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## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

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**2005 Assembly Bill 53**

**Assembly Substitute  
Amendment 1**

*Memo published:* March 31, 2005

*Contact:* Russ Whitesel, Senior Staff Attorney (266-0922)

Assembly Bill 53, as originally drafted, would have provided \$378,300 in general purpose revenue (GPR) to add 5.0 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions for the University of Wisconsin (UW) System in the 2005-06 fiscal year to allow UW-Platteville to provide engineering instruction at the UW-Rock County campus.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 provides \$378,300 in GPR in *each* fiscal year of the 2005-07 biennium to add 5.0 FTE positions for the UW System to allow for UW-Platteville to provide engineering instruction at the UW-Rock County campus. The Act will take effect on the day after publication or on the day after publication of the 2005-07 Biennial Budget Act, whichever is later.

According to the Legislative Fiscal Bureau, under Assembly Bill 100 (the 2005-07 Budget Bill), the Governor has proposed authorizing \$582,000 GPR to add 5.0 FTE positions to the UW System *starting* in 2006-07 for UW-Platteville to provide engineering instruction at the UW-Rock County campus. However, the Governor's proposal would fully fund the engineering program with GPR funds rather than offset a portion of the engineering program's estimated costs through new tuition revenue from the expanded enrollment in the new program.

Under the substitute amendment, the \$378,300 GPR would be *supplemented* by tuition and fees for students enrolled in the engineering courses to provide full funding of approximately \$582,000 for the program. It is estimated that the total funding of the positions would provide engineering degree programs at UW-Rock County for approximately 200 students in 2005-06.

### Legislative History

Assembly Bill 53 was introduced on January 27, 2005 by Representative Towns and others, cosponsored by Senator Robson. The bill was referred to the Joint Committee on Finance on the same day. On February 8, 2005, Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was offered by Representatives Towns and Ward. The Joint Finance Committee on March 29, 2005, in Executive Session, recommended the bill for passage on a vote of Ayes, 8; Noes, 7.

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