



1995 SENATE BILL 407

November 7, 1995 – Introduced by Senators BURKE and FARROW, cosponsored by Representatives BOCK, BOYLE and HUBER. Referred to Committee on Education and Financial Institutions.

1 **AN ACT to create** 25.186 of the statutes; **relating to:** compilation of information
2 and affirmative action by the investment board concerning corporations doing
3 business in Northern Ireland.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill requires the state investment board to annually compile a list of corporations that, directly or through a subsidiary, do business in Northern Ireland and in whose stocks or obligations the board has invested. The board is then directed to determine whether each corporation on the list has taken affirmative action to eliminate religious or ethnic discrimination in Northern Ireland. In making that determination, the board is directed to consider whether a corporation has, during the year for which the report is prepared, taken substantial action designed toward the achievement of 9 specific goals, including achieving balanced representation of individuals from underrepresented religious groups at all levels of its workforce.

The bill also directs the investment board, whenever feasible, to sponsor, cosponsor or support shareholder resolutions designed to encourage corporations in whose stocks or obligations the board has invested to pursue a policy of affirmative action in Northern Ireland, consistent with those goals.

No such requirements exist currently.

For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** 25.186 of the statutes is created to read:

1 **25.186 Investments in corporations doing business in Northern**
2 **Ireland. (1) COMPILATION OF INFORMATION.** No later than January 1 annually, the
3 investment board shall do all of the following:

4 (a) Compile a list of corporations that, directly or through a subsidiary, do
5 business in Northern Ireland and in whose stocks or obligations the board has
6 invested.

7 (b) Determine whether each corporation identified under par. (a) has, during
8 the year preceding that January 1, taken affirmative action to eliminate religious or
9 ethnic discrimination in Northern Ireland.

10 **(2) DETERMINATION.** In making the determination required by sub. (1) (b), the
11 investment board shall consider whether a corporation has, during the period for
12 which the report is prepared under sub. (1) (b), taken substantial action designed to
13 lead toward the achievement of the following goals:

14 (a) Achieving balanced representation of individuals from underrepresented
15 religious groups at all levels in its workforce.

16 (b) Assuring security for employes who are members of minority religious
17 groups, both at the workplace and while traveling to and from work.

18 (c) Creating a climate in the workplace free from sectarian or political
19 provocation.

20 (d) Publicly advertising all job openings and making special recruiting efforts
21 to attract applicants from underrepresented religious groups.

22 (e) Maintaining layoff, recall and termination procedures that do not favor
23 workers who are members of particular religious groups.

