

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD

1. WHEG-UW PROGRAM FUNDING INCREASE

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Delete \$10,719,400 in 2007-08 and \$15,719,400 in 2008-09, which would leave funding for need-based funding for UW students at the adjusted base level of \$39,280,600 annually.

Chg. to JFC	
GPR	- \$26,438,800

2. VETERAN'S TUITION REMISSION REIMBURSEMENT

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Delete the proposed partial reimbursement of foregone tuition revenues from veterans tuition remissions of \$5,013,700 in 2007-08 and \$6,562,300 in 2008-09.

Chg. to JFC	
GPR	- \$11,576,000

3. VETERAN'S TUITION REMISSION

Senate/Assembly: Modify the Joint Finance provision to specify that a veteran who has an undergraduate degree may have the portion of tuition and fees that is equal to the amount of tuition and fees for an equivalent number of undergraduate credits remitted for up to 48 credits at the graduate level or until the veteran has earned a graduate degree, whichever is lesser. In addition, modify current law such that a veteran may have tuition and fees remitted for the lesser of the following: (a) 128 undergraduate credits or eight semesters, whichever is greater; or (b) until the veteran has earned an undergraduate degree. Specify that a veteran who has received a remission for undergraduate study under this provision at any time after January 1, 2008, would not be eligible for tuition and fee remissions for graduate work and that a veteran who has received a remission for graduate study under this provision would not be eligible for tuition and fee remissions for undergraduate work.

4. SURVIVING SPOUSE TUITION REMISSION

Senate/Assembly: Specify that an unremarried surviving spouse of an eligible veteran who had a child with the veteran could receive an undergraduate tuition remission until ten years after the youngest child that the spouse had with the eligible veteran reaches, or would have reached, 18 years of age, or during the first ten years after the veteran died as under current law, whichever is later.

5. WHEG FUNDING FOR TECHNICAL COLLEGE STUDENTS

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Delete proposed increases of \$417,800 in 2007-08 and \$835,600 in 2008-09 for need based financial aid for technical college students. Annual base level funding would be \$16,712,400.

Chg. to JFC	
GPR	- \$1,253,400

6. TUITION GRANT PROGRAM

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Delete proposed increases of \$620,900 in 2007-08 and \$1,241,800 in 2008-09 for need based financial aid to private college students. Annual base level funding would be \$24,835,700.

Chg. to JFC	
GPR	- \$1,862,700

7. WISCONSIN COVENANT

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Delete provisions relating to the proposed Wisconsin covenant program. In addition, delete \$180,200 and 2.0 positions annually provided for the office of the Wisconsin Covenant under the Department of Administration.

Change to JFC Funding Positions		
GPR	- \$360,400	-2.00

8. PHYSICIAN LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Provide \$450,000 in 2008-09 in a new appropriation for a forgivable loan program to defray the cost of tuition, fees and expenses for medical students who agree to practice in a health professional shortage area in this state. To be eligible, a student must: (a) be a resident of this state and enrolled in a program leading to a doctor of medicine degree at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health or the Medical College of Wisconsin; and (b) agree to practice medicine in a health professional shortage area for at least six years. Students would be eligible for a loan of up to \$10,000 in any one fiscal year up to a total of \$50,000. Specify that loan recipients would not be required to repay the loan while he or she is enrolled.

Chg. to JFC	
GPR	\$450,000

Specify that loans provided under this program would be forgiven as follows: (a) 10% annually at the end of each of the first four full years of practice; and (b) 20% annually at the end of the fifth and sixth full years of practice. Authorize HEAB to forgive loans on a prorated basis for persons who are employed less than full-time. Specify that loan repayments would be deposited in the general fund. Require HEAB to promulgate rules to implement and administer this section.

9. VETERINARIANS OF FOOD-PRODUCING ANIMALS LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Provide \$125,000 in 2008-09 in a new appropriation for a forgivable loan program for veterinary medicine students who agree to provide veterinary medical services to food-producing animals in this state. Specify that to be eligible, a student would have to: (a) be enrolled in a curriculum leading to a doctor of veterinary medicine degree at an accredited school of veterinary medicine located in this state; and (b) agree to practice veterinary medicine in this state on a full-time basis for at least six years such that not less than 75% of the loan recipient's revenues are derived from providing veterinary medical services to food-producing animals. Provide that students would be eligible for a loan of up to \$12,500 in any one fiscal year up to a total of \$50,000. Specify that loan recipients would not be required to repay the loan while he or she is enrolled.

Chg. to JFC	
GPR	\$125,000

Specify that loans provided under this program would be forgiven as follows: (a) 10% annually at the end of each of the first four full years of practice; and (b) 20% annually at the end of the fifth and sixth full years of practice. Provide that HEAB could forgive loans on a prorated basis for persons who are employed less than full-time. Require HEAB to promulgate rules related to: (a) the verification that recipients meet the criteria established for loan forgiveness; (b) circumstances under which repayment may be deferred; and (c) an interest rate for loans or some portion thereof that are not forgiven and must be repaid. Specify that loan repayments would be deposited in the general fund.

10. MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANTS

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Delete proposed increases of \$19,000 in 2007-08 and \$38,000 in 2008-09 for the minority undergraduate retention grant program. Annual base level fund would be \$756,900.

Chg. to JFC	
GPR	-\$57,000

11. WHEG-TRIBAL COLLEGES FUNDING

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Delete proposed increases of \$10,000 in 2007-08 and \$20,000 in 2008-09 for need based financial aid for students attending tribal colleges. Annual base level funding is \$404,000. These reductions in PR moneys funded from tribal gaming revenues would result in additional revenue being retained in the general fund.

Chg. to JFC	
PR	-\$30,000
GPR-REV	30,000

12. MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN TUITION RECIPROCITY

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Modify current law governing the Minnesota-Wisconsin student reciprocity agreement to add two factors the agreement may consider, including: (a) differentials in usage; and (b) differentials in resident tuition at comparable public institutions in the two states. Current law only references educational costs incurred by the two states. Specify that the payment between the states would be made as provided in the agreement. Provide that these changes would first apply to the reimbursement paid for the 2007-08 academic year.

Under the existing agreement, Wisconsin resident students enrolled in Minnesota institutions generally pay the tuition rate charged at a comparable UW System institution. There are a number of exceptions to this general rule, for example, Wisconsin resident students attending the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities pay a surcharge equal to 25% of the difference in tuition charged at UW-Madison and the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. In addition, graduate students enrolled under the agreement pay the higher of the two states' resident tuition.

Based on information from the administration, under the proposed modifications to the reciprocity agreement, Wisconsin resident students enrolled in institutions in Minnesota would be charged Minnesota resident tuition with the state of Wisconsin paying the difference between the rate charged to such students under the proposed agreement and the rate charged under the current agreement. The amount of tuition paid by the state on behalf of a student would be shown on that student's tuition bill and titled "Wisconsin Reciprocity Supplement." At the end of each academic term, the Minnesota Office of Higher Education (MOHE) would submit an invoice to HEAB for the sum of all such supplements awarded. The amount of Wisconsin's obligation to Minnesota at the end of each academic year would be reduced by the amount of the payments made by HEAB to the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota State College and Universities following the conclusion of each academic term. As a result, the Department of Administration and HEAB have estimated that this modification to the agreement would have no fiscal impact.

This change would first affect students enrolled under the agreement during the 2008-09 academic year. Students who are enrolled during the 2007-08 academic year would continue to be charged under the current agreement as long as they are continuously enrolled.

Under current law and under this provision, any changes to the reciprocity agreement are subject to approval by the Joint Committee on Finance.

13. AUDIT OF FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS

Senate: No change to Joint Finance.

Assembly: Require the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) to conduct a performance evaluation audit of: (a) all programs administered by the Higher Educational Aids Board; and (b) all educational loan forgiveness programs administered by the Department of Commerce. Specify that the LAB would file its reports by January 15, 2009.