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# Wisconsin Legislative Council

## AMENDMENT MEMO

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**2021 Senate Bill 79**

**Senate Amendment 1**

### 2021 SENATE BILL 79

Under current law, the Board of Regents (“the Board”) is required to develop and implement a plan that requires each University of Wisconsin (UW) System institution to monitor teaching workloads and to report teaching hours to the UW System administration. Under the plan, faculty and instructional academic staff may be rewarded for teaching more than a standard load. The Board is required to publish data on these teaching hours to an accountability dashboard on the UW System’s website. Additionally, both the Board and the chancellor of UW-Madison must include data on these hours in an annual accountability report to the Governor and the Legislature.

Current law also requires the Board to establish and maintain employment relations policies and practices, as well as a personnel system, for all system employees except those assigned to UW-Madison. The chancellor of UW-Madison is similarly required to establish policies, practices, and a personnel system for UW-Madison. The systems, policies, and practices for UW-Madison and the other UW System institutions are required to be consistent with the plan to monitor teaching workloads and reward faculty and staff for teaching more than the standard load.

2021 Senate Bill 79 requires that that Board also develop and implement a plan for monitoring extension and outreach hours for state specialists. The bill requires data on these hours to be published to the aforementioned accountability dashboard and to be included in the aforementioned accountability report. Under the bill, a state specialist is a faculty or academic staff member who provides extension services in applied agricultural research at UW-Platteville, UW-River Falls, UW-Stevens Point, or the UW-Madison College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

The bill directs the Board to revise personnel systems and employment relations policies and practices for both UW-Madison and the other UW System institutions. These revisions are to provide for consistency with the Board’s plan to monitor extension and outreach hours.

While current law generally requires the Joint Committee on Employment Relations to approve revisions to the personnel systems for UW-Madison and the other UW System institutions, the bill waives this requirement for the revisions required under the bill.

### SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 provides that both the Board and the chancellor of UW-Madison are required to revise personnel systems and employment relations policies and practices. This amendment preserves a division of duties under current law regarding the systems, policies, and practices for UW-Madison and the other UW System institutions.

## **BILL HISTORY**

Senator Marklein offered Senate Amendment 1 on March 11, 2021. On March 16, 2021, the Senate voted to adopt Senate Amendment 1 and pass the bill, as amended, on voice votes.

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