

1       **AN ACT** *to create* 15.917 (2) and 36.25 (55) of the statutes; **relating to:** establishing  
2           a nanotechnology information hub and a nanotechnology council.

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

**JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE:** This draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council’s Special Committee on Nanotechnology. It responds to the committee’s instruction to create an entity to promote the development of nanotechnology in this state by serving as a central information source on the benefits, risks, and regulations related to nanotechnology, promoting collaboration between the public and private sectors, providing technical assistance to businesses and researchers, establishing a state educational program, and otherwise promoting the safe development of nanotechnology.

This draft directs the University of Wisconsin (UW) Board of Regents to maintain a nanotechnology information hub in the UW–Extension (“the extension”), for at least 5 years, to promote the development of nanotechnology businesses in this state and gather and disseminate information about environmental health and workplace safety related to nanotechnology. The draft sets forth specific duties for the nanotechnology information hub. The hub is directed to report to the legislature on emerging nanotechnology health and safety information, and at the direction of the nanotechnology council described below, identify needed legislation relating to nanotechnology safety and development.

The draft creates a nanotechnology council to set policies and priorities for the nanotechnology information hub and to make grants for research and development related to nanotechnology.

The nanotechnology council consists of the following members (or their designees):

- The director of the state laboratory of hygiene.
- The secretary of the department of natural resources.
- The secretary of the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.
- The secretary of the department of health services.

- The secretary of the department of workforce development.
- The secretary of the department of commerce.
- The chief executive officer of the Wisconsin economic development corporation.
- The administrator of the division of emergency management in the department of military affairs.
- The president of the UW System.
- The chancellor of the UW–Madison (if the UW–Madison is not under the control of the Board of Regents of the UW System).
- The president of the technical college system.
- The president of the Wisconsin technology council board.

The council also has 5 members each of whom represents one of the following specific interests relevant to nanotechnology. These members are nominated by the governor, selected from a list of names submitted by organizations representing the relevant interest. These members are confirmed by the senate and serve staggered 3–year terms:

- Environmental interests.
- Consumer protection.
- Public health.
- Economic development.
- Technology transfer.

The nanotechnology council must meet at least twice each year and must develop and implement plans for the nanotechnology information hub to sustain its own funding.

1           **SECTION 1.** 15.917 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

2           15.917 (2) NANOTECHNOLOGY COUNCIL. (a) There is created in the University of  
3 Wisconsin System a nanotechnology council consisting of the following members:

- 4           1. The director of the state laboratory of hygiene, or his or her designee.
- 5           2. The secretary of the department of natural resources, or his or her designee.
- 6           3. The secretary of the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection, or his  
7 or her designee.

- 1           4. The secretary of the department of health services, or his or her designee.
- 2           5. The secretary of the department of workforce development, or his or her designee.
- 3           6. The secretary of the department of commerce, or his or her designee.
- 4           7. The chief executive officer of the Wisconsin economic development corporation, or  
5 his or her designee.
- 6           8. The administrator of the division of emergency management in the department of  
7 military affairs, or his or her designee.
- 8           9. The president of the University of Wisconsin System, or his or her designee.
- 9           10. The chancellor of the University of Wisconsin–Madison, or his or her designee, but  
10 only if the University of Wisconsin–Madison is not under the control of the board of regents  
11 of the University of Wisconsin system.
- 12           11. The president of the technical college system, or his or her designee.
- 13           12. The president of the Wisconsin technology council board, or his or her designee.
- 14           13. Five members nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the  
15 senate appointed to serve 3–year terms, as follows:
  - 16           a. A member representing environmental interests, selected from a list of names  
17 submitted by environmental organizations.
  - 18           b. A member representing consumer interests, selected from a list of names submitted  
19 by consumer protection organizations.
  - 20           c. A member representing the interests of public health, selected from a list of names  
21 submitted by public health organizations.
  - 22           d. A member with knowledge and expertise in economic development, selected from  
23 a list of names submitted by economic development organizations.

1 e. A member representing an organization that specializes in technology transfer,  
2 selected from a list of names submitted by organizations that specialize in technology transfer.

3 (b) All members of the nanotechnology council shall be appointed or designated no later  
4 than 90 days after the effective date of this paragraph ... [LRB inserts date].

5 **SECTION 2.** 36.25 (55) of the statutes is created to read:

6 36.25 (55) NANOTECHNOLOGY INFORMATION HUB AND NANOTECHNOLOGY COUNCIL. (a)  
7 The board shall maintain in the extension a nanotechnology information hub to promote the  
8 development of nanotechnology businesses and gather and disseminate information about  
9 environmental health and workplace safety related to nanotechnology. The board shall  
10 maintain the nanotechnology information hub for at least 5 years.

11 (b) The nanotechnology information hub shall do all of the following to foster  
12 communication and cooperation between the public and private sectors on matters related to  
13 nanotechnology:

- 14 1. Facilitate the sharing of specialized equipment and skills related to nanotechnology.
- 15 2. Arrange for periodic events to bring together people interested in nanotechnology.
- 16 3. Establish an interactive Internet platform for receiving and disseminating  
17 information on nanotechnology.
- 18 4. Monitor, compile, and disseminate emerging scientific research on nanoscale  
19 material uses, benefits, and risks.

20 (c) The nanotechnology information hub shall do all of the following to assist in the  
21 development of the nanotechnology industry in this state:

- 22 1. Help businesses to identify and access resources to help them to comply with rules  
23 and regulations related to nanotechnology, implement best practices for handling nanoscale

1 materials to protect worker safety, and otherwise minimize the risks associated with the use  
2 of nanoscale materials in products.

3 2. Inform businesses that are involved in nanotechnology or that use nanoscale  
4 materials in products about business development assistance programs.

5 3. Inform the public and businesses that are involved in nanotechnology about  
6 post-secondary education programs that prepare workers for careers related to  
7 nanotechnology.

8 4. Monitor and provide information on new and proposed state rules and federal  
9 regulations related to nanotechnology.

10 (d) The nanotechnology information hub shall do all of the following to promote  
11 environmental health, research, and workplace safety related to nanotechnology:

12 1. Inform interested parties about opportunities for federal, state, or other funding for  
13 nanotechnology research or other programs related to nanotechnology.

14 2. Inform the public about the benefits and risks of specific types of nanoscale materials  
15 and products containing nanoscale materials.

16 3. Inform emergency response personnel about the safe handling of nanoscale materials  
17 in emergency situations.

18 4. Collect information voluntarily provided by public and private sector entities in this  
19 state about the types and amounts of nanoscale materials being handled or manufactured and  
20 the locations of those activities.

21 5. Undertake other educational, public outreach, and grant activities related to  
22 nanotechnology.

1           6. Report to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature under s. 13.172 (3)  
2 on emerging nanotechnology health and safety information and, at the direction of the council,  
3 identify needed legislation relating to nanotechnology safety and development.

4           (e) The nanotechnology information hub shall seek and compete for federal, state, or  
5 other funding to support its activities and to be used by the nanotechnology council under par.  
6 (b) to make grants through the extension for research and development related to  
7 nanotechnology.

8           (f) The board shall ensure that adequate staff is assigned to provide support to the  
9 nanotechnology information hub. The board shall ensure that staff with technical experience  
10 with nanoscale materials and knowledge about the occupational and environmental human  
11 health effects of nanoscale materials are provided.

12           (g) The nanotechnology council created under s. 15.917 (2) shall meet at least twice  
13 every year and shall set policies and priorities for the nanotechnology information hub and  
14 make grants through the extension for research and development related to nanotechnology,  
15 subject to the availability of funding.

16           (h) The nanotechnology council shall develop and implement plans for the  
17 nanotechnology information hub to sustain its own funding.

18           **SECTION 3. Nonstatutory provisions.**

19           (1) Notwithstanding the length of terms specified in section 15.91 (2) (a) 13. of the  
20 statutes, as created by this act, the governor shall appoint one of the initial members of the  
21 nanotechnology council under section 15.917 (2) (a) 13. a. to e. of the statutes, as created by  
22 this act, for a term ending on July 1, 2012, 2 of the initial members of the nanotechnology  
23 council under section 15.917 (2) (a) 13. a. to e. of the statutes, as created by this act, for terms  
24 ending on July 1, 2013, and 2 of the initial members of the nanotechnology council under

1 section 15.917 (2) (a) 13. a. to e. of the statutes, as created by this act, for terms ending on July  
2 1, 2014.

3 (END)