



## Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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November 30, 2005

TO: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Assembly Bill 87: Nonresident Tuition Remission for Spouse and Children of Eligible Veterans

Assembly Bill 87 was introduced on February 3, 2005, and referred to the Assembly Committee on Colleges and Universities. On May 31, 2005, that Committee adopted ASA 1 to AB 87 on a vote of 10 to 0, and recommended the bill, as amended, for passage on a vote of 10 to 0. The bill was referred to the Joint Committee on Finance on September 9, 2005.

### **SUMMARY OF ASA 1 TO AB 87**

The substitute amendment would create a tuition remission for campuses within the University of Wisconsin System for nonresident tuition for certain persons. A person would be eligible for this nonresident tuition remission if they are the spouse, surviving spouse, a child of any age who is incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical disability, a child under the age of 26 if in full attendance at an institution, or a child under the age of 18, of a qualifying veteran. A qualifying veteran for this purpose would be a person who entered into the U.S. armed forces, or forces incorporated in the U.S. armed forces, while the person was a Wisconsin resident and who meets either of the following conditions: (a) the armed forces member served on active duty under honorable conditions, other than active duty for training purposes, returned to live in Wisconsin within 12 months after discharge, and has continued living in Wisconsin at the time the spouse or child registers at an institution; or (b) the armed forces member died while serving on active duty and the surviving spouse or child returned to live in this state within 12 months after the armed forces member's death and has continued living in this state at the time the surviving spouse or child registers at an institution.

The substitute amendment would first apply to persons who register for classes for the semester that starts after the effective date of the bill.

## **FISCAL EFFECT**

In its fiscal estimate, the UW System indicates that it does not have data on the number of veterans who would have relatives who are not already residents of the state and who would, in turn, choose to attend an institution at the UW System. For any person, who would otherwise be considered a nonresident, the institution would lose the potential tuition revenue difference between resident and nonresident tuition, which ranges between \$10,000 and \$14,000 per year for undergraduate tuition, depending on the institution.

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