



2005 SENATE BILL 527

January 26, 2006 - Introduced by Senator GROTHMAN, cosponsored by Representative JESKEWITZ. Referred to Committee on Veterans, Homeland Security, Military Affairs, Small Business and Government Reform.

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 13.51 and 20.765 (2); **to amend** 13.093 (2) (a), 13.50 (6) (am),
2 20.765 (3) (e) (title) and 601.415 (1); **to repeal and recreate** 13.50 (4); and **to**
3 **create** 13.91 (1) (d) and 20.765 (3) (ec) of the statutes; **relating to:** transferring
4 the functions of the office of retirement research director to the Legislative
5 Council Staff and eliminating the Retirement Research Committee.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, the cochairpersons of the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems (JSCRS) may employ a research director and staff to perform the duties of JSCRS. JSCRS is responsible for reviewing and preparing a report on any bill or amendment that creates or modifies any retirement system for public employees in this state. In addition, JSCRS must prepare a fiscal estimate for any bill referred to it that creates or modifies any retirement system for public employees. The retirement research director and staff are also required to assist the Retirement Research Committee (RRC) in the performance of its functions.

This bill eliminates the authority of JSCRS to hire a research director and staff and also abolishes the RRC. Instead, under the bill, the Legislative Council Staff must provide legal and research staff services to JSCRS; prepare fiscal estimates on bills referred to JSCRS; facilitate communication between the legislature and participants in the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) on issues relating to public employee retirement systems; every two years, prepare a comparative study of major public employee retirement systems in the United States; and, in consultation with

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groups representing participants in the WRS, suggest to the cochairpersons of the Joint Legislative Council any feasible subjects for study or investigation of public employee retirement issues.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

1 **SECTION 1.** 13.093 (2) (a) of the statutes, as affected by 2005 Wisconsin Act 89,
2 is amended to read:

3 13.093 **(2)** (a) Any bill making an appropriation, any bill increasing or
4 decreasing existing appropriations or state or general local government fiscal
5 liability or revenues, and any bill that modifies an existing surcharge or creates a
6 new surcharge that is imposed under ch. 814, shall, before any vote is taken thereon
7 by either house of the legislature if the bill is not referred to a standing committee,
8 or before any public hearing is held before any standing committee or, if no public
9 hearing is held, before any vote is taken by the committee, incorporate a reliable
10 estimate of the anticipated change in appropriation authority or state or general
11 local government fiscal liability or revenues under the bill, including to the extent
12 possible a projection of such changes in future biennia. The estimate shall also
13 indicate whether any increased costs incurred by the state under the bill can be
14 mitigated through the use of contractual service contracts let in accordance with
15 competitive procedures. For purposes of this paragraph, a bill increasing or
16 decreasing the liability or revenues of the unemployment reserve fund is considered
17 to increase or decrease state fiscal liability or revenues. Except as otherwise
18 provided by joint rules of the legislature or this paragraph, such estimates shall be
19 made by the department or agency administering the appropriation or fund or

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1 collecting the revenue. ~~The joint survey committee on retirement systems~~ legislative
2 council staff shall prepare the fiscal estimate with respect to the provisions of any
3 bill referred to it ~~the joint survey committee on retirement systems~~ which create or
4 modify any system for, or make any provision for, the retirement of or payment of
5 pensions to public officers or employees. The director of state courts shall prepare
6 the fiscal estimate with respect to the provisions of any bill that modifies an existing
7 surcharge or creates a new surcharge that is imposed under ch. 814. When a fiscal
8 estimate is prepared after the bill has been introduced, it shall be printed and
9 distributed as are amendments.

10 **SECTION 2.** 13.50 (4) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

11 13.50 (4) STAFF. The legislative council staff shall provide staff to assist the
12 committee in the performance of its functions. The committee may contract for
13 actuarial assistance outside the classified service.

14 **SECTION 3.** 13.50 (6) (am) of the statutes, as affected by 2005 Wisconsin Act 25,
15 is amended to read:

16 13.50 (6) (am) The cochairpersons of the joint survey committee on retirement
17 systems or the cochairpersons of the joint committee on finance, with respect to any
18 bill or amendment specified in par. (a), or the presiding officer of either house of the
19 legislature, with respect to any bill or amendment specified in par. (a) that is pending
20 in his or her house, may make a determination, based on any available information,
21 that the bill or amendment may have a significant fiscal impact on the costs,
22 actuarial balance or goals of the Wisconsin Retirement System and order the
23 attachment of an independent actuarial opinion on such impact. The cochairpersons
24 or presiding officer ordering such an opinion shall direct the staff under sub. (4) to

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1 obtain the opinion. The staff shall make payment for the opinion from the
2 appropriation under s. 20.765 (2) ~~(ab)~~ (3) (ec).

3 **SECTION 4.** 13.51 of the statutes is repealed.

4 **SECTION 5.** 13.91 (1) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

5 13.91 (1) (d) Provide staff services to assist the legislature in identifying and
6 responding to issues relating to the Wisconsin Retirement System. In the
7 performance of these duties, the legislative council staff shall:

8 1. Provide legal and research staff services to the joint survey committee on
9 retirement systems under s. 13.50.

10 2. Prepare fiscal estimates on bills referred to the joint survey committee on
11 retirement systems.

12 3. Facilitate communication between the legislature and participants in the
13 Wisconsin Retirement System on issues relating to public employee retirement
14 systems.

15 4. Every 2 years, prepare a comparative study of major public employee
16 retirement systems in the United States.

17 5. In consultation with groups representing participants in the Wisconsin
18 Retirement System, suggest to the cochairpersons of the joint legislative council any
19 feasible subjects for study or investigation of public employee retirement issues with
20 respect to which committees may be appointed under s. 13.82.

21 **SECTION 6.** 20.005 (3) (schedule) of the statutes: at the appropriate place, insert
22 the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

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2005-06

2006-07

1 **20.765 Legislature**

2 (3) SERVICE AGENCIES AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

3 (ec) Joint legislative council; contrac-

4 tual studies GPR B -0- -0-

5 **SECTION 7.** 20.765 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

6 **SECTION 8.** 20.765 (3) (e) (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 20.765 (3) (e) (title) *Joint legislative council; execution of functions, conduct of*
8 *research, development of studies, and the provision of assistance to committees.*

9 **SECTION 9.** 20.765 (3) (ec) of the statutes is created to read:

10 20.765 (3) (ec) *Joint legislative council; contractual studies.* For the joint
11 legislative council, biennially, the amounts in the schedule for actuarial studies
12 contracted and approved by the joint survey committee on retirement systems and
13 for actuarial opinions ordered under s. 13.50 (6) (am).

14 **SECTION 10.** 601.415 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 601.415 (1) ~~JOINT SURVEY COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AND RETIREMENT~~
16 ~~RESEARCH COMMITTEE.~~ The commissioner or an experienced actuary in the office
17 designated by the commissioner shall serve as a member of the joint survey
18 committee on retirement systems under s. 13.50 ~~and the retirement research~~
19 ~~committee under s. 13.51.~~

20 **SECTION 11. Nonstatutory provisions.**

