CHIPS), a petition for TPR, a petition for guardianship, an informal disposition or consent decree entered into in lieu of filing a delinquency or CHIPS petition, and a voluntary out-of-home care agreement.

Constitutional Amendments

Enrolled Joint Resolution 2 (Senate Joint Resolution 2), proposed by the 2015 legislature on second consideration, requires the supreme court to elect a chief justice for a term of two years. Previously, the justice with the longest continuous service was automatically chief justice. The amendment was ratified by the voters on April 7, 2015.

Enrolled Joint Resolution 7 ([Assembly Joint Resolution 5](#)), proposed by the 2015 legislature on first consideration, eliminates the Office of the State Treasurer from the constitution. The amendment also replaces the state treasurer with the lieutenant governor on the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands. To become a part of the constitution, the 2017 legislature must concur in the amendment and the amendment must then be ratified by the voters.

Correctional System

Act 40 ([SB-84](#)) creates a corrections system formulary board in DOC for the purpose of establishing a prescription drug formulary for inmates in state prisons. The act also allows pharmacists to make drug substitutions for prisoners in accordance with the formulary established by the board created in the act if approved by a health care provider. *See also Occupational Regulation.*

Act 164 ([AB-522](#)) allows DOC to reimburse counties and tribal governing bodies from DOC's general appropriation for costs incurred during probation, parole, and extended supervision holds if the appropriation for probation, parole, and extended supervision holds is insufficient.

Act 206 ([SB-248](#)) eliminates the requirement that, in order for a person who is arrested or otherwise taken into custody to be subjected to a strip search, the person be incarcerated or otherwise detained for at least 12 hours.

Act 354 ([AB-652](#)) requires DOC to notify the victim of a crime when the person who committed the crime has his or her parole or extended supervision revoked.

Courts and Civil Actions

Act 4 ([AB-10](#)) clarifies that a court may hear certain actions that seek restraining orders or injunctions related to abuse or harassment regardless of whether the conduct occurred within this state if the victim is affected by the abuse or harassment while he or she lives in this state or if the victim

sought safety or protection in this state from the abuse or harassment.

Act 12 ([AB-3](#)) clarifies that a matter may be appealed to a higher court if the matter has been initially heard in municipal court and subsequently reviewed by a circuit court.

Act 66 ([SB-126](#)) provides immunity, under certain circumstances, from civil liability for a person whose acts or omissions cause another person to be injured or killed while participating in equine-assisted learning or equine-assisted psychotherapy. The act grants immunity for deaths or injuries that occur as a result of a risk that is inherent to the activity.

Act 69 ([AB-443](#)) allows the Wisconsin Supreme Court to provide notice of proposed rule changes by publishing notice of hearings related to the proposed changes and a summary of the proposed changes in a newspaper and placing the full text of the proposed rules on an Internet site.

Act 94 ([AB-129](#)) adopts much of the Model State Structured Settlement Protection Act to establish mandatory disclosures for and mandatory judicial review of proposed transfers of structured settlement payments, and to establish the legal effects of the transfers.

Act 103 ([AB-308](#)) provides immunity from civil liability for a person who uses force to remove a person or a domestic animal from a vehicle because he or she reasonably believes that the person or animal is suffering or would suffer imminent bodily harm if he or she did not act.

Act 133 ([AB-223](#)) changes the statute of limitations for certain civil actions, including contract claims arising under a motor vehicle insurance policy and claims seeking the recovery of damages for injuries or death caused by an accident involving a motor vehicle covered by a motor vehicle insurance policy.

Act 168 ([SB-463](#)) establishes duties for operators of ski areas necessary to obtain immunity from civil liability and establishes duties for persons who bike in ski areas.

Act 234 (SB-462) reduces the maximum amount of time for which a court may suspend an individual's privilege to operate a motor vehicle for failure to pay a monetary judgment from two years to one year.

Act 258 (AB-456) establishes a two-year statute of limitations to specifically govern actions brought against real estate brokers, salespersons, and firms relating to brokerage services. *See also Occupational Regulation; Employment—Other Employment.*

Act 293 (AB-174) creates a limit on civil liability for private campgrounds, owners and operators of private campgrounds, and their employees and officers for acts or omissions related to camping at a private campground if, with certain exceptions, the injury, death, or property damage is the result of an inherent risk of camping.

Act 337 (AB-872) clarifies that a \$3 garnishment fee paid by a creditor to a garnishee is deducted from the moneys delivered to the creditor and is not paid at the commencement of the garnishment.

Crime, Criminal Procedure, and Law Enforcement

Act 14 (AB-5) clarifies statutory language to conform to a court decision holding that a person who prevents or dissuades a victim from (a) causing a complaint, indictment, or information to be sought; (b) causing a complaint to be prosecuted; or (c) assisting in the prosecution is guilty of intimidating a witness.

Act 23 (SB-70) allows an off-duty or a former law enforcement officer to possess a firearm on the grounds of a school or within 1,000 feet of the grounds of a school.

Act 30 (SB-95) criminalizes falsely claiming military service or military honors in order to receive a tangible benefit.

Act 45 (AB-19) criminalizes, with certain exceptions, placing or using a global positioning device to track another person's movements without that person's consent.

Act 64 (SB-43) limits the crimes that may be investigated in a John Doe hearing to certain

felonies under the criminal code or any crime allegedly committed by a law enforcement officer or certain DOC employees; limits the application of secrecy orders in John Doe proceedings to only judges, prosecuting attorneys, law enforcement personnel, interpreters, and reporters; and imposes a six-month time limit on a John Doe proceeding.

Act 78 (SB-117) makes battering or threatening a person the actor knows to be a judge, prosecutor, law enforcement officer, or member of a judge's, prosecutor's, or officer's family a Class H felony if the battery or threat is in response to an official act by the judge, prosecutor, or law enforcement officer.

Act 80 (AB-8) makes it a Class I felony to install or use a device to intentionally view under another person's outer clothing, or to view another body part that is not otherwise visible, without that person's consent.

Act 81 (AB-7) codifies a Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling that less serious types of criminal homicide include only those homicides that are charged under the statutes proscribing homicidal acts, and not those that are charged under the statutes proscribing other acts that may or may not result in the death of another person.

Act 109 (AB-220) establishes mandatory minimum periods of confinement in prison for a person who is prohibited from possessing a firearm because he or she was convicted of committing certain violent felonies but who either possesses a firearm within five years of completing a sentence for a felony or for certain violent misdemeanors or uses a firearm to commit certain violent felonies.

Act 121 (SB-170) increases the statute of limitations for the prosecution of second-degree or third-degree sexual assault from six years to ten years.

Act 141 (AB-13) creates a procedure for a court to follow when a person applies for the return of a seized firearm.

Act 147 (SB-133) increases the penalty from a Class G to a Class F felony for the crime of hiding or burying a corpse to conceal a crime, to avoid apprehension or prosecution for a crime, or to collect certain benefits.

Act 149 (AB-142) eliminates the prohibition against possessing a switchblade knife, allows a person to carry a concealed knife without a license to carry a concealed weapon unless the person is prohibited from possessing a firearm, and preempts local regulation of knives in a manner similar to the preemption of local regulation of firearms.

Act 156 (AB-497) sets criteria for releasing certain involuntarily committed sexually violent persons into the community. Under the act, DHS must consult with a local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction over any prospective residential option for the person and develop a plan for the person's supervised release that ensures that the person resides at least 1,500 feet away from any school, child care facility, youth center, place of worship, or public park. Additionally, the person may not be placed in a residence adjacent to a property where a child resides if the person's victim was a child, and the person may not be placed in a residence within 1,500 feet of a nursing home or other assisted living facility if the person's victim was an elderly or disabled person. The act does not invalidate any local ordinance that restricts or prohibits a sex offender from residing within a particular city, village, or town, but it does bar enforcement of the ordinance against a person who is under supervised release after being committed as a sexually violent person, so long as the person is complying with court orders related to his or her release.

Act 158 (AB-547) makes it a felony to trespass on or cause damage to property owned or used by a public utility or other energy provider.

Act 238 (SB-383) provides immunity from civil and criminal liability for a health care provider who performs a body cavity search on a person confined in a jail or prison.

Act 253 (SB-97) allows a judge to include household pets in protective orders against harassment or abuse.

Act 264 (AB-658) criminalizes the use, possession, manufacture, distribution, and advertisement of any substance or device that is intended to defraud, circumvent, interfere with, or provide a substitute for a bodily fluid in conjunction with a lawfully administered drug test.

Act 268 (AB-365) requires law enforcement to report controlled-substance violations involving certain prescription drugs, drug overdoses, and reports of stolen controlled-substance prescriptions to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, which may then disclose the report to pertinent medical practitioners and pharmacists.

Act 271 (AB-771) provides grants to LaFayette County for drug law enforcement and drug interdiction services.

Act 292 (AB-521) makes it a Class I felony to make or distribute a photograph or other record of any of the following if the person depicted did not consent and had a reasonable expectation of privacy:

1. A person who is nude or partially nude.
2. A person's clothed, covered, or partially clothed or covered genitalia or buttock that is not otherwise visible to the public.
3. A person urinating, defecating, or using a feminine hygiene product.
4. A person engaged in sexual intercourse or sexual contact if the person.

Act 311 (AB-341) makes it a felony to threaten to kill or hurt a person or damage property if the actor intends to prevent the occupation of, or cause the evacuation of, a public place or vehicle and the actor intends to cause, or creates an unreasonable and substantial risk of causing, public fear or panic or a disruption in governmental operations or public services. Under the act, a person who makes such a threat is guilty of a Class I felony, unless the actor's threat contributes to the death of any person, in which case he or she is guilty of a Class G felony.

Act 315 (AB-35) requires a law enforcement agency that receives a report of a hit-and-run incident to disseminate the report using the integrated crime alert network administered by DOJ if a person has been killed or if an alert could help avert further harm or aid in apprehending the person who committed the violation.

Act 320 (AB-566) increases the penalties for viewing, photographing, or otherwise recording a person without his or her consent and when the

person has a reasonable expectation of privacy. Under the act, a person is guilty of a felony, or depending on the circumstances, a more serious felony, if the person depicted was a minor.

Act 335 (AB-53) makes it a Class I felony for a person to threaten to expose information, whether true or false, that would humiliate or injure the reputation of the threatened person with the intent to extort money or any pecuniary advantage or with the intent to compel the threatened person to do any act against that person's will.

Act 340 (AB-357) makes it a Class I felony to throw or expel blood, semen, vomit, saliva, urine, feces, or any other bodily substance at a prosecutor.

Act 349 (AB-615) requires a clerk of court, in cases involving a petition for a restraining order or injunction, to forward a copy of the order or injunction to the sheriff and requires the sheriff to assist the petitioner in serving the respondent, unless the petitioner opts to hire a private server at his or her own expense.

Act 350 (AB-643) expands, clarifies, or otherwise changes the amounts and types of financial compensation that are available for victims of crime and makes changes to the administration of financial compensation to victims of crime.

Act 351 (SB-323) grants a victim of certain sensitive crimes the right to be accompanied by a victim advocate at certain medical visits and law enforcement interviews.

Act 352 (SB-351) adopts the Uniform Interstate Enforcement of Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act.

Act 353 (AB-767) allows a person who obtains a restraining order or injunction against certain acts of harassment, domestic abuse, or other abuse to retain all rights to, and responsibility for, the use of telephone numbers he or she uses or that are used by his or her children.

Act 355 (AB-663) makes changes to the way restitution is paid to victims of crime. The act prohibits DOC from collecting supervision fees from a person until after the person has paid all restitution he or she owes. The act also allows DOC

to withhold a portion of any wages earned or any other moneys held by a person while he or she is in prison in order to pay restitution and allows DOR to withhold any unpaid restitution amount from any state tax refund owed to the person.

Act 356 (SB-488) allows victims of certain stalking, abuse, and harassment crimes to obtain a confidential address for private and official purposes.

Act 366 (SB-325) makes it a crime to engage in repeated acts of physical abuse of the same child; the penalty for the crime varies from a Class E felony to a Class A felony, depending on the harm to the child.

Act 369 (SB-546) authorizes the attorney general or his or her designee to issue an administrative subpoena to a provider of an electronic communication service or remote computing service that would compel the provider to produce documents or records helpful to an investigation of an Internet crime against a child.

Act 370 (AB-630) prohibits a parent or guardian from capturing, distributing, or exhibiting a nude image of a child if the parent or guardian does such activity for sexual arousal, gratification, humiliation, degradation, or monetary or commercial gain.

Act 388 (AB-657) increases funding for grants to counties that establish alternatives to prosecution and incarceration for individuals who abuse alcohol or other drugs and are charged with certain crimes.

Act 389 (AB-839) allows a court to order a person who is convicted of or charged with certain offenses related to drunken driving to participate in a program that closely monitors participants for drug and alcohol use. Under the act, a court may order certain persons who would otherwise be required to install an ignition interlock device in their vehicles, and whose operating privileges would be restricted to operating vehicles so equipped, to participate in the sobriety program.

Domestic Relations

Act 55 (SB-21) expands the use of tax intercept to collect delinquent receipt and disbursement fees to cases involving persons who are not receiving services from county child support agencies.

Act 82 (SB-173) makes amendments to the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act take effect on December 18, 2015.

Act 162 (AB-573) increases the maximum fee a county clerk may charge for issuing an expedited declaration of domestic partnership; requires that applicants for a declaration of domestic partnership complete and file the declaration within 30 days after the clerk issues the declaration; and requires that a clerk, when issuing a marriage license or declaration of domestic partnership, provide information, instead of a pamphlet, describing the causes and effects of fetal alcohol syndrome and the dangers to a fetus from the mother's use of drugs during pregnancy.

Education

HIGHER EDUCATION

Act 21 (SB-164) requires technical colleges to charge resident tuition to veterans, and their spouses and children, living in this state, regardless of whether they would otherwise be considered state residents, if certain conditions are met.

Act 28 (AB-56) requires the UW System to make an annual report to the legislature and state superintendent of public instruction identifying Wisconsin high schools with more than six students whom the UW System has required to take remedial classes in English or mathematics based on placement tests. The act also requires the state superintendent to provide a copy of the report to each school board.

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following with respect to the UW System:

1. Reduces funding for general program operations in the 2015–17 biennium by \$250 million, provides funding for increased fringe benefits costs, eliminates in fiscal year 2016–17 a separate

appropriation for UW System administration, and increases the amount the UW System is required to transfer to the medical assistance trust fund.

2. In the 2015–16 and 2016–17 academic years, prohibits increases in resident undergraduate tuition above the tuition charged in the 2014–15 academic year, except for student-approved differential tuition at UW–Stevens Point.

3. Eliminates funding for the Wisconsin Bioenergy Initiative, environmental education grants, solid waste research, and UW–Extension recycling education and eliminates the environmental education board.

4. Eliminates requirements for tenure and probationary appointments.

5. Changes the grounds for layoff or termination of faculty and academic staff. Under the act, the Board of Regents may, with appropriate notice, lay off or terminate any faculty member, or terminate academic staff, when necessary due to a budget or program decision requiring program discontinuance, curtailment, modification, or redirection, instead of when a financial emergency exists as under prior law. The act specifies procedures, requirements, and rights applicable to the layoff or termination of faculty members.

6. Makes changes to personnel requirements, including allowing merit salary increases, requiring consistent employment relations policies and practices, and specifying the positions for which names of applicants must be released under the open records law.

7. Provides that if the Board of Regents lets a construction project through single-prime contracting, and the project is funded entirely by gifts and grants, the project is exempt from Building Commission and DOA approval, DOA supervision, and certain contract bidding requirements.

8. Allows the Board of Regents to invest revenues from gifts, grants, and donations by employing a financial manager, contracting with the Investment Board, or selecting a private investment firm.

9. Modifies certain criteria for the Board of Regents to remit nonresident tuition at UW System

institutions and allows, instead of requiring, the board to remit nonresident tuition to graduate students who meet certain criteria. The act also changes a program under which the board may exempt a limited number of nonresident students at UW–Parkside and UW–Superior from nonresident tuition.

10. Deletes a provision limiting the Board of Regents in accumulating auxiliary reserve funds from student fees.
11. Requires that faculty in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics be adequately represented in the faculty organizational structure.
12. Requires the Board of Regents to identify accountability measures in specified areas and submit them to the legislature for approval.
13. Specifies that the Board of Regents is responsible for leases of real property occupied by the Board of Regents, except for certain leases for student housing for which DOA is responsible.
14. Requires UW institutions to charge uniform application fees. Preexisting law specified the amount of fees.
15. Eliminates certain duties of the Board of Regents, including duties to promote health professional training for rural and underserved urban areas, establish a chair of integrated environmental studies, conduct research on preschool through postsecondary education programs, and evaluate campus transportation needs.
16. Exempts the Board of Regents from requirements for state agency printing contracts and document distribution.
17. Eliminates a prohibition on complimentary or reduced-price tickets for athletic events.
18. Requires the Board of Regents to create the Office of Educational Opportunity within the UW System and requires the UW System president to appoint a special assistant to serve as the director of the Office of Educational Opportunity. The director of the Office of Educational Opportunity may authorize independent charter schools in

certain school districts. *See also Primary and Secondary Education.*

Act 55 does the following with respect to the WTCS:

1. Adds, as another criterion for performance-based allocation of state aid, a technical college district's policy of awarding course credit for prior experience or training, including military training.
2. Creates a two-year veteran grant jobs pilot program under which the WTCS Board awards grants to technical college district boards to support programs or services for veterans. Grants are funded from the veterans trust fund but no grant may be awarded unless the WTCS Board secures additional funding from nonstate sources.
3. Allows technical college districts to jointly provide health care benefits on a self-insured basis and to jointly procure stop loss insurance and self-insure stop loss risk.
4. Prohibits technical colleges from charging students a fee associated with accident insurance if the student requests a waiver and the student is already insured.
5. Allows a home-schooled student under age 16 to attend a technical college during normal school hours.
6. Requires the five members of the Milwaukee Area Technical College district board appointed to represent employers to have specified management or personnel experience.

Act 55 does the following with respect to the Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB):

1. Creates a new teacher loan program and eliminates the prior teacher education loan program. The new program provides loans to students in teacher shortage areas and provides for loan forgiveness if certain conditions are met, including that the student becomes employed as a teacher in the city of Milwaukee. *See also Act 359.*
2. Requires HEAB to make annual payments to tribal colleges based on the number of Wisconsin students enrolled at the tribal college for whom the tribal college does not receive funds from the

federal Bureau of Indian Education. Payments are funded from tribal gaming receipts that, under prior law, funded the tribal college tuition reimbursement program, which is repealed by the act. *See also Veterans and Military Affairs.*

3. Modifies the eligibility criteria for the minority teacher loan program, specifies the maximum amount of the loans under that program, and modifies the criteria for forgiveness of those loans.

Act 55 makes changes to the Educational Communications Board (ECB), including eliminating the following:

1. Funding for ECB programming.
2. The requirement that the ECB contract with the Milwaukee Area Technical College for television facilities access or for programs produced by the technical college.
3. The requirement that the ECB develop and update instructional television programs for use in schools.
4. The requirement that the ECB procure or publish instructional material related to state educational radio and television programs.

Act 108 (SB-261) restores an appropriation for telecommunications services provided by DOA to UW System campuses that was inadvertently repealed by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55.

Act 184 (SB-481) requires the Medical College of Wisconsin and the UW School of Medicine and Public Health to submit a biennial report to the governor and the legislature regarding rural and underserved urban medicine programs. Former law required the report to be submitted annually.

Act 185 (SB-276) allows UW parking fees and fines to also be used for campus safety or transportation-related programs. The act also prohibits the Building Commission from authorizing any general fund supported borrowing for constructing parking facilities at any UW institution.

Act 199 (AB-690) deletes from the definition of “UW faculty” a reference to a law repealed by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55.

Act 208 (SB-511) creates the five-member Distance Learning Authorization Board (DLA Board) attached to the Higher Educational Aids Board. Subject to a JCF passive review process, the DLA Board may enter into an interstate reciprocity agreement related to state authorization and oversight of postsecondary institutions that offer distance education to out-of-state students. If the DLA Board enters into such an agreement, the DLA Board must perform certain duties, including authorizing eligible postsecondary institutions for the offering of interstate distance education programs, monitoring those institutions, and administering a complaint resolution process. The act also requires the DLA Board to maintain a list of postsecondary institutions that are legally authorized in this state under federal regulations and exempt from additional state authorization requirements.

Act 230 (SB-571) expands the authority of the Board of Regents regarding agricultural land, including allowing the Board of Regents to sell, lease, purchase, exchange, or otherwise acquire agricultural land for the purpose of agricultural instruction and research without the approval of the Building Commission.

Act 279 (AB-808) prohibits certain disciplinary actions by the UW System against a student who commits an underage alcohol beverage violation, who is a victim of sexual assault or certain other crimes or is a bystander present with the victim, and who cooperates with emergency responders. *See also Beverages.*

Act 281 (AB-740) increases funding for Wisconsin grants to technical college students.

Act 282 (AB-741) creates a program to award grants of not more than \$500 per student per year to certain students enrolled in technical colleges and the two-year UW colleges to meet emergency financial need.

Act 284 (AB-744) requires institutions of higher education to annually provide a letter to each student that contains certain information about the student’s student loans, the institution’s cost of attendance, and the amount of grants the student receives. The institution must also provide students with financial literacy information.

Act 329 (AB-842) changes the name of faculty development grant programs for technical colleges, eliminates the requirement for rules for those programs and for the technical college instructor occupational competency program, and modifies other rules of the TCS Board, including eliminating outdated rules.

Act 330 (AB-848) makes various changes to Board of Regents rules, including allowing certain notices to be served electronically, making certain rules consistent with changes made by 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, and eliminating outdated rules.

Act 359 (AB-793) modifies the teacher loan program administered by the HEAB to provide loan forgiveness for teachers employed in school districts in rural counties, not only for those employed in the city of Milwaukee. *See also Act 55.*

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Act 20 (SB-67) prohibits DPI from publishing an accountability report concerning the performance of schools and school districts in the 2014–15 school year, and prohibits school boards and independent charter school operators from considering pupil scores on assessments administered in the 2014–15 school year when evaluating the effectiveness of teachers and principals.

Act 52 (SB-122) allows a school attendance officer to notify the parent or guardian of a habitually truant pupil by first class mail, instead of registered or certified mail, and to simultaneously provide notice by an electronic communication.

Act 53 (SB-32) ends the Student Achievement Guarantee in Education (SAGE) Program and creates an achievement gap reduction program under which an eligible school board may enter into a contract with DPI to receive funding in exchange for implementing strategies to improve the achievement of low-income pupils, such as reducing class size or providing one-on-one tutoring to pupils struggling with reading or mathematics. *See also Act 71.*

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes to the laws governing primary and secondary education:

1. Makes the various changes to parental choice programs (PCPs), including the following:
 - a. Eliminates the statewide cap on the statewide PCP and increases the cap on the number of pupils residing in a school district who may participate in the statewide PCP from 1 percent to 10 percent over a ten-year period. Beginning in 2026-27, there is no participation limit in the statewide PCP. *See also Act 72.*
 - b. Creates a funding mechanism for pupils who begin participating in the Racine or statewide PCP in the 2015-16 school year, which includes counting the pupils for purposes of the pupil's resident school district's equalization aid and revenue limits and reducing the pupil's resident school district's equalization aid by the amount paid for the child to attend a private school under the PCP. *See also Act 289.*
 - c. Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, creates eligibility criteria for the statewide PCP that requires a pupil to have been in the previous school year enrolled in a public school, enrolled in a private school participating in a PCP, or not enrolled in school; or to be enrolling for the current school year in kindergarten, first, or ninth grade.
 - d. Creates requirements for the independent financial audit that private schools participating in PCPs must annual submit to DPI. *See also Act 212.*
 - e. Allows teachers and administrators to use a license issued by DPI to qualify to be a teacher or administrator at a private school participating in a PCP.
 - f. Allows an individual who has been granted a diploma from a home-based private educational program to be a teacher's aide at a private school participating in a PCP.
2. Makes various changes to independent "2r" charter schools, including the following:
 - a. Allows all of the following to authorize independent charter schools:

i. The Gateway Technical College District Board. The Gateway Board may only authorize independent charter schools located within the Gateway Technical College District. Additionally, independent charter schools authorized by the Gateway Board may operate only high school grades and must offer a STEM curriculum.

ii. The College of Menominee Nation and the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College. The College of Menominee Nation and the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College may together authorize no more than six charter schools. The per pupil payment for charter schools authorized by a tribal college is equal to the per pupil academic base funding provided to tribal schools by the federal Bureau of Indian Education.

iii. The County Executive of Waukesha County. The Waukesha County Executive may authorize charter schools located only in Waukesha County.

b. Creates a funding mechanism for pupils who attend an independent charter school authorized by one of the new authorizers, including the Director of the Office of Educational Opportunity, that includes counting the pupils for purposes of the pupil's resident school district's equalization aid and revenue limits and reducing the pupil's resident school district's equalization aid by the amount paid for the pupil to attend the independent charter school.

c. For independent charter schools authorized by existing authorizers, eliminates the restriction on the location of independent charter schools and the residency restrictions for pupils attending the charter school.

d. Eliminates restrictions on the chartering authority of UW–Parkside.

e. Creates requirements for contracts establishing "2r" independent charter schools.

f. Makes independent charter schools pupils eligible for transportation aid.

3. Authorizes the director of the Office of Educational Opportunity in the UW System to authorize independent charter schools in certain

school districts. Independent charter schools authorized by the director of the Office of Educational are treated the same as independent "2r" charter schools.

4. Allows a contract with an independent charter school authorizer or with a school board to provide for the establishment of multiple charter schools.

5. Creates the Special Needs Scholarship Program, under which DPI makes a payment to a private school on behalf of the parent of a child with a disability. Eligibility requirements for the program include that the child has an individualized education plan in place and that the child attended public school for the entire school year preceding his or her initial participation in the program. Additionally, a nonresident school district must have rejected the child's open enrollment application. Special needs scholarships are funded in the same manner as payments for pupils attending an independent charter school authorized by a new authorizer. *See also Act 289.*

6. Creates three Opportunity Schools and Partnership Programs: a first class city OSPP, applicable only to MPS; the MPS superintendent of schools OSPP; and the OSPP for certain eligible school districts. Act 55 placed the first class city OSPP and each eligible school district OSPP under the supervision of a commissioner, appointed by the county executive of the county in which the school district is located. Under each OSPP, the commissioner, or MPS superintendent of schools, grants supervision over the operation and general management of each school in the school district that was assigned to the lowest performance category on the most recent accountability report published for the school to an entity other than the school board. These entities include a person who operates a charter school and the governing body of a nonsectarian private school participating in a parental choice program.

7. Makes the following changes to the open enrollment program:

a. Eliminates the ability of a resident school district to reject an application for open enrollment because of an undue financial burden.

- b. Beginning in the 2016-17 school year, replaces tuition payments for special needs pupils with a \$12,000 per pupil transfer amount.
8. Allows school boards to enter into whole-grade sharing agreements. Under a whole grade sharing agreement, pupils enrolled in one or more grades in a participating school district attend school in one or more of the other participating school districts for all or part of the school day.
9. Creates three alternative paths for obtaining a license to teach: experience-based licensure for technical education subjects; licensure based on reciprocity; and licensure based on completion of a Montessori teacher education program. *See also Act 259.*
10. Changes the eligibility requirements for sparsity aid.
11. Creates a density requirement for high-cost transportation aid.
12. Increases reimbursement for pupils transported more than 12 miles.
13. Allows any school district to withdraw from a cooperative educational service agency and eliminates funding for operational costs of cooperative educational service agencies.
14. If a school board adopts a resolution to do so, allows high school pupils to earn credit by demonstrating proficiency in a subject area or by creating a learning portfolio in a subject area.
15. Allows DOA to provide block grants to certain school districts for telecommunications access, telecommunication infrastructure grants, and grants to provide educational technology training to teachers.
16. Allows school districts to combine with other local units of government to qualify to provide health insurance on a self-insured basis.
17. Requires DWD, DCF, and DHS to allow qualified independent researchers to cross-match databases in the possession of the researchers and containing information about pupils participating in the MPCP with the agencies' databases for purposes of evaluating the effects of the MPCP.
18. Requires the MPS school board to prepare an inventory of all school buildings in the school district, to identify the use of those buildings, including whether the building is surplus, underutilized, or vacant, and to provide for the purchase of such eligible school buildings to education operators, including private schools, and other entities.
19. Closes the Special Transfer Program, commonly known as the Chapter 220 program, to a pupil unless the pupil participated in the program in the 2015-16 school year. Under the program, the state provides aid to school districts to support voluntary efforts by school districts to reduce racial imbalance through interdistrict and intradistrict pupil transfers.
20. Requires a school district that enters into an agreement with another school district, including an out-of-state school district, to permit an elementary or high school pupil to attend school outside the school district to specify in the agreement the amount of tuition to be paid by the resident school district on behalf of the pupil in the written agreement, and eliminates a requirement that the out-of-state school be at least 1.5 miles closer to the pupil's home than any school in this state.
21. Requires a school board to allow a pupil who resides in the school district and is enrolled in a home-based private educational program to participate in extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics on the same basis and to the same extent as pupils enrolled in a public school in the district.
22. Requires the school board of the Racine Unified School District to adopt a representation plan that comprises nine election districts having substantially equal population and satisfying other traditional redistricting principles and to provide, beginning with the Spring 2016 election, for

the election of school board members from the election districts rather than at large.

23. Changes the information DPI must include in school and school district accountability reports, requires DPI to prepare reports for independent charter schools and schools participating in a parental choice program, requires DPI to use a formula that adjusts the weight given to measures of pupil achievement and pupil growth based on the number of economically disadvantaged pupils enrolled in the school or school district, and requires DPI to assign a letter grade to each school and school district. *See also Act 212.*

24. Prohibits the state superintendent from giving any effect to or adopting, or requiring a school board to give any effect to or adopt, any academic standard developed by the Common Core State Standards Initiative.

25. Prohibits the state superintendent from participating in the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium, which develops assessments to be administered to pupils, and requires the state superintendent to instead adopt and implement a new statewide assessment program.

26. Allows a school board, operator of an independent charter school, or private school participating in a parental choice program to administer alternative, nationally recognized, norm-referenced assessments to pupils in lieu of those adopted by the state superintendent once certain conditions have been satisfied.

27. Allows a school district or independent charter school to select the reading assessment to be administered to pupils in grades 4K to second, rather than using an assessment selected by DPI, and requires DPI to pay the per pupil cost of the assessment to the school district or charter school.

28. Requires a high school pupil to successfully complete a civics assessment as a condition of receiving a high school diploma or declaration of equivalency of high school graduation. *See also Act 212.*

Act 63 (AB-325) requires school boards to adopt a policy on how to fill a vacancy on the school board

if remaining school board members do not fill the vacancy within 60 days. Until April 12, 2016, the act also allows the school board president in certain school districts to fill a vacancy on the school board if the remaining school board members do not fill the vacancy within 60 days.

Act 71 (SB-254) makes various changes to the Achievement Gap Reduction program created by 2015 Wisconsin Act 53, including requiring each participating school board to implement one or more intervention strategies in each class in each participating grade at each participating school. *See also Act 53.*

Act 72 (AB-332) creates an exception to the pupil participation limit in the statewide parental choice program for certain pupils who attend a private school under the statewide parental choice program in the previous school year. *See also Act 55.*

Act 92 (SB-217) allows a member of a school board to serve as a volunteer coach or extracurricular activity supervisor.

Act 190 (AB-681) eliminates duplicative language governing requirements for licensure as an alternative education program teacher and clarifies grant program eligibility requirements applicable to teachers who are not required to be evaluated under an educator effectiveness evaluation system.

Act 212 (SB-640) makes changes to how DPI weights certain pupil information for purposes of the annual school and school district accountability report; changes requirements that apply to an independent financial audit of private school participating in a parental choice program; and modifies the requirements for administering the mandatory high school civics examination to children with disabilities. *See also Act 55.*

Act 228 (SB-492) creates a pilot program during the 2016-17 school year, under which three school districts will track certain student safety incidents that occur on property owned or leased by the school district, on transportation provided by the school district, and at events sanctioned by the school district.

Act 259 (SB-449) expands the experience-based licensure for teaching a technical education subject to also apply to vocational education subjects. *See also Act 55.*

Act 280 (AB-665) creates a pilot program to award grants in the 2016-17 school year to teams of high school pupils to participate in a competition to design, construct, program, and operate robots.

Act 289 (SB-615) does the following:

1. Makes modifications to the Special Needs Scholarship Program created in Act 55, including requiring that a child with a disability have an individualized education program or services plan in effect as a condition for eligibility, permitting the child to apply for a scholarship to attend a private school under the program at any time during a school year, and requiring the parents of a child to make their child available for reevaluation once every three years.

2. Modifies the revenue limit adjustment, created by Act 55, available to a school district from which certain pupils are attending a private school participating in the statewide parental choice program to make the revenue limit adjustment equal to the decrease in the school district's state aid payment. *See also Act 55.*

Act 297 (AB-602) adds Christian Schools International and Association of Christian Schools International to the list of entities from which a private school may seek accreditation, a prerequisite to participating in a parental choice program or the Special Needs Scholarship Program.

Act 305 (AB-824) allows DPI to pay unexpended sparsity aid in the 2015-16 school year to a school district that does not qualify in that school year because of an increase in the number of pupils, and increases beginning in the 2016-17 school year the number of pupils a school district may have and qualify for sparsity aid.

Act 338 (AB-722) requires each school that maintains an Internet site and for which DPI has published an accountability report to prominently display a link to that report within 30 days of publication.

Act 390 (AB-545) requires that CPR instruction offered to high school pupils under preexisting law be provided in a health education course offered to pupils in grades 7 to 12, and requires that instruction about automated external defibrillators provided to high school pupils under preexisting law be provided to pupils in grades 7 to 12.

Elections

Act 36 (SB-96) provides that a candidate who petitions for a recount need not pay a fee for the recount if the difference between the votes cast for the leading candidate and those cast for the petitioner is fewer than 10 if 4,000 or fewer votes are cast or not more than 0.25 percent of the total votes cast.

Act 37 (SB-121) makes various election law changes, including requiring a write-in candidate to file a registration statement in order for write-in votes for that candidate to be counted; providing that a municipal board of canvassers need not reconvene if the municipal clerk certifies that he or she has received no provisional or absentee ballots between the time of the board's initial canvass and 4 p.m. on the Friday after the election; and providing that a school board referendum held in conjunction with a state, county, municipal, or judicial election must take place at the same polling place and during the same hours as the municipal election.

Act 39 (SB-71) provides that a municipal clerk may perform the registration duties of an election inspector, unless the clerk is a candidate on the ballot for that election.

Act 117 (AB-387) doubles the contribution limits applicable to candidates for state or local office; allows corporations, cooperatives, labor organizations, and American Indian Tribes to make contributions to independent expenditure committees and referendum committees and to segregated funds established by political parties and legislative campaign committees; requires the reporting of expenditures for express advocacy coordinated with a candidate; and makes various other changes to the campaign finance laws.

Act 118 (AB-388) eliminates GAB and replaces it with the Elections Commission, which administers and supervises elections, and the Ethics Commission, which administers and supervises ethics, campaign financing, and lobbying regulation.

Act 154 (SB-707) prohibits a legislator from holding office as a legislator concurrent with holding office as county executive for more than 60 days following the certification of the election for either office.

Act 209 (SB-47) requires a municipal clerk to send an elector an absentee ballot within one business day after receiving the elector's request for the ballot.

Act 229 (SB-391) requires an election official to attend at least one training program during the period beginning on January 1 of an even-numbered year and ending on December 31 of the following year. The act also changes the term of a member of the board of canvassers so that the term begins on January 1 of the even-numbered year rather than January 1 of the odd-numbered year.

Act 261 (SB-295) allows an individual with a current state driver's license or identification card to register online to vote; allows an individual to use a veterans identification card as a voter ID; allows occupants of residential care facilities to use intake documents as proof of residence for voter registration; and makes various other changes related to elections administration.

Employment

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AND FRINGE BENEFITS

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes to the laws relating to public employment and fringe benefits for public employees:

1. Eliminates the Office of State Employment Relations and transfers its duties and powers to a new Division of Personnel Management in DOA.
2. Requires the director of the Division of Personnel Management in DOA to enter into a memorandum

of understanding with the UW Board of Regents and the UW-Madison Chancellor to permit UW System employees who take state agency positions to receive continuous service credit for UW System employment.

3. Permits state employees to elect not to receive state health care coverage and instead receive a \$2,000 annual payment. This would not apply to any state employee who opted out of state health care coverage in 2015 or to married state employees or state employees in a domestic partnership whose spouse or domestic partner is receiving state health care coverage.

4. Provides that the Employee Trust Funds Board may combine state and local elected officials and state executive employees with general employees for purposes of determining employee and employer contribution rates under the WRS.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following relating to the unemployment insurance law:

1. Requires DWD to set up a process for requiring certain claimants for UI benefits to take a drug test. DWD must require claimants in certain occupations to undergo a screening, which will be used to determine if a claimant is required to undergo a drug test. Claimants who test positive are required to enter a substance abuse treatment program and job skills training in order to maintain eligibility for benefits. Claimants who refuse to undergo the test are disqualified from receiving benefits. The drug testing provisions do not take effect until final state rules and federal regulations are promulgated, and parts of those provisions may be waived if necessary to ensure continuing compliance with federal law.

2. Allows an employer to submit to DWD the results of a drug test that was conducted on an individual as a condition of an offer of employment, the results of which may be used to disqualify the individual from receiving UI benefits.

3. Increases administrative penalties for claimants who commit acts of concealment (fraud) in obtaining unemployment insurance benefits, from

15 percent of the benefits fraudulently obtained to 40 percent.

Act 86 (AB-416) makes changes to the UI law to comply with federal requirements, including allowing DWD to offset certain employer debts against federal tax refunds and to render decisions against out-of-state employers in certain situations. The act also makes a change regarding the amount of benefits received by employees receiving partial benefits pursuant to a work-share agreement.

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Act 1 (SB-44) is known as the right-to-work act. The act prohibits a person from requiring, as a condition of employment, an individual to refrain or resign from membership in a labor organization, to become or remain a member of a labor organization, or to pay dues or other charges to a labor organization. A person who violates this prohibition is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

Act 17 (AB-125) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement covering state employees in the professional legal collective bargaining unit for the 2014–15 fiscal year.

Act 18 (AB-126) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement covering state employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit for the 2014–15 fiscal year.

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes relating to employment generally:

1. Establishes statutory minimum wages for employment in this state, in amounts that are identical to currently mandated in DWD rules, subject to certain exceptions for certain types of employment covered by DWD rules. Former law required DWD to ascertain what constitutes a “living wage” and allowed DWD to receive complaints that a wage being paid to a person was not a “living wage” and to convene a wage council for determining what constitutes a living wage. The act repeals these references to and provisions for a “living wage” and instead simply requires that employees be paid the statutory minimum wages.
2. Transfers adjudication of worker’s compensation claims from DWD to the Division of Hearings and

Appeals in DOA; provides that reimbursement of supplemental benefits paid by an employer or insurer to an employee with permanent total disability is from the worker’s compensation operations fund instead of from the work injury supplemental benefits fund; requires the secretary of administration to transfer moneys from the worker’s compensation operations fund to the uninsured employers fund to the extent that a claim against that fund exceeds \$1 million; and permits an institution of higher education to provide worker’s compensation coverage for a student participating in a work study program.

3. Allows a person to voluntarily choose to work without one day’s worth of rest in seven, regardless of current law that requires certain employers to allow employees to have such a day’s worth of rest.

4. Transfers from DPI to DWD administration of the Career and Technical Education Incentive Grant Program, under which grants are awarded to school districts that offer approved, industry-recognized certification programs to address workforce shortages in this state.

5. Requires DWD to align its workforce development activities under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act with DOC’s offender reintegration initiatives.

Act 55 makes various changes, including the following, to the prevailing wage law, which requires an employee performing certain work on a project of public works to be paid the prevailing wage for the employee’s trade or occupation:

1. Exempts projects undertaken by local governments from the prevailing wage law.
2. Provides for the use of federally determined prevailing wage laws in lieu of rates ascertained by DWD.
3. Restricts the remedies available for a violation of the prevailing wage law.
4. Transfers from DWD to DOA the administration of the provisions in the prevailing wage law governing state nonhighway projects.

Act 57 (SB-205) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement covering state employees in the public safety collective bargaining unit for the 2013–15 fiscal biennium.

Act 119 (AB-394) requires the Group Insurance Board (GIB) to notify JCF if it intends to execute a contract to provide self-insured group health plans to state employees. The board may not execute the contract without the approval of the committee under a 21-day passive review process.

Act 174 (SB-134) provides that new employers under the WRS may choose to cover only employees hired after the employer joins the WRS and not all employees, as was required under preexisting law. New employers may also choose not to cover any of their public utility employees.

Act 180 (AB-724) makes the following changes relating to worker's compensation:

1. Reduces the statute of limitations for a traumatic injury from 12 years to 6 years after the date of the injury or the date that worker's compensation was last paid.
2. Eliminates disability and death benefits for an injured employee who violates an employer's drug or alcohol policy if the violation caused the injury.
3. Eliminates temporary disability benefits for an injured employee who returns to light-duty work during the employee's healing period if the employee is suspended or terminated from employment because of misconduct or substantial fault connected to that work.
4. Provides that when an injured employee has incurred permanent disability, but a percentage of that disability was caused by factors other than an accidental injury sustained in the course of employment, the employer is liable only for the percentage of disability caused by the accidental injury.
5. Excludes from coverage under the worker's compensation law a person who sells or delivers newspapers if the person is an independent contractor, rather than an employee, of the publisher or news agency.

6. Provides that, for purposes of worker's compensation coverage, an individual who performs services for a person receiving long-term care benefits administered by DHS and who does not otherwise have that coverage is considered to be an employee of the entity providing financial management services for that person.

7. Increases the amount of permanent partial disability benefits and certain supplemental benefits payable under the worker's compensation law.

8. Makes various changes relating to the procedures for resolving a worker's compensation dispute and the administration of the worker's compensation program, including permitting a hearing examiner to issue a prospective order requiring an employer to pay for future vocational rehabilitation training for an injured employee.

Act 187 (AB-678) eliminates obsolete references in laws relating to the WRS, allows the secretary of employee trust funds to implement certain payment processing systems, makes minor clarifications relating to division of retirement benefits pursuant to a qualified domestic relations order, changes the dates on which new employers may join the WRS, and makes minor changes relating to the payment of WRS annuities.

Act 194 (AB-685) transfers federal moneys received by DWD to the Labor and Industry Review Commission for unemployment administration and equal rights functions performed by LIRC.

Act 203 (SB-422) specifies under various employment laws that franchisees and employees of franchisees are not considered employees of franchisors, unless certain conditions apply.

Act 258 (AB-456) excludes certain real estate brokers and salespersons from coverage under various employment laws. *See also Courts and Civil Actions; Occupational Regulation.*

Act 283 (AB-742) requires DWD to coordinate between institutions of higher education and employers to increase the number of students who are placed with employers for internships.

Act 334 (AB-819) makes various changes to the unemployment insurance law, including:

1. Establishes penalties for providing false information for the purpose of misclassifying an individual and for misclassifying an individual through coercion.
2. Creates provisions regarding the charging of benefits financed by certain governmental, nonprofit, and Indian tribe employers in cases of identity theft.
3. Establishes standards for what is considered suitable work for purposes of the requirement for a UI claimant to accept suitable work when offered, and standards for what constitutes good cause for refusing such an offer of suitable work.
4. Modifies provisions for determining when a UI claimant has committed benefit fraud, including by requiring claimants to provide accurate and complete information to DWD regarding benefit claims.
5. Substantially revises procedures for administrative and judicial review of tax and benefit determinations under the UI law, including establishing distinct provisions specifically addressing judicial review of UI decisions.

Act 342 (AB-922) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement covering state employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit for the 2015–16 fiscal year.

Act 345 (SB-517) requires certain employers to allow an employee who has been employed for at least one year to take up to six weeks of leave from his or her employment in a given year to serve as a bone marrow or organ donor. Such an employer must, upon the employee’s return, place the employee in his or her prior position or in an equivalent one and may not reduce the employee’s employment benefits because he or she took that leave. The act contains various limitations, protections, and enforcement mechanisms for employees who take organ donation or bone marrow donation leave, which are similar to those under the state family and medical leave law.

Act 348 (SB-596) consolidates various appropriations to DWD for various workforce training programs into a single appropriation for those programs.

Act 386 (AB-441) creates the Wisconsin Veterans Employment Initiative, which is a program to increase the number of veterans holding positions in state government. The act requires state agencies with more than 100 employees to implement a plan to hire qualified veterans to achieve the goal of making the ratio of the number of veterans holding agency positions to the number of all employees in the state agency equal to the ratio of the number of veterans holding positions in the civilian labor force to the average number of employees in the civilian labor force. The act also encourages smaller state agencies to achieve the same goal.

Environment

Act 7 (AB-11) eliminates the requirement that a newspaper publisher pay a fee, based on the cost of newsprint used to print its newspaper, unless at least 33 percent of the fiber in the newsprint is derived from postconsumer waste.

Act 33 (SB-144) eliminates a rule promulgated by DNR relating to construction-permit requirements for stationary sources that emit greenhouse gases, which is no longer valid under the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in *Utility Air Regulatory Group v. EPA*, 573 U.S. ____ (2014).

Act 43 (SB-15) generally prohibits the manufacture or acceptance for sale of a personal care product containing microbeads, which are small, nonbiodegradable plastic particles.

Act 50 (AB-57) expands the types of assets that may be held in escrow accounts or irrevocable trusts that are used by landfill owners to provide proof to DNR that the owner can cover the costs of closing the landfill and maintaining the property after the landfill is closed.

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes to the laws relating to the environment:

1. Sunsets eligibility for reimbursement under the petroleum environmental cleanup fund award (PECFA) program by requiring a person to notify DNR of a discharge and a potential PECFA claim before “July 20,” and submit a claim for

reimbursement before July 1, 2020. The governor's veto changed the deadline for notification from "July 1, 2017" to "July 20," and the governor's veto message states that the notification must be received before July 20, 2015.

2. Requires DNR to approve or reject any proposed revisions to Dane County's area-wide water quality management plan, and creates a 90-day deadline for doing so. The act also prohibits DNR from contracting with Dane County or any of its subunits to advise DNR in its review of proposed revisions to Dane County's area-wide water quality management plan.

3. Authorizes \$5,900,000 in bonding for rural nonpoint source water pollution abatement grants, and \$3,000,000 for the urban nonpoint source and storm water management program and the municipal flood control and riparian restoration program.

4. Reduces funding for the municipal and county recycling grant program by \$4,000,000 for fiscal year 2015-16.

5. Makes various changes to the structure of the environmental improvement fund, including eliminating the concept of the "present value subsidy limit," which represents the state's cost in today's dollars to provide loans at a subsidized interest rate over the lifetime of the loans. Act 55 also does the following with respect to the environmental improvement fund:

a. Reduces bonding authority for the clean water fund by \$236,300,000, and increases bonding authority for the safe drinking water loan program by \$5,400,000.

b. Expands eligibility for financial assistance to unsewered municipalities under the clean water fund program to include projects in which at least two-thirds of the initial flow will be for wastewater from residences in existence for at least 20 years, rather than residences that existed on October 17, 1972.

c. Expands eligibility for financial assistance under the safe drinking water loan program to include private owners of a community water system that comply with certain requirements.

Act 76 (AB-158) eliminates Chapter 128 of the *Wisconsin Administrative Code*, promulgated by DNR, which implemented certain financial assistance programs that either have stopped operating or are now administered by another state agency.

Act 177 (SB-243) exempts from high capacity well regulation those wells that are used primarily for fire protection purposes or primarily to provide water to a single-family or multifamily residence located on the same property as the well.

Act 204 (SB-545) creates requirements for a person to obtain an exemption from liability for the existence of contaminated sediment on a property, or for the discharge of a hazardous substance from a property that results in contaminated sediment, if the person voluntarily conducts a cleanup of the contaminated sediment or discharge. The act also makes changes to the requirements that apply, in certain circumstances, if residual contamination remains on a property after completing a cleanup of contaminated sediment or a discharge resulting in contaminated sediment.

Act 205 (SB-567) requires DNR to conduct regular reviews of water quality standards and variances to water quality standards, consistent with recent changes to the federal Clean Water Act. The act requires DNR to review, every three years, the water quality standards that it has promulgated, and the variances to water quality standards that it has approved, to determine whether the standards or variances should be modified. The act also requires DNR to review, every five years, the interim effluent limitations applicable to point sources that are approved under the statewide variance for phosphorus water quality standards, to determine whether the interim limitations are consistent with the highest attainable condition for those point sources.

Act 250 (SB-436) expands the types of costs DNR may pay under lake monitoring and protection contracts that DNR has with public groups or individuals and authorizes DNR to use a portion of the funding appropriated to river protection grants for costs incurred under lake monitoring and protection contracts.

Act 299 (AB-804) does the following:

1. Allows DNR to extend the deadline to act on a permit application for construction of a high-voltage transmission line. The act also prohibits DNR from requiring the relocation of a utility facility as a condition of a general permit to conduct an activity in navigable waters or as part of a modification granted for an individual permit if the activity sought to be permitted is necessary in order to maintain or repair the facility. *See also Public Utilities.*
2. Eliminates the requirement that major energy utilities submit an annual plan for complying with sulfur dioxide emission rates to DNR and the PSC, and the requirement for DNR to review and approve or disapprove those plans. The act also eliminates the requirement that a major energy utility submit a request for a variance from sulfur dioxide emission rates to the PSC, but retains the requirement that variance requests be submitted to DNR, and provides that DNR, rather than the PSC, must determine whether a condition exists for granting the variance. In addition, the act eliminates the requirement that DNR determine whether total annual sulfur dioxide emissions exceed the state's emission goals, and if so to consult with the PSC and submit a report of recommendations to the legislature.

Act 303 (AB-25) prohibits DNR from promulgating a rule or enforcing a federal regulation that specifies an emission standard for residential or commercial wood stoves that is more stringent than any standard in effect on December 31, 2014.

Act 307 (AB-755) requires DNR to issue a general permit that authorizes DOT to discharge storm water from the site of a transportation activity.

Act 387 (SB-459) limits DNR's ability to prohibit the construction of a storm water management pond as a method by which certain municipalities may achieve compliance with pollution-related performance standards. *See also Natural Resources—Navigable Waters and Wetlands.*

Act 392 (AB-515) increases the appropriation to DNR for providing recycling grants to responsible units of local government by \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2015-

16. The executive budget bill, 2015 Wisconsin Act 55, decreased this funding for fiscal year 2015-16 by \$4,000,000 as compared to previous fiscal years.

Financial Institutions

Act 54 (AB-24) allows a lender making a residential mortgage loan with a variable interest rate based on an approved index to offer a discounted initial interest rate.

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following:

1. Requires a financial institution to honor a notice of levy or a request to enforce a lien for delinquent child support in favor of another state sent directly to the financial institution from the other state. The financial institution must deliver to the sending state the amount specified in the notice or request, up to the amount in the obligor's account minus any authorized fees.
2. Allows DFI to require filings to be made electronically.
3. Reduces the amount of the annual transfer of money from DFI to the secretary of state.

Act 163 (AB-778) makes various changes relating to registration, reporting, and other requirements applicable to charitable organizations, professional fund-raisers and fund-raising counsel involved with solicitations on behalf of charitable organizations, and professional employer organizations. The act modifies many of DFI's administrative procedures and certain operational requirements, including reporting requirements. The act also modifies and expands the practices prohibited of charitable organizations, fund-raising counsel, and professional fund-raisers.

Act 239 (SB-438) allows an employee of a DFI-licensed collection agency to work from home and clarifies that, in doing so, the employee is not required to be separately licensed as a collector or solicitor.

Act 304 (AB-807) makes various changes related to the operations of credit unions, including (1) allowing the Office of Credit Unions (OCU) to accept a credit union examination conducted by

the National Credit Union Administration in lieu of OCU's own examination; (2) removing limits on the amount of a credit union's donations and grants and on the value of a credit union building; (3) establishing standards related to director conflict of interest transactions; (4) providing a procedure for credit union members to inspect and copy nonconfidential credit union records; and (5) authorizing credit unions and the OCU to provide confidential examination reports to the credit union's agents who agree to maintain their confidentiality. The act also modifies OCU and DFI rules to allow credit unions, state banks, savings banks, and savings and loan associations to provide written notice, instead of obtaining prior approval, before placing and operating an off-site automated teller machine.

Gambling

Act 6 (AB-14) makes various changes to the laws regulating raffles. The act removes DOA's authority to promulgate rules relating to the regulation of raffles and its authority to approve new types of raffles that meet certain standards; removes limits on the price of raffle tickets and calendars; and changes the procedures that Class A and Class B raffle-license holders must follow related to the period when tickets may be sold, the awarding of prizes, and record keeping and disclosure requirements.

Health and Social Services

HEALTH

Act 9 (AB-17) exempts an operator or manager of a restaurant with five or fewer food handlers from the requirement to complete an examination in order to renew a food protection practices certificate and instead allows the operator or manager to complete either an examination or a recertification course. A renewal certificate obtained under the recertification course option applies only in a restaurant the certificate holder is operating or managing at the time of the renewal or in other restaurants employing five or fewer food handlers.

Act 26 (SB-182) creates a limited exemption from licensing requirements for certain out-of-state emergency medical service providers.

Act 35 (SB-139) allows certain entities and organizations where allergens may be present to obtain a prescription for and provide or administer epinephrine auto-injectors to an individual who is experiencing anaphylaxis.

Act 46 (AB-37) requires certain persons to hold a certificate of food protection practices to operate a school lunchroom within schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program and for which food service is provided directly by the school.

Act 55 (SB-21) makes changes to the health law, including:

1. Requires a pharmacist or pharmacy that administers a vaccine to a person 6 to 18 years of age to update the Wisconsin Immunization Registry within seven days of administering the vaccine.
2. Changes the definition of "lead-bearing paint" to be consistent with federal law, deletes a provision allowing administrative rules to supersede the statutory definition if the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention specifies a standard that differs from state statute, and increases the forfeitures for certain violations of statutes relating to lead-bearing paint.
3. Allows a certain ambulance service provider to dispatch an ambulance containing only one paramedic if it already has an ambulance with two paramedics occupied providing service.

Act 56 (SB-179) prohibits any person from performing or inducing an abortion when the probable postfertilization age of the unborn child is 20 or more weeks unless the pregnant woman is undergoing a medical emergency. When the unborn child is 20 or more weeks' probable postfertilization age and the pregnant woman is undergoing a medical emergency, the act generally requires the pregnancy to be terminated in the manner that provides the best opportunity for the unborn child to survive. The act further requires the facility in which an induced abortion is performed to report certain information to DHS and

requires that, before an abortion is performed or induced, the woman be informed of the probable postfertilization age of the unborn child, the numerical odds of survival for an unborn child of that age, and the availability of perinatal hospice.

Act 83 (SB-210) allows an out-of-state person providing emergency medical services to act as an ambulance service provider, emergency medical technician, or first responder without holding a Wisconsin license, training permit, or certificate when responding to a request for mutual aid if the person holds a valid license, training permit, certificate, or other appropriate credential in the state from which that person is responding.

Act 107 (SB-160) changes certain administrative rules relating to maintenance and use standards for oxygen equipment in nursing homes, by modifying fixed maintenance time frames to a requirement that the equipment be maintained and used in accordance with current standards of practice and manufacturers' recommendations.

Act 113 (SB-143) requires DHS to allow certain ambulance service providers in small municipalities to staff an ambulance with a first responder as the second individual in the ambulance. The act also allows staffing of certain airplane ambulances to be staffed with one emergency medical technician and one certified respiratory care practitioner in certain circumstances.

Act 122 (SB-178) exempts a person who performs a partial lead inspection when renovating a dwelling or premises in a lead-safe manner from complying with certain DHS requirements for a lead inspection.

Act 151 (AB-310) requires DHS to apply for federal Title X grant funds and to distribute funds received to public entities, including state, county, and local health departments and health clinics, and the Well-Woman Program for family planning and related preventive health services. DHS may distribute any remaining funds to certain nonpublic entities that provide comprehensive primary and preventive care.

Act 152 (SB-238) requires certain abortion providers that participate in a federal prescription drug program to bill the Medical Assistance program only the actual acquisition cost of a prescription drug and a certain dispensing fee.

Act 175 (AB-362) allows counties and municipalities to form multiple-jurisdiction health departments with a minimum initial term and requires participating counties, cities, or municipalities to determine either the proportionate cost to each participating county, city, or municipality on the basis of equalized valuation or the proportionate tax levy contribution from each participating county, city, or municipality on a per capita basis.

Act 188 (AB-679) eliminates references to DOA in the Volunteer Health Care Provider Program, which is administered by DHS. The act also makes other technical corrections.

Act 272 (AB-786) requires DHS to prepare a proposal for one or more pilot programs for coalitions of counties to create dementia crisis units.

Act 273 (AB-787) raises to \$48,000 the maximum joint income for eligibility for the Alzheimer's Family and Caregiver Support Program, allows tribes and bands to be eligible to participate in the program, and increases funding for respite care under the program.

Act 274 (AB-790) requires DHS to award a one-time grant to counties or regions to obtain training for their mobile crisis teams on recognizing and providing services to individuals with dementia.

Act 276 (SB-402) requires, subject to a waiver from the federal government, if necessary, DHS to establish a dietetic internship program with federal money from the special supplemental food program for women, infants, and children (WIC) for qualified nutritionists working within the WIC program to obtain experience required to become registered dietitian nutritionists.

Act 287 (SB-628) makes various changes to the collection, analysis, and dissemination of health care information of hospitals and ambulatory surgery centers, including changing the data elements required, allowing reporting of patient census

tract or block group if patient identity is protected, allowing electronic distribution of reports, requiring notice to physicians of the opportunity to review data, and exempting race or ethnicity from the definition of patient-identifiable data.

Act 314 (AB-840) requires DHS to annually submit a report to JCF containing certain information regarding revenue and payments made under the ambulatory surgical center assessment.

Act 343 (AB-674) allows a family member who is being denied an in-person meeting or other communication with an adult resident of a hospital, hospice, nursing home, or residential-based facility to petition a court to compel visitation with some limitations. The act allows a court to order certain sanctions and remedies if a person is knowingly isolating that adult resident.

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

Act 55 (SB-21) makes various changes related to the laws governing Medical Assistance, including the following:

1. Requires DHS to request a waiver amendment authorizing DHS to impose certain requirements with respect to coverage for childless adults under BadgerCare Plus Core, including imposing monthly premiums, imposing higher premiums on enrollees who engage in behaviors that increase their health risk, requiring a health risk assessment, limiting eligibility to no more than 48 months, and requiring drug screening and, if indicated, drug testing.
2. Requires DHS to seek waivers of federal Medicaid law to expand Family Care statewide and to make changes to Family Care and IRIS, including providing primary and acute care services as well as long-term care services.
3. Allows a long-term care district to operate a health maintenance organization.
4. Requires DHS to evaluate and propose changes to the requirements for aging and disability resource centers.
5. Requires DHS to count as an asset when determining financial eligibility for any MA long-term care program, or any other MA program that

counts assets for eligibility, a promissory note entered into or purchased on or after the effective date of Act 55 that satisfies the following criteria: the individual seeking eligibility or his or her spouse provided the goods, loaned the money, or rendered the services for the note; the note is negotiable, assignable, and enforceable; and the note does not contain any terms making it unmarketable.

6. Makes entering into or purchasing a promissory note on or after the effective date of Act 55 a transfer of assets for less than fair market value that triggers a period of ineligibility for MA (commonly called divestment) unless all of the following apply to the promissory note: the repayment term is actuarially sound; the payments are to be made in equal amounts during the note's term with no deferral and no balloon payment; the note's terms prohibit cancellation of the balance upon the death of the lender; the note is negotiable, assignable, and enforceable; and the note does not contain any terms making it unmarketable.

7. Eliminates a three-month ineligibility period for BadgerCare Plus benefits for individuals who had access to other health insurance but that access has ended.

8. Requires DHS to create a pilot program to increase the MA reimbursement rates for certain pediatric and adult emergency dental care services in certain counties.

9. Creates an allocation procedure for making supplemental payments to certain hospitals with a disproportionate share of low-income patients.

10. Adds substance abuse treatment services provided by a medically monitored treatment service or a transitional residential treatment service and licensed midwife services to other services paid for currently under the MA program.

11. Eliminates the authorization for DHS to charge an assessment to health care providers.

12. Requires, subject to federal approval, DHS to provide reimbursement under MA for vaccines administered by pharmacists who meet certain requirements for administering vaccines to a person 6 to 18 years of age.

13. Eliminates a private individual's authority to bring qui tam claims against a person who makes a false claim for MA.
14. Directs that the state share of certain payments for school health care services be deposited in the MA trust fund and expended to reduce waiting lists for children's long-term care and other services.
15. Creates the Children's COP program that provides long-term community support services to individuals up to age 22 who have a disability and eliminates the Family Support Program.
16. Establishes a payment methodology for federally qualified health centers.

Act 127 (AB-453) requires DHS to provide residents of Rock County, services of an aging and disability resource center, the Family Care benefit, and services under the IRIS self-directed services option.

Act 215 (SB-687) allows a long-term care district or a governmental entity that has a contract to operate a care management organization to administer the Family Care benefit to create a nonstock, nonprofit corporation or service insurance corporation and to assign certain contracts, permits, and certifications to the corporation with approval of DHS and the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance. The act also allows a long-term care district to operate outside the geographic area of the long-term care district and specifies that property and assets of a dissolving long-term care district transfer to DHS.

MENTAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Act 55 (SB-21) makes various changes to health law including:

1. Requires that a psychiatrist, psychologist, or mental health professional perform a crisis assessment on an individual and agrees with the need for detention before a county department may approve an emergency detention for that individual.
2. Delays the termination date of an emergency detention pilot program in Milwaukee County.

Act 153 (SB-293) requires DHS to develop pilot projects for testing alternative, coordinated care delivery models and Medical Assistance payment models to reduce costs for those who have significant or chronic mental illness and to encourage psychiatric consultations with other care providers to treat adults who have mild to moderate mental illness and other health needs. The act also requires DHS to award a grant to develop and operate an Internet site and system to show the availability of inpatient psychiatric beds statewide.

Act 262 (AB-367) requires a treatment program that treats addiction using methadone to submit an annual report containing certain information to DHS.

Act 263 (AB-659) establishes certain requirements on DHS regulation of opioid treatment systems and narcotic treatment services for opiate addiction relating to the duration of certification, contracts for counseling services, length of narcotic treatment service, and geographic proximity requirements.

Act 265 (AB-366) requires a pain clinic to have a certificate from DHS in order to operate. The act also establishes requirements for pain clinics, including requirements relating to payment methods accepted by the clinic, direct dispensing of monitored prescription drugs, and having a medical director.

Act 294 (AB-664) prohibits DHS from requiring a mental health clinic or a licensed treatment professional from needing to designate a school site as a clinic site in order to provide outpatient mental health services at the school. The act also requires DHS to certify and reimburse under the MA program licensed treatment professionals for mental health services provided at the school.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes to the Wisconsin Works (W-2) program:

1. Modifies the behaviors that constitute refusal to participate in a W-2 employment position, which results in the participant's ineligibility to participate in the W-2 program for three months.
2. Allows DCF, under the Transform Milwaukee Jobs Program, to pay an employer a wage subsidy

that is less than minimum wage while still requiring the employer to pay a participant at least minimum wage.

3. Reduces the lifetime limit on receiving benefits under certain W-2 programs from 60 months to 48 months and allows a W-2 agency to extend this time limit if it determines that the individual is experiencing hardship or that the individual's family includes an individual who has been battered or subjected to extreme cruelty.

4. Eliminates the notice and opportunity to rectify that a W-2 agency is required to provide before taking an action that would result in a 20 percent or more reduction in a participant's benefits or in termination of the participant's eligibility to participate in W-2 if the action is a result of the participant no longer meeting certain eligibility requirements, such as no longer residing in the state or a child reaching age 18.

6. Makes changes to the establishment, membership, and duties of community steering committees, which are required to be established by W-2 agencies.

7. Extends the requirement that case management services be provided under the Learnfare program to a child and his or her family if the child's W-2 group includes a participant in a trial employment match program job, community service job, or transitional job who has been unable to participate in program activities due to the child's school-related problems.

8. Increases the expenditure authority for state administration of child care licensing activities, Wisconsin Shares, and child care quality improvement programs.

9. Exempts child care providers from the requirement to complete background information disclosures when applying to renew or continue a license, certification, or contract, and requires a regulated child care provider to require only an initial disclosure from new caregivers and nonclient residents instead of an annual disclosure from all caregivers and nonclient residents.

10. Allows DCF the option to make child care subsidy eligibility determinations instead of, or

in combination with, contracting with a county department or agency to do so and, if contracting this function, allows DCF to take into account certain factors in allocating funding.

11. Allows DCF to choose to allocate funds for the administration of Wisconsin Shares proportionately with the geographic region's or Indian tribal unit's share of all funding allocated for eligibility determination functions or share of all children for whom a child care subsidy was issued in the most recent 12-month period.

Act 55 also changes the laws relating to public assistance, other than W-2, as follows:

1. Requires DCF to promulgate rules to implement drug screening, testing, and treatment for eligibility for the Transform Milwaukee Jobs Program and the Transitional Jobs Program, for job search assistance and placement in a subsidized job under W-2 for certain noncustodial parents, and for a work experience and job training program for noncustodial parents who have failed to pay child support. Under the rules, every applicant for any of those programs must complete a questionnaire that screens for the abuse of a controlled substance. If, based on the answers to the questionnaire, there is a reasonable suspicion of abuse, the applicant must undergo testing for controlled substance abuse. If the test is positive and the applicant does not have a valid prescription for the controlled substance, the applicant must participate in and satisfactorily complete treatment to remain eligible for the program.

2. Requires DHS to screen and, if indicated, test and treat participants in the FoodShare employment and training program who are able-bodied adults for use of a controlled substance without a valid prescription for the controlled substance.

3. Allows DHS, beginning with replacement requests received on July 1, 2016, to deduct from a FoodShare recipient's benefits the cost of replacing a lost or stolen FoodShare electronic benefits transfer card.

4. Requires DHS to pursue recovery of any funeral, burial, or cemetery expenses aid provided on behalf of a decedent by making a claim in the decedent's estate and in the estate of the decedent's spouse

for the aid that was provided. The act also reduces the amount of funeral, burial, or cemetery expenses aid that DHS must pay on behalf of an eligible decedent by one dollar for every dollar by which the face value of a life insurance policy on the decedent's life exceeds \$3,000. In addition, the act exempts a funeral home, cemetery, or crematorium that receives payment from DHS for funeral, burial, or cemetery expenses on behalf of an eligible decedent from paying fees for coroners' services, fees for signing a death certificate, or fees assessed by a county related to transportation services.

5. Authorizes DCF to recover, including by tax intercept, an overpayment of emergency assistance to needy persons, which is paid in cases of fire, flood, homelessness, or impending homelessness, if the overpayment is a result of misrepresentation by the individual applying for the emergency assistance.

6. Allocates federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds for various purposes and to various organizations, including to the Green Bay Boys and Girls Clubs for the BE GREAT: Graduate program, to qualified applicants to provide literacy training to adults, and to programs to provide civil legal services to low-income families.

7. Expands the geographic areas in which DCF conducts the Transitional Jobs Program to include areas with special needs that DCF determines should be given priority.

OTHER HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Act 55 (SB-21) makes changes to health law, including the following:

1. Transfers oversight of restaurants, lodging, and recreation from DHS to DATCP.
2. Transfers oversight of tattooing, body piercing, and tanning from DHS to DSPS.
3. Requires DHS to allow redistribution of three nursing home beds to a facility meeting certain criteria.

Act 142 (AB-297) eliminates the prohibition against making certain vital records for events occurring before October 1, 1907, available in electronic

format, and specifically provides that any person may copy or make electronically available an uncertified copy of a vital record for an event occurring before October 1, 1907.

Act 157 (AB-633) requires, effective January 1, 2017, the state registrar and any local registrar to issue certified copies of certain vital records if a person makes the request in writing, if the requested vital record is available for statewide issuance in the state registrar's electronic system for vital record issuance, and if the person pays the appropriate fee. The act also adds indexes of record of marriage, domestic partnership, and termination of domestic partnership to the list of records that may be copied or reproduced for the public after 24 months have passed after the year in which the event occurred.

Insurance

Act 55 (SB-21) makes changes to insurance law, including the following:

1. Authorizes out-of-state risk retention groups to provide health care liability insurance in this state.
2. Requires pharmacy benefit managers to meet certain requirements regarding pricing transparency and dispute resolution.

Act 85 (AB-418) extends by one year, to January 1, 2017, the date for repealing an appropriation that wraps up the Health Insurance Risk-Sharing Plan.

Act 90 (SB-287) makes a number of changes to the insurance statutes relating to such issues as calculating reserves for life insurance, annuities, and pure endowment contracts; setting assessments for the injured patients and families compensation fund; giving the board of directors of a life insurance company more discretion over determining surplus and the distribution of dividends; exempting certain care management organizations from the application of the insurance statutes; and subjecting an insurer that surrenders its license or certificate to an assessment and adjusting the formula for calculating assessments.

Act 93 (SB-93) prohibits a motor vehicle insurer from requiring that repairs to a motor vehicle be made by a particular contractor or at a particular repair facility as a condition of coverage for those repairs and from failing to promptly initiate and conclude an investigation of a claim for repairs based on where the repairs will be made.

Act 288 (AB-543) expands the definition of health insurance mandate and requires the Commissioner of Insurance to submit a report on the social or financial impact of any bill or amendment containing a health insurance mandate, or a statement explaining the reason for not submitting such a report, before any public hearing is held or vote is taken on the bill or amendment.

Act 326 (AB-668) specifies that the rights established under Act 90 of persons with qualified financial contracts take precedence over other insurance laws relating to rehabilitation or liquidation of insurers.

Justice

Act 5 (AB-16) requires DOJ to make available on its Internet site a poster that provides information regarding a human trafficking resource center hotline and to encourage the poster's display at certain places including gas stations, hotels, salons, hospitals, courthouses, rest areas, and public and private transit stations.

Act 22 (SB-35) eliminates the 48-hour waiting period for handgun purchases so that a firearms dealer may transfer a handgun immediately after receiving notice from DOJ that the background check indicates that the purchaser is not prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law.

Act 67 (AB-75) allows an individual who is stationed in Wisconsin for at least one year while in active service in the U.S. armed forces to apply for a license to carry a concealed weapon; prior law allowed only residents of Wisconsin to apply.

Act 68 (AB-77) allows a qualified law enforcement officer to receive from a law enforcement agency that is a successor law enforcement agency to the agency that employed him or her, a certification

card that allows him or her to carry a concealed weapon and allows DOJ to issue a certification card to a qualified former law enforcement officer who now resides in Wisconsin but whose law enforcement employment was in another state.

Act 298 (AB-776) allows a permit issued to a state crime laboratory to authorize the laboratory to possess, manufacture, or use a controlled substance without specifying the name or schedule of the controlled substance. Under prior law, such a permit was effective only for a Schedule I controlled substance that was specified by name or for a controlled substance lower than a Schedule I controlled substance that was specified by name or schedule.

Local Law

Act 13 (AB-4) makes minor and technical changes to the laws relating to municipal incorporation.

Act 24 (AB-123) makes a limited authorization to the Town of Rome in Adams County to make cash grants or loan subsidies to owners, lessees, or developers of land that includes a golf course located in a tax incremental district created by the town.

Act 48 (AB-82) makes miscellaneous changes to the laws relating to registers of deeds.

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following:

1. Prohibits, for two years, a county from charging a funeral home, cemetery, or crematorium more for fees for coroners' services, fees for signing a death certificate, or fees related to transportation services than the amount that the county charged for those fees on April 17, 2015. After April 17, 2017, a county may increase those fees by no more than the annual percentage change in the consumer price index. *See also Health and Social Services—Public Assistance.*
2. Creates an incorporation method for a town that is contiguous to a third class city and meets certain population and equalized value standards.

3. Creates a method for a city, village, town, or county, under the levy limits, to adjust its unused levy authority that is carried forward from prior years.
4. Changes the method of settlement of delinquent special assessments and special charges.
5. Authorizes the city of Rhinelander to become a premier resort area.
6. Makes various changes to the local room tax, including the entity that may spend room tax revenues and the maximum amount of room tax revenue that may be retained by a municipality for purposes other than tourism development and promotion.
7. Prohibits a town or county from requiring an operator of an interstate hazardous liquid pipeline to obtain insurance if the pipeline operating company carries comprehensive general liability insurance that covers sudden and accidental pollution liability.
8. Excludes certain garbage collection and landfill operations from a political subdivision's allowable levy limits adjustments.
9. Generally expands the authority of the Milwaukee County executive to sell county land without county board approval.
10. Transfers from the secretary of state to the secretary of administration certain boundary record keeping functions and the responsibility to accept for filing certain documents related to municipal name changes and reorganizations.
11. Specifies that a county board may enter into a debt collection agreement with DOR.
12. Provides for the administrative dissolution of suspended drainage districts.
13. Alters the composition of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District board, alters the manner in which territory may be added to the district, and specifies that supermajority votes are required for certain board actions.
14. Requires the City of Milwaukee to offer a high-deductible health plan to certain employees.

15. Allows a town that meets specified conditions to incorporate.

16. Provides criteria for providing duty disability benefits for a mental injury in an employee retirement system of a first class city or of a county with a population of 500,000 or more.

Act 59 (SB-40) allows DOR to collect debt owed to an ambulance service provider operating under contract with a municipality or county if the debt relates to providing ambulance services as a result of responding to calls from a government-operated 911 call center.

Act 60 (SB-209) does all of the following:

1. Authorizes a local exposition district to assist in the development and construction of sports and entertainment arena facilities in this state.
2. Requires a local exposition district to enter into a development agreement with a professional basketball team or its affiliate to construct the sports and entertainment arena facilities, as well as a lease agreement. The district, the state, and sponsoring municipalities—in this case, the City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee County—must commit \$250 million in financial assistance for the construction of the sports and entertainment arena facilities, and the team or its affiliates must also agree to provide \$250 million in funding.
3. Requires the state to pay to the district for 20 years a \$4 million annual payment, as well as reduces the shared revenue payment to Milwaukee County by \$4 million a year for 20 years.

See also Taxation; Transportation—Motor Vehicles; Transportation—Traffic and Parking Regulations.

Act 65 (SB-81) limits the authority of a city, village, town, or county to create new occupational licenses or fees or to continue to regulate certain professions.

Act 75 (AB-344) lengthens the time during which tax increments may be allocated and expenditures for project costs may be made for Tax Incremental District Number One in the village of Weston.

Act 79 (SB-137) allows a municipality that opts to post legal notices in three public places instead of publishing them in a newspaper the additional option of posting a legal notice in one public place and placing the notice on an Internet site the municipality maintains.

Act 96 (AB-45) authorizes towns to participate in multijurisdictional tax incremental financing districts.

Act 99 (SB-265) reduces the minimum number of board members for certain federated public library system boards.

Act 106 (SB-153) allows a county or municipality to donate, as well as sell as allowed under preexisting law, an abandoned vehicle.

Act 138 (AB-439) changes from 10 days to 15 days the publication notice requirement for certain budget actions taken by local governments.

Act 169 (SB-466) authorizes certain libraries to notify collection agencies and law enforcement agencies of delinquent accounts.

Act 176 (AB-568) does the following:

1. Prohibits the enactment or enforcement of local ordinances that require that rental units be inspected other than under certain circumstances.
2. Prohibits the enactment or enforcement of local ordinances that require rental units to be certified, registered, or licensed.
3. Restricts local inspection fees and occupancy or transfer of tenancy fees on rental units.
4. Prohibits the enactment or enforcement of local ordinances that require a landlord to register or obtain a license or certification in order to own or manage a residential rental property.
5. Requires a political subdivision to hold a public hearing before designating a property as a historic landmark or including a property in a historic district.
6. Allows an owner of property that is affected by a decision of a local landmarks commission to appeal the decision to the governing body of the political subdivision. *See also Real Estate.*

Act 178 (AB-563) authorizes towns located in populous counties to withdraw from county zoning and requires certain towns to enact zoning ordinances and comprehensive plans. The act also removes plat and certified survey map approval authority from a county if the town in which the subdivision or land is located has withdrawn from county zoning, except for land in a plat or certified survey map that is shoreland or in a 100-year floodplain. In addition, the act prohibits restrictions on land that is not shoreland or that is not within a floodplain.

Act 181 (AB-390) allows the Town of Freedom to create a TID in the same manner as a city or village.

Act 214 (SB-313) changes the method used by a county clerk to notify town clerks of certain county zoning actions from registered mail to certified mail or e-mail.

Act 223 (AB-523) specifies that, for counties, a manufactured home community that is a legal nonconforming use continues to be a legal nonconforming use notwithstanding any repair or replacement of homes or infrastructure within the community. The act also clarifies that certain limitations on city zoning ordinances applicable to the restoration of nonconforming structures destroyed by vandalism or certain natural forces also apply to the replacement of those structures.

Act 245 (SB-486) authorizes a town meeting to direct a town board to change the number of commissioners of certain town sanitary district commissions.

Act 246 (SB-527) provides an alternate method for a county treasurer to provide notice of certain unclaimed money or securities.

Act 254 (SB-53) allows a political subdivision to amend the project plan of a TID or to request an extension to the TID's maximum lifespan if the TID is adversely affected by 2013 Wisconsin Act 145.

Act 255 (SB-54) removes the restriction relating to including vacant land within the boundaries of a TID and excludes tax-exempt city-owned property from the initial tax incremental base of a TID.

Act 256 (SB-50) makes a number of technical changes to the TID law and repeals a number of obsolete references in the TID law. The changes made by the act include extending the life span and allocation period for certain TIDs, extending the maximum review period for certain joint review board reviews, changing the calculation of levy limits following dissolution of a TID, and changing certain planning commission notice requirements.

Act 257 (SB-51) does the following:

1. Requires political subdivisions to submit annual reports describing the status of existing TIDs to each overlying taxing jurisdiction and DOR.
2. Requires political subdivisions that seek to create TIDs to convene standing joint review boards.
3. Eliminates the procedure for seeking review by DOR of an industry-specific town TID.

Act 275 (AB-628) allows a first class city, currently only Milwaukee, to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew a cigarette and tobacco products retailer license if the retailer does certain things, such as violate restrictions relating to the sale of cigarettes and tobacco or knowingly allow criminal behavior on the premises, or is convicted of manufacturing, distributing, or delivering a controlled substance. The license holder is entitled to a hearing before the city governing body may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the license. The act also prohibits a city, village, or town from adopting or enforcing an ordinance that regulates the issuance, suspension, revocation, or renewal of a cigarette and tobacco products retailer license unless the ordinance strictly conforms to the act.

Act 301 (AB-714) changes the definition of “tourism entity” under the room tax and changes the allowable membership of a tourism entity’s governing body.

Act 302 (AB-730) limits the authority of a city, village, town, or county to regulate certain containers designed for transporting or protecting merchandise, food, or beverages.

Act 306 (AB-704) allows a tribal college-county joint library to participate in a public library system.

Act 325 (AB-584) changes the regulations of the local government property insurance fund. Under the act, the same rate regulations currently applied to private insurers also apply to the fund. The fund must also levy assessments against participating local governmental units to maintain fund assets at a threshold ratio and pay dividends to participating local governmental units when fund assets reach a threshold ratio.

Act 336 (AB-662) expands a moratorium on fee increases for certain fees charged by a county for coroner or medical examiner services and creates an exception to that moratorium.

Act 341 (SB-581) raises the annual compensation that volunteer fire fighters, emergency medical technicians, or first responders in certain municipalities may receive while also holding elective office in those municipalities.

Act 374 (SB-533) regulates the production and use of photo identification cards by local units of government.

Act 391 (AB-582) prohibits a county from enacting a development moratorium, changes the notice requirements that a political subdivision must provide to persons related to potential zoning actions that could affect the use of the person’s land, requires a court to resolve ambiguity in a zoning ordinance in favor of the free use of private property, and requires a supermajority vote for a political subdivision to enact a down zoning ordinance. A down zoning ordinance affects land by either rezoning it to less-dense usage or by reducing permitted uses of the land. The act also prohibits local governments from making the purchase or transfer of real property or the occupancy of residential real property contingent on whether a purchaser or other transferee takes certain actions with respect to the property and prohibits local governments from prohibiting or unreasonably restricting a real property owner from engaging in certain real property transactions. *See also Administrative Law; Natural Resources—Navigable Waters and Wetlands.*

Natural Resources

CONSERVATION

Act 55 (SB-21) does all of the following:

1. Eliminates funding for various grant programs including programs authorizing DNR to provide grants to acquire property used for conservation purposes, to provide grants for lake management projects, to award contracts for lake classification technical assistance projects, and to provide grants for activities related to the development of the Ice Age Trail area.
2. Reduces the total bonding authority under the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship 2000 Program by \$88,250,000.
3. Allows previously authorized but unobligated bonding authority under the stewardship program to be obligated for infrastructure improvements to the Kettle Moraine Springs hatchery and the Little Falls Dam at Willow River State Park and for county dam safety grants.
4. Authorizes funding under the stewardship program for the construction of pedestrian bridges in the cities of Neenah and Menasha.
5. Requires all fee simple land acquisitions north of State Trunk Highway 64 acquired using stewardship funds to be reviewed by JCF under a 14-day passive review process.

FISH AND GAME

Act 31 (AB-107) authorizes DNR to reimburse costs to eligible counties that process wild turkey carcasses and donate them to a food distribution service or a charitable organization.

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following:

1. Eliminates the requirement that DNR issue Class B bear licenses and allows persons to engage in activities formerly authorized only under a Class B bear license, including baiting bear and training a dog to track bear, without a license from DNR.

2. Eliminates the all-terrain vehicle landowner incentive program under which DNR was authorized to award grants to private landowners who allow ATV corridors on their lands.

3. Eliminates the trail use sticker fee for a trail use sticker issued by DNR for a snowmobile that has a model year that is at least 35 years earlier than the year for which the sticker is issued.

4. Requires DNR to administer a program for removal of car-killed deer from state trunk highways and generally allows a person to take possession of the carcass of a deer killed in a motor vehicle collision if the person notifies DNR.

Act 89 (AB-434) makes a number of changes to the registration and certification requirements for all-terrain vehicles, utility terrain vehicles, boats, and snowmobiles and to approvals for hunting, fishing, and trapping. The act allows DNR to designate alternative forms of proof of certain registration, certification, and approval documents; authorizes DNR to issue reprints of certain approvals and recreational vehicle safety certificates; authorizes DNR to use a system for accessing information about an individual's approvals or safety certificates electronically; and allows for certain receipts to provide proof that a person holds a recreational vehicle registration, certification, trail pass, or trail use sticker until official documents are received.

Act 97 (AB-112) allows licensed physician assistants and advanced practice nurse prescribers, in addition to certain other medical professionals, to determine if a person's disability qualifies him or her to obtain a specialized hunting permit or to certify that a person's sight is impaired for the purpose of obtaining a disabled person fishing license.

Act 98 (SB-20) allows certain hunting, fishing, and trapping approvals to be transferred to a person with a disability. The act also allows a person who is issued a Class A bear license to transfer that license to a person who was awarded a Purple Heart or who is serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces.

Act 100 (AB-243) prohibits a member of a group deer-hunting party from using a specially issued youth deer-carcass tag issued to another member of the hunting party in order to kill an antlerless deer for the member of the party holding the specially issued youth deer-carcass tag.

Act 131 (AB-291) allows a person to wear blaze pink as an alternative to blaze orange while hunting game.

Act 222 (SB-289) eliminates the requirement that DNR issue a back tag when DNR issues a person an archer hunting license, a deer hunting license, a bear hunting license, an elk hunting license, a sports license, or a conservation patron license and the requirement that the licensee attach a back tag to any garment while hunting.

Act 225 (AB-527) allows an adult with any valid hunting approval to shoot to kill an animal lawfully shot and wounded but not killed either by a person under 18 years old or by a hunting mentee.

Act 248 (SB-435) allows the naturally shed feathers of a grouse, partridge, pheasant, quail, or wild turkey and the feathers of a lawfully taken grouse, partridge, pheasant, quail, or wild turkey to be sold, purchased, bartered, or traded and to be offered for those purposes.

Act 249 (SB-605) allows that a light designed to be attached to clothing or a part of the body or a firearm-mounted light is an exception to the prohibition on using, or possessing with intent to use, a light for shining wild animals during certain times. The act also removes wolves from the list of animals that may be hunted while using a light.

Act 285 (AB-700) changes the date on which the annual open season for hunting and trapping wolves begins.

Act 346 (SB-338) expands the prohibitions on interfering or attempting to interfere with lawful hunting, fishing, or trapping or an activity associated with lawful hunting, fishing, or trapping.

Act 363 (SB-298) requires DNR to issue a trolling permit to a person with impaired eyesight.

NAVIGABLE WATERS AND WETLANDS

Act 25 (AB-47) eliminates the requirement that the membership of a board of commissioners for a public inland lake protection and rehabilitation district include a member of the governing body of the city, village, or town within which the largest portion of the district lies.

Act 41 (AB-165) provides that county shoreland zoning requirements do not limit the authority of a town located within that county to enact zoning ordinances affecting shorelands if the town ordinance does not regulate the same matters regulated under the county shoreland zoning ordinance.

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following:

1. Provides an exemption from certain permitting requirements for the construction or placement of a culvert that replaces an existing culvert if the replacement is located in substantially the same place as the existing culvert and is placed using certain best management practices. The act also provides that if DNR requires a permit for a culvert that would otherwise be exempt, and if DNR imposes new conditions in the permit, DNR must reimburse the person seeking the permit for certain of the person's expenses incurred in complying with those different permit conditions.
2. Requires DNR to allow a person maintaining a dam in a location on a navigable stream where a dam was originally constructed prior to 1845 to pass less than 25 percent of the natural low flow of the stream if the precise level of natural low flow prior to construction is unknown and if historically there have been extended periods during which water passed through the dam only as groundwater seepage or leakage through the dam structure.

Act 55 also makes various changes to the laws relating to shoreland zoning. Current law requires all counties to enact shoreland zoning ordinances for their unincorporated areas and requires certain shorelands in cities and villages to be subject to shoreland zoning ordinances. The act specifies that shoreland zoning standards and ordinances apply to accessory structures in addition to principal structures located in a shoreland area

and provides that if a city or village is required to enact an ordinance for shorelands in the city or village, the ordinance must be consistent with the requirements and limitations applicable to county shoreland zoning ordinances. In addition, the act prohibits a county shoreland zoning ordinance from doing any of the following:

1. Imposing more restrictive shoreland zoning standards than those established by DNR.
2. Requiring a person, with exceptions, to establish a new or expand an existing vegetative buffer zone. This prohibition also applies to certain city and village shoreland zoning ordinances.
3. Regulating outdoor lighting designed for residential use.
4. Prohibiting or regulating the maintenance, repair, replacement, restoration, rebuilding, or remodeling of any part of a nonconforming structure if the activity does not limit the structure's footprint.
5. Requiring the inspection or upgrade of a structure before it is sold or transferred.
6. Prohibiting or regulating, with exceptions, the vertical expansion of a nonconforming structure.
7. Establishing standards for impervious surfaces that do not give consideration for systems or discharges that allow runoff from the surface to infiltrate into the soil.

Act 91 (SB-110) provides certain persons with immunity from civil liability for damage or injury caused by the placement of, or the failure to place, buoys or other markers in a waterway.

Act 111 (SB-282) conveys, by a lake bed grant, a parcel of submerged land to Brown County. The parcel is contiguous to a parcel originally conveyed to Brown County under Chapter 15, Laws of 1977.

Act 140 (AB-372) changes the required membership of the board of commissioners of a lake district to allow a member of the governing body of a municipality to serve in lieu of a resident who owns property in the lake district.

Act 146 (SB-104) provides that if a town ordinance enacted by a town that is located entirely on an

island in Lake Superior and authorized to exercise village powers is more restrictive than a county shoreland zoning ordinance, regardless of the order of enactment, the town ordinance applies in all respects to the extent of the greater restrictions.

Act 167 (AB-603) makes the following changes to shoreland zoning laws:

1. Codifies current DNR shoreland zoning standards that require a setback of 75 feet from the ordinary high-water mark to the nearest part of a building or structure. The act also requires a shorter setback, but allows a longer setback, in certain situations depending on the setback of adjacent lots.
2. Codifies current DNR shoreland zoning standards that exempt from the general setback requirements the construction of certain structures such as dry boathouses, utility facilities, and walkways.
3. Prohibits a shoreland zoning ordinance from disallowing or regulating certain activities with respect to any of the structures that are exempt from the general setback requirements and that were constructed legally but allows an ordinance to restrict those activities that expand a structure beyond its three-dimensional building envelope.
4. Establishes certain requirements for a shoreland zoning standard that allows a greater amount of impervious surface on highly developed shorelines and prohibits a roadway or sidewalk from being considered an impervious surface in a navigable water or wetland.

Act 220 (SB-315) provides immunity from civil liability to certain persons who cause damage or injury by placing in a navigable water or wetland a net pen to hold and rear fish or a structure to create, protect, or improve fish and wildlife habitat.

Act 387 (SB-459) does the following:

1. Provides that, unless specifically provided, laws governing navigable waters, except for boating laws, do not apply to an artificial water body that is not connected to a natural navigable water body.
2. Limits the types of areas that DNR may identify as areas of special natural resource interest.

3. Exempts from navigable water permit requirements the dredging of an artificial water body that does not connect with a navigable waterway.

4. Establishes that a permit is required to construct or enlarge an artificial water body that is within 500 feet of the ordinary high-water mark of an existing navigable waterway but that does not or will not connect with the existing navigable waterway.

5. Expands the activities that may be conducted with respect to certain structures placed in a navigable water, such as boathouses, boat shelters, and seawalls.

6. Exempts from wetland permitting requirements any discharge resulting from maintaining a sedimentation or storm water detention basin and associated conveyance features.

7. Restricts DNR's review of practicable alternatives of a proposed discharge into a wetland in certain circumstances.

8. Provides that the DNR permit procedures that apply to certain utilities are exclusive and in lieu of any other procedures that would otherwise apply to DNR permits.

See also Environment.

Act 391 (AB-582) establishes that, with respect to shoreland zoning, the setback from an ordinary high-water mark measured by a professional land surveyor is the setback with respect to a structure constructed on that property under certain circumstances. The act prohibits a shoreland zoning standard or county shoreland zoning ordinance from prohibiting certain activities and provides that the construction or maintenance of certain public utility facilities satisfies shoreland zoning laws and a county's shoreland zoning ordinance under certain circumstances. The act also requires a court to resolve any ambiguity in a matter involving a word or phrase in a shoreland zoning ordinance in favor of the free use of private property. *See also Administrative Law; Local Law.*

PARKS AND FORESTRY

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following:

1. Eliminates general purpose revenue as the source of funding for the operation of state parks and recreation areas, increases state park vehicle admission fees, and revises the fees that DNR may charge for the use of a campsite.

2. Provides that if DNR establishes a program under which land designated as managed forest land may be certified as meeting certain forest management standards, DNR may enroll the land in the program only upon the affirmative election of the landowner.

3. Requires DNR to develop a plan to move the headquarters of the division of forestry from the city of Madison to a northern location in the state.

4. Allows DNR to conduct certain forest management activities on federal land, as allowed under federal law, under a cooperative agreement with the secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture or to enter into a contract with a county, private forester, or private contractor to carry out that activity.

5. Requires DNR to increase the percent of overall northern state forest property acres classified as forest production areas from 67 percent to 75 percent and limits the allowable classifications, primary management objectives, and timber management techniques and activities of land classified as forest production areas in order to maximize the production of timber and other forest products.

6. Prohibits DNR from prohibiting a person engaged in silviculture from crossing a recreational trail on DNR property and from limiting the scope of silvicultural activity on DNR property based on the proximity of that activity to a recreational trail on DNR property.

7. Directs DNR to temporarily close a portion of a recreational trail on DNR property at the request of a person engaging in silviculture.

Act 170 (AB-470) establishes requirements for the operation and registration of off-highway motorcycles that are similar to the requirements that apply to all-terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles.

Act 210 (SB-381) allows the operation of a small utility terrain vehicle by a person under 16 years of age but at least 12 years of age on certain ATV trails if he or she is accompanied by a person who is at least 18 years of age.

Act 260 (AB-422) appropriates \$27,000 in each fiscal year for grant funding for the Florence Wild Rivers Interpretive Center.

Act 358 (SB-434) makes various changes to laws regarding managed forest land (MFL) and forest cropland (FCL), including all of the following:

1. Eliminates the yield and severance taxes on MFL and FCL.
2. Increases the minimum acreage for designation as MFL from 10 acres to 20 acres.
3. Increases from 160 acres to 320 acres the limit on acreage that can be designated as closed MFL by a landowner in a municipality.
4. Makes land upon where a building or associated improvement is located ineligible for designation as MFL.
5. Requires open MFL to be accessible to the public on foot.
6. Allows a landowner to withdraw part of a parcel designated as MFL for the purpose of selling it or using it as a construction site.
7. Allows a landowner to withdraw part of a parcel designated as MFL that is unable to meet the production requirements for merchantable timber as a result of natural disaster or for environmental, ecological, or economic reasons.
8. Expands the list of persons who may file a cutting notice on behalf of a landowner.
9. Eliminates the prohibition on leasing closed MFL.

10. Allows a landowner to allow recreational activities on MFL in exchange for the performance of land management activities.

11. Requires DNR to notify owners of MFL of any change in law or rule that will affect a management plan and requires owners to elect between acceptance of modifications to management plans or voluntary withdrawal of the land without penalty.

OTHER NATURAL RESOURCES

Act 226 (SB-548) expands the area under the jurisdiction of the Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission for the Illinois Fox River basin and makes changes to the make-up, terms, and fiscal year of the board of commissioners.

Occupational Regulation

Act 3 (SB-13) establishes a licensure program, administered by the Pharmacy Examining Board, for persons that dispense medical oxygen directly to patients.

Act 16 (AB-143) establishes a statewide licensure program for transportation network companies, such as Uber and Lyft, which is administered by DSPS and includes specific requirements for transportation network companies and their drivers, including driver background checks, minimum automobile insurance levels, “zero tolerance” for a driver’s use of drugs and alcohol during relevant times, passenger privacy protections, and nondiscrimination and accessibility requirements. Under the act, a transportation network company driver may provide a ride to a passenger for compensation only if the ride is prearranged on the transportation network company’s digital network. The act prohibits local governments from regulating transportation network companies and their drivers in most respects.

Act 34 (SB-74) allows optometrists to prescribe, dispense, or administer certain kinds of narcotics that they were previously allowed to prescribe, dispense, and administer prior to those narcotics being rescheduled as schedule II controlled substances.

Act 40 (SB-84) creates a corrections system formulary board in DOC for the purpose of establishing a prescription drug formulary for inmates in state prisons. The act also allows pharmacists to make drug substitutions for prisoners in accordance with the formulary established by the Corrections System Board created in the act if approved by a health care provider. *See also Correctional System.*

Act 47 (AB-33) eliminates a requirement that the Real Estate Examining Board develop by rule a form for entering into cooperative agreements between in-state and out-of-state real estate brokers and salespersons.

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes to the laws relating to occupational regulation:

1. Transfers the regulation of veterinarians to DATCP.
2. Transfers the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program from the Pharmacy Examining Board to the Controlled Substances Board.
3. Provides that certain statutory confidentiality requirements apply to records generated under the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program and specifies to whom and under what circumstances certain disclosures of those records may be made.
4. Transfers from DHS to DSPS the regulation of tattooists and tanning facilities. *See also Health and Social Services—Other Health and Social Services.*

Act 95 (SB-229) creates an exemption from the requirements applicable to mausoleums and cemeteries for certain columbaria maintained by religious associations.

Act 110 (SB-123) allows an owner or operator of a cemetery to deposit funds for the care of a cemetery lot or mausoleum space with a securities broker-dealer for investment.

Act 115 (AB-427) modifies provisions for prescribing opioid antagonists enacted by 2013 Wisconsin Act 200, including further distinguishing between prescriptions and standing orders for opioid antagonists and explicitly allowing pharmacists to dispense opioid antagonists pursuant to a health care provider's standing order.

Act 116 (AB-253) ratifies and enters Wisconsin into the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, which provides for a streamlined process allowing physicians to more easily become licensed in other states that are parties to the compact. The compact provides for the creation of an Interstate Medical Licensure Compact Commission, which is charged with administering the compact and includes two representatives of each member state's board that regulates the practice of medicine. The act provides for the representatives to the commission from the Wisconsin Medical Examining Board to be appointed by the board's chair, subject to senate confirmation. The act also contains other provisions relating to implementation of the compact in Wisconsin, including numerous limitations on the sharing of information and on the enforceability of subpoenas under the compact, as well as financing and reporting requirements. The act provides for a four-year sunset date, which will withdraw Wisconsin from the compact effective one year after the sunset date unless subsequent legislation modifies or eliminates the sunset date.

Act 179 (AB-769) restores certain powers and duties to the Veterinary Examining Board following its transfer to DATCP.

Act 192 (AB-683) eliminates an obsolete provision that required appointing an advisory council to advise DSPS on various matters relating to midwives.

Act 217 (SB-532) makes changes to the statutes governing the educational requirements for taking the certified public accountant examination or for receiving a CPA certificate. The act requires 120 hours in accounting and business subjects, as determined by the Accounting Examining Board, instead of an accounting concentration, which prior law required. The act also makes substantive and organizational revisions to the rules of the board, including (1) professional standards and conduct for CPAs; (2) grounds for the professional discipline of CPAs; (3) peer review of CPA firms; and (4) education, experience, and other requirements for CPA certification and licensure. Finally, the act requires the board to research the feasibility of establishing continuing education requirements for CPAs and to report its findings and recommendations to the legislature.

Act 237 (SB-302) makes a number of changes to the laws governing cemeteries, including the following:

1. With limited exceptions, transfers the administration of the laws governing cemeteries and cemetery associations currently administered by DSPS and DFI to the Cemetery Board.
2. Establishes specific rules for the disposition of a cemetery lot or mausoleum space in which human remains are buried.
3. Alters the initial and renewal licensure requirements applicable to cemetery authorities.

Act 258 (AB-456) makes significant revisions to the laws governing the practice of real estate by real estate brokers and salespersons. Notable changes include:

1. Terminology changes in the real estate practice law, including the elimination of many references to real estate brokers and salespersons as “employees” in favor of other terminology.
2. The establishment of various requirements and prohibitions regarding the practice of real estate by real estate brokers and salespersons on behalf of real estate firms.
3. Changes to duties and prohibitions that apply to real estate brokers, salespersons, and firms with respect to parties to real estate transactions, as well as certain prohibitions.
4. The creation of provisions governing supervision of real estate brokers and salespersons, including provisions with respect to the designation and responsibilities of supervising brokers.
5. The elimination of time-share salespersons registrations issued by the Real Estate Examining Board.

See also Courts and Civil Actions; Employment—Other Employment.

Act 266 (AB-364) makes changes to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), including the following:

1. Authorizes disclosure of patient records under the PDMP to certain health care professionals, subject to specific limitations.
2. Places restrictions on the disclosure of patient records under the PDMP to law enforcement and other agencies.
3. Requires prescribers to review a patient’s records under the PDMP when prescribing monitored prescription drugs. The act sunsets that requirement after three years.

Act 267 (AB-766) requires the Controlled Substances Board to review the PDMP on an annual basis and report the results of each review, along with other information relating to the program as specified in the act, to DSPS.

Act 269 (AB-660) provides specific authorization for certain credentialing boards in DSPS to issue guidelines regarding best practices for prescribing controlled substances. The act also repeals a provision that limits the authority of the Medical Examining Board to examine applicants for a physician license.

Act 277 (SB-599) allows DPS to regulate certain forms of unarmed combat sports contests, such as kickboxing contests, including by requiring promoters and clubs to be licensed, requiring permits for contests, requiring insurance for contests, and mandating that promoters and clubs comply with various other requirements such as having licensed referees and physicians present for contests. Prior law limited such regulation to only mixed martial arts and professional boxing contests.

Act 290 (AB-865) allows a pharmacist, subject to certain requirements, to administer prescribed drugs to patients in more circumstances. Prior law allowed a pharmacist to administer a prescribed drug to a patient only in the course of teaching self-administration techniques to the patient.

Act 291 (AB-866) allows a pharmacist to dispense prescribed drugs in quantities that vary from a health care practitioner’s prescription order, subject to certain limitations.

Act 313 (AB-841) authorizes the Pharmacy Examining Board to approve a three-year pilot program if the program is related to the practice of pharmacy or prescription verification and if the board determines the pilot program will improve the safety, quality, or efficiency of the practice of pharmacy.

Act 375 (AB-549) allows a physical therapist to order an X-ray examination for a patient, subject to certain qualifications and a requirement that the physical therapist communicate with the patient's primary care physician or an appropriate health care practitioner to ensure coordination of care.

Public Utilities

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following:

1. Allows the PSC to use the universal service fund to make broadband expansion grants and makes a change to the criteria the PSC must consider in awarding the grants.
2. Reduces the funding for the PSC to compensate nonutilities who intervene in PSC proceedings.
3. Allows a municipality in Kenosha County to request an extension of water or sewer service from another municipality, specifies the grounds for disapproving the request, and allows for appeals to the PSC.
4. Requires the PSC to review studies on the health effects of industrial wind turbines on nearby residents and, based on the review, allows the PSC to submit any necessary rule revisions to the Legislative Council Rules Clearinghouse.
5. Specifies that the appointment of the PSC chairperson is distinct from the PSC commissioner appointments.
6. Limits the authority of a municipal water utility to bill certain landowners who are not customers for water provided for fire protection. Under the act, if a landowner owns two or more adjacent parcels, or two or more parcels divided by a roadway or waterway, the municipal water utility may bill the landowner for only one parcel.

7. Defines essential telecommunications services for purposes of universal service requirements to incorporate changes to federal regulations. Prior law limited the definition to federal regulations in effect on January 1, 2010.

Act 148 (AB-319) allows a natural gas public utility to condemn land owned by a city, village, town, or county for constructing a natural gas distribution or transmission line in the same manner that an electric public utility or cooperative association may condemn such land for constructing a high-voltage transmission line.

Act 278 (AB-820) requires the PSC to encourage broadband infrastructure development in underserved areas, provide comprehensive information about permits required for broadband network projects, and work with federal, state, and local agencies to encourage timely and efficient issuance of permits and coordination of activities. The act also does the following: (1) requires the PSC to certify cities, villages, towns, and counties as Broadband Forward! communities if they enact ordinances for permits for broadband network projects that satisfy specified requirements; and (2) allows the PSC to decertify cities, villages, towns, and counties that violate specified prohibitions regarding the issuance of those permits.

Act 299 (AB-804) requires investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities to spend 1.2 percent of their annual retail revenues on Focus on Energy programs, instead of 1.2 percent of their annual retail and wholesale revenues as required under former law. The act also allows the PSC to assess certain persons its regulatory expenses for PSC proceedings involving those persons and to extend a deadline for considering applications for approval of public utility contracts with affiliated interests. In addition, the act does the following: (1) exempts certain electric transmission line rebuilds from PSC certification requirements; (2) eliminates the authority for consumers to request the PSC to petition a federal court to make changes to local access and transport areas for telephone service; and (3) eliminates the PSC's authority regarding complaints about railroad telecommunications service. *See also Environment.*

Act 344 (AB-384) eliminates the requirement for the PSC to make the following findings before approving the construction of a nuclear power plant: (1) that sufficient capacity is available to receive spent fuel; and (2) that construction of the power plant is economically advantageous to ratepayers. The act also changes the priorities under the state's energy policy law to require state agencies and local governments to consider certain advanced nuclear energy after considering combustible renewable energy resources and before considering nonrenewable combustible energy resources.

Real Estate

Act 38 (AB-81) makes minor changes to DOR's and DFI's rules relating to filings in county register of deeds offices.

Act 55 (SB-21) prohibits a local governmental unit from requiring a property owner to take certain actions with respect to the property, such as making improvements or repairs, before the owner may sell, refinance, or transfer title to the property or within a certain time period after selling, refinancing, or transferring title to the property.

Act 145 (SB-279) requires a person who conveys real property to file a real estate transfer fee return even if the conveyance is exempt from the fee.

Act 176 (AB-568) authorizes a landlord to terminate the tenancy of a tenant based on criminal activity committed by the tenant or a member of the tenant's household; makes remaining on property without consent criminal trespass and provides for the disposition of personal property left in rental property by a trespasser; creates a right-to-cure for certain tenants for certain breaches; and prohibits a local government from making the purchase or transfer of real property or the occupancy of residential real property contingent on whether a purchaser or other transferee takes certain actions with respect to the property. *See also Local Law.*

Act 200 (SB-344) provides a process for a landowner to record an affidavit of interruption to interrupt a continuous period of adverse possession or use.

Act 219 (SB-314) prohibits a person from obtaining title to or an interest in real property belonging to a state or political subdivision by adverse possession or prescriptive use and prohibits a state or political subdivision from obtaining title to or an interest in real property belonging to a person by adverse possession or prescriptive use.

Act 376 (AB-720) reduces the redemption period applicable to a foreclosure action involving noncommercial property from twelve months to six months when a plaintiff seeks a deficiency judgment and from six months to three months when a plaintiff elects to waive a deficiency judgment, except that, if a mortgagor is attempting in good faith to sell the property, the court may add two months to the applicable redemption period. The act also provides that a court in a foreclosure action may declare mortgaged property abandoned only upon motion of a plaintiff or the city, town, village, or county where the mortgaged property is located. If a property is declared abandoned, the plaintiff must, within 12 months after a foreclosure judgment is entered, either sell the property and have the sale confirmed or release the mortgage lien and vacate the foreclosure judgment.

Safety and Professional Services

Act 29 (SB-86) renames the Dwelling Code Council the Uniform Dwelling Code Council and renames the Building Code Council the Commercial Building Code Council.

Act 49 (SB-94) requires DSPS to establish by rule separate standards under the dwelling code, electrical wiring code, and plumbing code that apply to certain seasonal overnight camping units located in a campground for which DHS issues a permit.

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following:

1. Allows certain persons to obtain a waiver from the requirement to install smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors and from various other requirements of the one- and two-family dwelling code. A person is eligible for the waiver if his or her religious beliefs conflict with one or more of the requirements, the waiver is based on tenets and teachings of the religious sect of which the person

is a member, and the dwelling for which the waiver is requested will be used solely as a residence for that person or members of his or her household.

2. Eliminates the requirement that DSPS contract with private organizations to provide education to builders of dwellings about construction standards and business practices and to provide education to consumers about the building process.

Act 211 (SB-458) requires DSPS to establish by rule an electronic processing system for building permits for new one-family and two-family dwellings. The act requires cities, villages, towns, and counties to begin to implement the system no later than January 2, 2018. The act also requires DSPS to make specified changes to its standard building permit form.

Act 240 (SB-478) provides that an automatic fire suppression system is not required for a building on county fairgrounds that satisfies an annual limit on seasonal or temporary event use and for which public access is provided by garage-style doors that remain open when the building is open to the public.

Act 327 (AB-698) requires a retailer of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) to obtain commercial general liability insurance to cover claims for bodily injury or property damages caused by incidents associated with the release of LPG. Under former law, a retailer could elect to obtain a surety bond or letter of credit, rather than commercial general liability insurance.

Act 333 (AB-648) prohibits DSPS from promulgating or enforcing a rule, and prohibits a city, village, or town from enacting or enforcing an ordinance, related to fire safety that prohibits the seasonal placement of a Christmas tree in the rotunda of the state capitol building or in a church. The act also provides that the seasonal placement of a Christmas tree in the rotunda of the state capitol building or in a church is not a fire hazard.

State Government

STATE BUILDING PROGRAM

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes to the laws relating to the state building program:

1. Authorizes an additional \$101,193,900 in general obligation bonding authority during the 2015–17 fiscal biennium for new or revised state building projects.

2. Authorizes up to \$3 million in general fund supported borrowing to aid Carroll University in the construction of a science laboratory facility.

3. Authorizes up to \$15 million in general fund supported borrowing to aid Eau Claire Confluence Arts, Inc., in the construction of a regional arts center in Eau Claire County.

4. Authorizes up to \$5 million in general fund supported borrowing to aid the Wisconsin Agriculture Education Center, Inc., in the construction of an agriculture education center in Manitowoc County.

5. Authorizes an additional \$2 million in general fund supported borrowing to aid Marquette University in the construction of a dental clinic and education facility. Previously, \$23 million had been authorized for this purpose.

Act 357 (AB-810) authorizes DOA to sell a parcel of land to the City of Appleton for the purpose of constructing a visitor center for the Fox River Navigational System and authorizes the Fox River Navigational System Authority to lease land and to construct, operate, and maintain a visitor center on the land.

STATE FINANCE

Act 55 (SB-21) makes the following changes to the laws relating to state finance:

1. Requires the Joint Committee on Legislative Organization to lapse \$9,232,200 from legislative appropriations to the general fund.

2. Eliminates the assistant state treasurer and assistant secretary of state positions.

3. Requires that a lapse of \$13,430,900 to the general fund from executive branch agency appropriations that were scheduled for the 2015–16 fiscal year also occur in the 2016–17 fiscal year.

4. Increases the general fund statutory balance in the 2015–16 and 2016–17 fiscal years from \$65 million to that amount plus any general fund excess revenues in each year, but not to exceed 2 percent of general purpose revenue appropriations in any fiscal year. The act also increases the general fund statutory balance in fiscal year 2017–18, and each fiscal year thereafter, to the prior year’s balance, plus \$5 million and any general fund excess revenues in each fiscal year, but not to exceed 2 percent of general purpose revenue appropriations in any fiscal year.

5. Increases from 5 percent of total general purpose revenue appropriations to 9 percent of those revenues the amount that may be temporarily borrowed between state funds.

6. Increases from \$3,785,000,000 to \$5,285,000,000 the amount of public debt that may be issued to refund any outstanding tax-supported or self-amortizing public debt for facilities.

Act 201 (SB-407) requires, subject to certain exclusions, each state agency to include with its biennial budget request a proposal to reduce the agency’s state operations budget by 5 percent and a proposal to maintain the agency’s current state operations budget levels.

OTHER STATE GOVERNMENT

Act 2 (SB-6) reaffirms that the Legislative Audit Bureau has the authority to access, for the purpose of conducting audits, all documents that are confidential by law. The act also requires GAB to provide investigatory records to LAB.

Act 55 (SB-21) changes laws related to state government as follows:

1. Eliminates the following boards and councils: Acid Deposition Research Council, Council on Utility Public Benefits, Information Technology Management Board, Service Award Board, Standards Development Council, Historical Society Endowment Fund Council, Managed Forest Land Board, Milwaukee River Revitalization Council, Telecommunications Privacy Council, Automatic Fire Sprinkler System Contractors and Journeymen Council, Crematory Authority Council, Examining

Council on Licensed Practical Nurses, Examining Council on Registered Nurses, Multifamily Dwelling Code Council, Pharmacist Advisory Council, and Labor and Management Council.

2. Transfers the state energy office from DOA to the PSC.

3. Repeals a provision requiring the secretary of state to publish notifications of acts of the legislature in the official state newspaper. The act also eliminates the requirement that the secretary of state publish proposed constitutional amendments approved for the first time by the legislature and instead requires the Legislative Reference Bureau to publish such proposed constitutional amendments on the Internet.

4. Provides that the criteria for awarding broadband expansion grants must give priority to projects that are scalable.

5. Reduces from eight to seven the number of authorized unclassified division administrator positions at the PSC.

6. Transfers the Read to Lead Grant Program from the Office of the Governor to DCF.

Act 58 (SB-206) makes changes to certain statutory salaries and decreases the maximum number of hours that constitutes a part-time or limited-term appointment.

Act 150 (AB-373) makes various changes to the state civil service, including eliminating mandatory examinations and requiring applicants to file a résumé with DOA; extending probationary periods; defining just cause; requiring layoffs to be based primarily on job performance; creating a grievance process for adverse employment decisions; and creating a new merit-based compensation program.

Act 195 (AB-686), Act 196 (AB-687), and Act 197 (AB-688) are LRB corrections bills.

Act 198 (AB-689) changes the date of the legal holiday celebrating Martin Luther King Jr’s birthday from January 15 to the third Monday in January.

Act 309 (AB-721) provides that a U.S. savings bond that remains unredeemed for five years after final maturity is presumed abandoned and subject to the custody of the state as unclaimed property. The act also provides that, one year after DOR publishes notice of the name of the person appearing to be the owner of the bond, DOR may bring an action to transfer ownership of the bond to the state, and DOR must redeem the bond within three years after entry of the order. Under the act, the rightful owner of a bond may file a claim with DOR at any time for the bond's return or for payment of the amount for which the bond was or will be redeemed.

Taxation

Act 55 (SB-21) changes laws related to taxation as follows:

1. Modifies the definition of cider to make the occupational tax on hard pear cider the same as that on hard apple cider.
2. Modifies the state alternative minimum tax so that it is consistent with federal law changes to the federal alternative minimum tax.
3. Modifies the definition of the Internal Revenue Code for state tax purposes to incorporate recent federal law changes to the Internal Revenue Code.
4. Sets the annual limit on the amount of angel and early stage investment credits that taxpayers may claim at \$30 million.
5. Modifies preexisting law regarding when a retailer is engaged in business in this state for sales tax purposes to include a retailer who owns, leases, or rents property in this state or has a representative or an affiliate located in this state.
6. Clarifies that the operator of a distribution facility selling tangible personal property on behalf of a third-party seller is not a retailer for the purposes of imposing or collecting the sales tax.
7. Exempts from the sales tax sales of farm-raised deer to a person operating a hunting reserve or game farm in this state.

8. Authorizes the creation of tax advantaged accounts to support persons with disabilities based on the federal Achieving a Better Life Experience law.
9. Increases the individual income tax standard deduction for married tax filers.
10. Reduces the threshold amount for income tax check-off limits and creates a three-year average for the new threshold amount.
11. Eliminates the income tax exclusion for all-terrain vehicle corridors.
12. Modifies provisions related to income tax deductions for college savings plans, commonly known as 529 plans.
13. Adopts federal law as it relates to an income tax deduction for certain teachers.
14. Clarifies that overpayments, refundable credits, and refunds may not be paid to a taxpayer until setoffs against debts the taxpayer owes to federal, state, and local governments have been completed.
15. Modifies DOR's procedures for the sale or auction of a delinquent taxpayer's property that was obtained by DOR through a tax warrant.

Act 60 (SB-209) does all of the following:

1. Provides a property tax exemption for sports and entertainment arena facilities and a sales tax exemption for materials and services used to construct or develop such facilities.
2. Makes changes to the membership of the district's board, authorizes the use of tax incremental financing for parking facilities, changes the method under which the Bradley Center is transferred to the district, and provides for the demolition of the Bradley Center.

See also Local Law; Transportation—Motor Vehicles; Transportation—Traffic and Parking Regulations.

Act 61 (SB-252) provides that if a power production plant that is exempt from property taxes is decommissioned or closed, and therefore becomes taxable, the county and municipality where the plant is located receive a utility aid payment each year for five years that is equal to a percentage of

the utility aid payment received for the last year in which the plant was exempt.

Act 84 (AB-405) creates exemptions from certain taxes, including income, franchise, and withholding taxes, fee requirements, and requirements to obtain a license, permit, or other approval, for work performed on certain infrastructure in this state by out-of-state businesses and employees during a state of emergency.

Act 114 (SB-233) requires DOR to distribute excess sales tax revenue collected from the local professional football stadium district to Brown County and the municipalities within Brown County.

Act 126 (SB-227) provides that the sale of tangible personal property to a construction contractor is exempt from the sales and use tax if the property becomes a part of a facility owned by a county, municipality, school district, or nonprofit organization.

Act 191 (AB-682) makes technical corrections to various tax statutes.

Act 216 (SB-440) makes technical corrections to tax administration statutes.

Act 218 (SB-503) replaces the factors that determine whether a transaction has economic substance for income and franchise tax purposes with the factors set forth in federal law. The act also prohibits DOR from imposing penalties on a taxpayer for failing to produce records and documents until after DOR has issued a summons seeking the records and documents, and the taxpayer has failed to comply with the summons.

Act 251 (SB-300) provides a sales tax exemption for music sold in a tangible form to a person in the business of providing the taxable service of jukebox playing time if the music is used exclusively for the jukebox.

Act 295 (AB-837) eliminates a requirement to report to DOR a business merger or conversion involving a corporation, limited liability company, or limited partnership that is acquired or converted and that owns Wisconsin real estate. *See also Business and Consumer Law—Other Business and Consumer Law.*

Act 312 (AB-731) repeals the authority to create ABLE accounts in this state, creates tax benefits for contributions to ABLE accounts in other states, and updates certain references to the Internal Revenue Code.

Act 317 (AB-843) requires DOR, upon application by a taxation district, to “charge back” to the underlying taxing jurisdictions property taxes that the taxation district rescinded or refunded to taxpayers, so that each taxing jurisdiction pays back its share of the taxes to the taxation district. Under former law, DOR could only order a charge-back if DOR first determined that the taxation district’s equalized value was affected by the rescinded or refunded amounts. Under the act, taxes levied on property within a tax incremental district are not eligible for a charge-back.

Act 321 (AB-575) provides that if a county or taxation district notifies DOR by August 7 of an error in DOR’s property valuation for the county or district, DOR must correct the error and submit the correct valuation to the county or district no later than August 15.

Act 322 (AB-576) eliminates the requirement under former law that a taxation district’s assessment staff participate in an assessor education program prior to DOR appointing someone to assist the staff with subsequent property tax assessments.

Act 361 (AB-629) creates an exemption from the state sales and use tax for any federal excise tax imposed on a seller of a heavy truck or trailer sold at retail.

Act 364 (AB-553) provides that occasional sales of tangible personal property or services made by nonprofit organizations are exempt from the sales tax if such sales occur on no more than 75 days during the year or the receipts from such sales do not exceed \$50,000.

Act 372 (AB-624) eliminates former law that allowed the electors of a municipality to determine, by referendum, whether the municipality may issue retail licenses for the sale of malt beverages or intoxicating liquors or whether a liquor store operated by the municipality should cease operation. The act also provides that a person who

is required to keep invoices for the sale of malt beverages or intoxicating liquors may keep them in electronic form only.

Tourism

Act 55 (SB-21) eliminates certain required tourism expenditures, including expenditures for marketing activities related to sporting activities and events and for grants to the Milwaukee Public Museum and to Native American Tourism of Wisconsin.

Transportation

DRIVING PRIVILEGES

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following relating to driving privileges:

1. Requires DOT to waive the required fees for issuance of a commercial driver's license for an applicant holding a military commercial driver's license.
2. Provides that a farm tractor may be operated on a highway for special purposes, such as parades and vehicle shows, without being registered with DOT.
3. Allows certain applicants for a probationary operator's license to apply for the license by electronic means.
4. Provides that an identification card issued to a person who is 65 years of age or older does not expire.
5. Increases the length of the licensing period for operator's licenses issued to certain persons who move to the state.
6. Changes certain fees for the issuance or renewal of operator's licenses.

Act 70 (AB-74) allows a DOT-licensed driver school to provide driver training instruction by means of the Internet in addition to classroom instruction or, if the driver school also offers behind-the-wheel instruction in Wisconsin, instead of classroom instruction.

Act 77 (AB-208) eliminates the requirement that DOT issue special restrictions cards.

Act 123 (SB-158) makes various technical changes to the statutes related to commercial motor vehicles and commercial driver's licenses.

Act 202 (SB-408) limits the liability, for damages caused by a minor's negligent operation of a motor vehicle, that may be ascribed to a parent or other adult who sponsors the minor in obtaining a driver's license.

Act 323 (AB-370) extends certain privileges related to motor vehicle registration and driver's licenses that are accorded to persons on active duty in the U.S. armed forces to persons on active duty in the U.S. foreign service.

HIGHWAYS AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE

Act 11 (AB-2) makes minor and technical changes to the laws relating to municipal highway jurisdiction.

Act 51 (AB-83) requires DOT to erect and maintain signs for the Basilica of St. Josaphat in Milwaukee County.

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following relating to highways and local assistance:

1. Implements a provision of federal law grandfathering vehicle weight limits on portions of I 41 upon its designation as an interstate highway.
2. Requires DOT to provide a grant to the Town of Seneca in Wood County for the replacement of the Young Road Bridge.
3. Decreases the general obligation bond authorization to fund the completion of the St. Croix River Crossing project.
4. Increases from \$3,768,059,300 to \$3,931,472,900 the authorized limit on revenue bonds that may be issued for major highway projects and other transportation facilities.
5. Authorizes \$350 million in highway bonding if certain conditions are satisfied and JCF approves.
6. Requires DOT to give due consideration to the establishment of bikeways and pedestrian ways in certain new highway construction and reconstruction projects.

7. Prohibits DOT from expending any state funds for community sensitive solutions.

8. Makes various changes to the specialized transportation program for providing transportation assistance to seniors and persons with disabilities.

9. Removes three project enumerations from the major highway program.

Act 105 (SB-118) eliminates the limit on town expenditures for material and equipment for construction and maintenance of highways.

Act 124 (SB-224) replaces various terms that refer to official markings upon a highway with the term “pavement marking,” which is defined as “any material or device on the surface of a highway intended to regulate, warn, or guide highway users.”

Act 130 (AB-98) requires DOT to include the location of the Wisconsin Veterans Tribute and the Citizen Soldier Monument in the village of Cadott in Chippewa County on published highway maps.

Act 213 (SB-382) requires DOT to erect and maintain directional road signs for the Iola Car Show in Marathon, Portage, and Waupaca Counties.

Act 231 (SB-390) specifies the process for local highway authorities to authorize pipelines or hoses transmitting liquid manure within or across highway rights-of-way. The act also makes changes related to right-of-way permits.

Act 236 (SB-541) allows a town to authorize another person to plant trees, shrubs, or hedges on land that adjoins a highway and that is owned by the town.

Act 270 (AB-512) directs DOT to designate and mark a specified highway route in the counties of Kenosha, Racine, Milwaukee, Waukesha, Jefferson, Dane, Iowa, Sauk, and Richland as the “Frank Lloyd Wright Trail.”

Act 347 (SB-447) directs DOT to designate and, upon receipt of sufficient contributions, mark the route of STH 87 as the “Carson Holmquist Memorial Highway.”

IMPAIRED DRIVING

Act 55 (SB-21) transfers administration of the pretrial intoxicated driver intervention grant program from DOT to DHS.

Act 183 (SB-29) allows a court, upon finding probable cause, to grant a search warrant that authorizes a law enforcement officer to search and seize anything that is the fruit of, or has been used in, the commission of a crime or of a civil violation related to operating a vehicle while intoxicated or under the influence of a restricted controlled substance.

Act 332 (AB-557) adds a heroin metabolite to the definition of a restricted controlled substance for which a person’s blood may be tested in order to determine whether the person has operated a vehicle under the influence of a restricted controlled substance.

Act 371 (SB-455) increases the penalties for fourth or subsequent drunken driving offenses and changes the definition of “injury” used for certain drunken driving offenses.

MOTOR VEHICLES

Act 15 (AB-113) makes changes relating to the operation of agricultural vehicles on highways, including:

1. Modifies the definitions of implement of husbandry (IOH) and agricultural commercial motor vehicle (AgCMV).
2. Creates weight-limit exceptions for certain AgCMVs and certain two-vehicle combinations transporting IOHs or AgCMVs.
3. Modifies certain width and length limits for IOHs and length and height limits for two-vehicle combinations transporting IOHs.
4. Modifies authorization and procedures related to “no fee” permits for IOHs, AgCMVs, and two-vehicle combinations transporting IOHs or AgCMVs.

Act 27 (AB-100) authorizes, subject to certain limitations, the equipping and operating of a motorcycle with lighting that illuminates the ground beneath the motorcycle.

Act 55 (SB-21) changes the definition of “private motor carrier” for certain purposes.

Act 60 (SB-209) requires an individual who sells a motor vehicle to another individual to report to DOT within 30 days of the sale the identity of the buyer and the vehicle identification number of the motor vehicle.

See also Local Law; Taxation; Transportation—Traffic and Parking Regulations.

Act 135 (AB-424) applies certain provisions governing interstate motor carriers to motor carriers engaged in intrastate commerce.

Act 171 (AB-580) creates vehicle weight and width exceptions for certain logging vehicles that allow their limited operation on a highway without a permit during daylight hours. The act also changes the formula for calculating reasonable compensation for parts paid by a motor vehicle manufacturer to a vehicle dealer for performing certain service work.

Act 173 (SB-274) eliminates the requirement under the motor vehicle lemon law that a consumer use a DOT form to report a vehicle’s nonconformity to the vehicle manufacturer.

Act 227 (SB-538) modifies the administrative process and requirements for DOT to designate special groups and issue special registration plates to group members but does not affect special plates for certain groups authorized by the legislature. Among the changes, the act allows DOT to use its administrative process to issue fund-raising special plates.

Act 232 (SB-448) makes changes affecting agricultural vehicles operated or transported on highways, including changes related to 1) the permissible width of IOHs and AgCMVs; 2) lighting and marking requirements for IOHs and AgCMVs; 3) “no-fee” permits issued for IOHs, AgCMVs, and vehicle combinations transporting IOHs and AgCMVs that exceed statutory length or weight limits; and 4) the registration exemption for a farm tractor.

Act 296 (SB-550) establishes special group license plates for persons interested in expressing support for the Milwaukee Bucks.

Act 328 (AB-702) establishes special group license plates for persons interested in expressing support for the Wisconsin Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Whitetails Unlimited, the Boy Scouts of America, nurses and the nursing profession, or Midwest Athletes Against Childhood Cancer.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING REGULATIONS

Act 19 (AB-27) increases the maximum speed limit on freeways and certain expressways.

Act 42 (AB-28) provides that, at a malfunctioning, unlighted traffic light, traffic must proceed as if the traffic light were a stop sign.

Act 44 (AB-122) creates an exception to special or seasonal weight limitations and class “B” highway weight limitations for vehicles of certain utilities when the vehicles are used to respond to service interruptions.

Act 55 (SB-21) adds certain cargo tank motor vehicles transporting hazardous materials to the group of vehicles that must stop before crossing an at-grade railroad crossing.

Act 60 (SB-209) does all of the following:

1. Establishes a period within which a person must appear in court or pay the forfeiture for parking violations in the city of Milwaukee.
2. Authorizes a local authority to enact an ordinance making the owner of a vehicle involved in a parking violation jointly liable with the person who violated parking restriction for the violation.
3. Authorizes a political subdivision to require that no vehicle that has been impounded or towed may be released unless the motor vehicle is appropriately registered with DOT.

See also Local Law; Taxation; Transportation—Motor Vehicles.

Act 73 (AB-322) authorizes DOT and local authorities to allow the parking of motor vehicles owned by carsharing organizations on highways without regard to posted time limits.

Act 74 (AB-205) provides that traffic facing a flashing yellow arrow traffic signal may enter the intersection without stopping after yielding to other traffic in the intersection.

Act 102 (AB-207) eliminates the requirement that an authorized emergency vehicle's warning lights be activated as a condition of the exemption from traffic restrictions related to stopping, standing, and parking.

Act 104 (AB-206) does the following:

1. Changes statutory references to pedestrian "Walk" signals with the term "pedestrian signal authorizing crossing," which is defined as a signal displaying "Walk," a walking person symbol, or any other symbol adopted by DOT.
2. Changes statutory references to pedestrian "Don't Walk" signals with the term "pedestrian signal limiting crossing," which is defined as a signal displaying "Don't Walk," an upraised hand symbol, or any other symbol adopted by DOT.

Act 125 (SB-225) clarifies the authority of a municipality to allow golf carts to be operated across certain highways.

Act 136 (SB-319) allows motor vehicles to make certain right turns on a red signal.

Act 137 (AB-426) limits the operation on a highway of vehicles carrying radiological materials.

Act 139 (AB-451) allows the operator of a vehicle with a total length of at least 40 feet or a total width of at least 10 feet to deviate from the lane of travel as necessary to approach and drive through a roundabout and requires other vehicles to yield the right-of-way.

Act 160 (AB-651) allows a person to operate a motor vehicle that has a monitoring and feedback device mounted to the front windshield for the purpose of safety or improving vehicle operation.

Act 165 (SB-249) prohibits operation of a motor vehicle upon a highway when weather conditions limit visibility to less than 500 feet unless required vehicle lamps are lighted.

Act 235 (SB-509) changes the annual beginning date from September 1 to August 1 for an exception from statutory weight limits for transporting agricultural crops.

Act 241 (SB-372) authorizes DOT and local highway officials to issue single-trip permits for the movement of certain overweight factory-built homes.

Act 308 (AB-198) prohibits a person from driving a motor vehicle while using a cellular or other wireless telephone in a construction zone, except to report an emergency.

Act 319 (AB-201) expands the requirement that an operator of a vehicle involved in an accident stop at the scene of the accident and provide certain assistance. The act also specifies that a prosecutor is not required to allege or prove that an operator knew that he or she collided with a person or a vehicle driven or attended by another person in a prosecution for a hit-and-run violation.

Act 324 (AB-616) provides that the weight limit on hauling with a truck that is registered as a collector vehicle does not apply to a trailer or load drawn by the truck.

Act 360 (AB-558) makes various changes relating to vehicle size and weight limit permits issued by DOT authorizing operation of vehicles that exceed weight and length limits on portions of I 39 and I 41.

Act 362 (SB-275) allows a taxicab to stop in a disabled parking space to load a passenger who has been issued a disabled parking card, if certain conditions are met.

OTHER TRANSPORTATION

Act 32 (AB-99) requires DOT to include on highway maps published by DOT the location of the Wisconsin Veterans Home at Chippewa Falls in the city of Chippewa Falls.

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following regarding general transportation:

1. Creates a transit safety oversight program at DOT to oversee the safety of rail fixed guideway transportation systems.

2. Requires railroad property transfers to be filed with, and maintained by, the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads instead of DFI.
3. Transfers \$21 million from the petroleum inspection fund to the transportation fund in each year of the fiscal biennium.
4. Prohibits a motor vehicle scavenger from, and places restrictions on a motor vehicle salvage dealer, acquiring a motor vehicle by a bill of sale for the purpose of junking the motor vehicle.
5. Increases the authority to contract state debt for the acquisition and improvement of railroad property from \$208,500,000 to \$238,300,000.
6. Decreases the authority to contract state debt for rail passenger route development from \$122 million to \$79 million.
7. Requires DOT to provide a grant of \$4,220,000 to the City of Kewaunee for harbor infrastructure improvements and repair and restoration of harbor facilities.
8. Provides that the prohibition on entering or remaining on railroad tracks does not apply to a person walking directly across the tracks or right-of-way of a railroad.
9. Specifies that certain state property acquired and held for purposes of preserving or improving the efficiency of freight rail service is not subject to local special assessment.
10. Requires DOT to erect and maintain four directional signs for the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in Columbia County.
11. Specifies that the fees received by DOT for sponsorship agreements under which DOT displays material at a passenger railroad station must be deposited into the transportation fund.
12. Creates a continuing appropriation from the transportation fund for the acquisition and improvement of railroad property.

Act 182 (SB-251) clarifies the length of terms served by legislative members of the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission.

Act 193 (AB-684) removes obsolete statutory references to studies on raising the legal drinking age to 21, to the contingent effective date for REAL ID implementation, and to the tax on controlled substances.

Act 318 (AB-670) prohibits the operation of a drone over a correctional institution.

Trusts and Estates; Probate

Act 224 (AB-218) creates a court procedure to bar a parent who abandoned a minor child from inheriting from the child's estate.

Act 300 (AB-695) creates the Wisconsin Digital Property Act, which is based on the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act. The Wisconsin Digital Property Act governs the disclosure of digital property to a personal representative, agent under a power of attorney, trustee, or conservator or guardian of a protected person.

Veterans and Military Affairs

Act 55 (SB-21) does the following:

1. Requires DVA to provide military funeral honors to all of the following:
 - a. Military personnel on active duty.
 - b. Former military members who served on active duty and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.
 - c. Members of the selective service.
 - d. Former members of the selected reserve and national guard who served at least one term of enlistment or period of initial obligated service and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.
 - e. Former members of the selected reserve or national guard who were discharged due to a service-connected disability.
2. Authorizes DVA to reimburse veterans for travel expenses up to \$2,000 relating to an appearance that occurred at the request of the state.

3. Authorizes DVA to make grants to cities, villages, and towns that provide services to veterans homes.
4. Requires that certain grants DVA makes to counties for the employment of county veterans service officers be made on a reimbursable basis for specific documented expenses enumerated in the act.
5. Specifies categories of individuals to whom DVA may provide military funeral honors.
6. Limits county veterans service office grants to reimbursement for costs related to information technology, transportation and services for veterans with barriers, special outreach to veterans, training and services provided by DVA, and salary and fringe benefits.
7. Repeals the tribal college tuition reimbursement program in DVA. *See also Education—Higher Education.*

Act 189 (AB-680) authorizes auto mileage reimbursement rates for members of the National Guard on state active duty that exceed the rates generally applicable for state employees.

Act 382 (AB-693) authorizes the transfer of the unclaimed cremated remains of veterans to DVA for burial in veterans cemeteries.

Act 383 (SB-418) directs DVA to administer a grant program that distributes funds to nonprofit organizations for providing financial assistance and other services to veterans and their dependents.

Act 384 (SB-575) requires DVA to design official logotypes for use by veteran-owned and disabled veteran-owned businesses in Wisconsin that contain the words “Wisconsin Veteran-Owned Business” and “Wisconsin Disabled Veteran-Owned Business.”

Act 385 (SB-419) authorizes DVA to make grants to veteran entrepreneurs, employers, and nonprofit organizations to improve employment outcomes for veterans in Wisconsin.

Vetoed Bills

Senate Bill 87 would have required DSPS to promulgate rules requiring the inspection of major renovations to one-family or two-family dwellings.

Senate Bill 360 would have made minor and technical changes to rules promulgated by DOT.

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