



STATE OF WISCONSIN

Assembly Journal

Ninety-Eighth Regular Session

10:55 A.M.

THURSDAY, August 30, 2007

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber located in the State Capitol.

Representative A. Ott in the chair.

The Assembly dispensed with the call of the roll.

AMENDMENTS OFFERED

Assembly amendment 1 to **Assembly Bill 492** offered by Representative Hines.

INTRODUCTION AND REFERENCE OF PROPOSALS

Read first time and referred:

Assembly Joint Resolution 64

Relating to: an advisory referendum on the question of whether the United States should withdraw its troops from Iraq.

By Representatives Travis, Black, Berceau, Pocan, Pope-Roberts, Sheridan, Grigsby, Boyle, Fields and Sinicki; cosponsored by Senator Coggs.

To committee on **Elections and Constitutional Law**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The committee on **State Affairs** reports and recommends:

Assembly Bill 246

Relating to: identification for purposes related to the purchase of alcohol beverages.

Passage:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives Van Roy, Kleefisch, Musser, Petrowski, Newcomer, Tauchen, Young, Benedict and Sinicki.

Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

Assembly Bill 305

Relating to: control of final disposition of certain human remains and providing a penalty.

Assembly Amendment 2 adoption:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives Van Roy, Kleefisch, Musser, Petrowski, Newcomer, Tauchen, Young, Benedict and Sinicki.

Noes: 0.

Passage as amended:

Ayes: 9 – Representatives Van Roy, Kleefisch, Musser, Petrowski, Newcomer, Tauchen, Young, Benedict and Sinicki.

Noes: 0.

To committee on **Rules**.

KARL VAN ROY
Chairperson
Committee on State Affairs

AGENCY REPORTS

State of Wisconsin
Legislative Audit Bureau
Madison

August 23, 2007

To the Honorable, the Assembly:

As required by s. [13.94\(1\)\(dg\)](#), Wis. Stats., we have completed a limited-scope review of the dental services grant provided by the Department of Health and Family Services to the Marquette University School of Dentistry for fiscal year (FY) 2004-05 and FY 2005-06. Under this grant program, Marquette University received general purpose revenue funding of \$2.8 million in each year to provide dental services to low income individuals at clinics in various locations throughout Wisconsin.

Overall, we found Marquette University has developed and implemented adequate procedures to ensure compliance with statutory and grant requirements. In addition, we found state funds were expended only for services normally considered a part of comprehensive general dental treatments, as required by statute.

We note that dental services expenses exceeded revenues by \$1.6 million in FY 2004-05, and \$1.8 million in FY 2005-06. Marquette University staff note that clinic revenues, which

include the State's grant as well as patient fees and other revenues, are not intended to cover all costs and that the clinics also depend upon financial support from other sources, such as tuition. In addition, we note that at the end of calendar year 2006, a federal Medicare waiver demonstration project ended and two clinics in the City of Milwaukee were closed. In FY 2006-07, the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee authorized a one-time \$1.0 million grant for Marquette University to open two new clinics in Milwaukee.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by Marquette University staff during our review.

Sincerely,
JANICE MUELLER
State Auditor

State of Wisconsin
Legislative Audit Bureau
Madison

August 23, 2007

To the Honorable, the Assembly:

As required by s. 39.46, Wis. Stats., we have completed a limited-scope review of the dental education contract between the State of Wisconsin and the Marquette University School of Dentistry for fiscal year (FY) 2004-05 and FY 2005-06. During this period, the State provided \$8,753 each to 142 Wisconsin residents enrolled in the undergraduate dental education program in FY 2004-05, and 159 Wisconsin residents in FY 2005-06, for a total of nearly \$2.6 million during the two-year period.

Overall, we found that Marquette University was in compliance with its contract with the State and with requirements set forth in s. 39.46, Wis. Stats. During our review, we found the students for whom Marquette University claimed tuition aid were certified by the Higher Educational Aids Board as Wisconsin residents and were eligible to receive this state aid. In addition, we found that Marquette University spent state funds only for the undergraduate dental school program, gave preference in admissions to Wisconsin residents, and promoted minority enrollment.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by Marquette University staff during our review.

Sincerely,
JANICE MUELLER
State Auditor

State of Wisconsin
Legislative Audit Bureau
Madison

August 29, 2007

To the Honorable, the Assembly:

As requested by the Public Service Commission (PSC), we have completed a financial audit of the Universal Service

Fund, which was established to ensure that all state residents receive essential telecommunications services and have access to advanced telecommunications capabilities. It is funded primarily through assessments on telecommunications providers, which totaled \$30.2 million in fiscal year (FY) 2005-06. Our audit report contains our unqualified opinion on the Universal Service Fund's financial statements for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2006 and 2005.

The largest program supported by the Universal Service Fund is the Educational Telecommunications Access Program, which is administered by the Department of Administration. This program subsidizes data lines and video links for eligible educational institutions. In FY 2005-06, expenditures for these activities totaled \$11.6 million, or 50.4 percent of the Universal Service Fund's total expenditures. In September 2006, the State completed the conversion to a new statewide data and video network for program participants, as well as for state government and other public sector users.

Eight of the 13 programs supported by the Universal Service Fund are operated by the PSC. The Legislature limits the amount the PSC can annually assess telecommunications providers for the PSC-operated programs to \$6.0 million. The limit and growth in expenditures from FY 2001-02 through FY 2004-05 have presented budgetary challenges for these programs. In response, the PSC has reduced benefits and limited expenditures to better match its spending authority.

During FY 2005-06, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$8.8 million for several of the programs funded through the Universal Service Fund, which increased the fund balance to \$15.8 million as of June 30, 2006. Most significantly, funding received for the Educational Telecommunications Access Program exceeded expenditures by \$6.6 million. We include a recommendation that the PSC work more closely with the Department of Administration and the University of Wisconsin System in establishing annual assessment levels.

We appreciate the courtesy and cooperation extended to us by staff at the PSC; the departments of Administration and Public Instruction; the University of Wisconsin System; and the Universal Service Fund's administrator, Wipfli LLP.

Respectfully submitted,
JANICE MUELLER
State Auditor

ADJOURNMENT

Representative Nygren moved that the Assembly stand adjourned until 10:00 A.M. on Tuesday, September 4.

The question was: Shall the Assembly stand adjourned?

Motion carried.

The Assembly stood adjourned.

10:56 A.M.