



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

One East Main, Suite 301 • Madison, WI 53703 • (608) 266-3847 • Fax: (608) 267-6873

February 17, 2004

TO: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Assembly Bill 830: Funding for Engineering Instruction at the University of Wisconsin-Rock County Campus

Assembly Bill 830 was introduced on February 9, 2004, and referred to the Joint Committee on Finance.

CURRENT LAW

For 2004-05, appropriations for the UW System total approximately \$3,592.9 million, of which \$938.7 million or 26.1% is funded from state, general purpose revenues. Approximately 75.9% of the University's GPR base budget is provided under an appropriation for general program operations for University education, research and public service. The UW System has the ability to combine GPR general program operations funds with monies received from tuition and certain federal indirect cost reimbursements, creating an approximate \$1.5 billion pool of funds that it may use to run its operations.

Annually in June or July, the UW Board of Regents approves budget allocations to the 26 campuses in the System based on past allocations, targeted budget initiatives, planned enrollment changes, and planned programmatic changes. In 2003-04, UW-Platteville's total budget allocation from all fund sources is approximately \$80.8 million, of which \$49.2 million is derived from GPR and fee revenues.

Enrolled SB 44 (the 2003-05 budget as passed by the Legislature), would have provided \$378,300 GPR and \$203,700 PR with 5.0 GPR positions in 2004-05 for UW-Platteville to provide engineering instruction at UW-Rock County. However, the funding and positions related to the program were vetoed by the Governor.

SUMMARY OF BILL

Assembly Bill 830 would provide \$378,300 GPR with 5.0 FTE positions in 2004-05 to the UW System for UW-Platteville to provide engineering instruction at UW-Rock County. The \$378,300 GPR would also be supplemented by funds from tuition and fees for students enrolled in the engineering courses. The total funding and positions would provide engineering degree programs at UW-Rock County for approximately 200 students starting in 2004-05.

FISCAL EFFECT

The bill would provide an additional \$378,300 GPR to the UW System's general program operations appropriation to be allocated to UW-Platteville in order to provide engineering instruction at UW-Rock County. The \$378,300 GPR would also be supplemented by tuition and fees for students enrolled in the engineering courses.

The UW System's tuition appropriation would not be affected by the bill, since the appropriation is a continuing appropriation. This means that the UW System may expend all monies received under the tuition appropriation and it would not need to be adjusted in the bill to reflect the receipt of additional tuition revenue related to the enrollment of students in the engineering program at UW-Rock County.

Prepared by: John Stott