



# Summary of the Wisconsin Legislative Session 2019–2020



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Cover Image:

“Legislation” represents one of four mosaics in the pendentives circling the base of the Rotunda Dome at the Capitol in Madison, WI. Inspired by traditional decorative treatments for domed buildings from sixth century Byzantine architecture, the artist Kenyon Cox designed and installed each panel during the summer of 1914.

Utilizing over 400,000 pieces of glass per panel, each pendentive mosaic depicts a seated colossal figure who portrays one of the three branches of government—the legislative, the executive, and the judicial. The fourth mosaic represents “Liberty,” the foundation of democracy.

In his own words, Cox says, “Legislation is represented as a powerful old man with a long beard, reminiscent of the accepted type of Moses, the first lawgiver. He has a yellow gown and blue mantle, his left hand rests upon the table of law, his right hand holds the stylus with which he has been writing. His seat is supported by a sphynx symbol of wisdom.”

Summary of the Wisconsin Legislative Session  
2019–2020

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## Abbreviations

AB	Assembly Bill
DATCP	Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
DCF	Department of Children and Families
DETF	Department of Employee Trust Funds
DFI	Department of Financial Institutions
DHS	Department of Health Services
DMA	Department of Military Affairs
DNR	Department of Natural Resources
DOA	Department of Administration
DOC	Department of Corrections
DOJ	Department of Justice
DOR	Department of Revenue
DOT	Department of Transportation
DPI	Department of Public Instruction
DSPS	Department of Safety and Professional Services
DVA	Department of Veterans Affairs
DWD	Department of Workforce Development
HEAB	Higher Educational Aids Board
JCF	Joint Committee on Finance
OCI	Office of the Commissioner of Insurance
PSC	Public Service Commission
SB	Senate Bill
UW	University of Wisconsin
WEDC	Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation
WHEDA	Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority
WRS	Wisconsin Retirement System
WTCS	Wisconsin Technical College System

## Agriculture

**Act 9** ([AB-56](#)) does the following:

1. Allows DATCP to request a supplemental appropriation to fund mental health assistance for farmers and farm families.
2. Increases, from \$250,000 to \$750,000, the amount that DATCP may provide to producer-led groups for nonpoint source water pollution abatement activities.
3. Authorizes \$7,000,000 in bonding for cost-sharing grants under the soil and water resource management program.

**Act 51** ([SB-106](#)) establishes limits on local health departments for prelicensing inspections and prelicensing inspection fees involving micro markets.

**Act 62** ([SB-219](#)) makes changes to the agricultural development loan guarantee program administered by WHEDA, including the following:

1. Provides that loan guarantees generally may not exceed ten years for land and buildings, five years for inventory, equipment, and machinery, and two years for working capital and marketing expenses.
2. Allocates \$3,000,000 for a pilot program under which WHEDA may guarantee collection of the lesser of \$750,000 or 25 percent of the disbursed principal of an eligible loan.

**Act 68** ([SB-188](#)) makes changes to the state hemp program so that it is consistent with the 2018 federal farm bill, including removing hemp from the list of Schedule I controlled substances; prohibiting a person convicted of a drug-related felony from producing hemp for ten years, with exceptions; and addressing negligent violations of the hemp program through enforcement of a compliance plan. The act also makes other changes, including changing the amount of THC in a driver's blood for OWI purposes from "any detectable amount" to one or more nanograms per milliliter; protecting a person from prosecution if he or she purchases a hemp product that is not more than 0.7 percent over the permissible THC limit for hemp; and prohibiting a person from mislabeling, making false claims, or knowingly selling a mislabeled hemp product.

**Act 152** ([SB-684](#)) allows a person who is licensed by an agricultural agency of another state to take weights and samples of milk in bulk tanks.

**Act 153** ([SB-685](#)) prohibits DATCP from promulgating a rule that limits the duration that a signed, sworn, and notarized affidavit from a milk producer may be used to substantiate a claim that a dairy product does not contain synthetic bovine growth hormone.

**Act 178** ([SB-737](#)) requires DATCP to create and administer a voluntary individual farm animal identification program, under which DATCP provides a list of authorized RFID (radio frequency identification) tag manufacturers and an agent collects and maintains individual animal identification records.

## Beverages

**Act 6** ([SB-83](#)) removes the four-liter limit on distilled spirits sold for off-premises consumption by "Class B" licensed retailers (typically bars and restaurants) in municipalities that, by ordinance, allow "Class B" retailers to sell distilled spirits for off-premises consumption.

**Act 166** ([SB-203](#)) allows an official of a municipality, instead of its governing body, to issue bartender's licenses.

## Buildings and Safety

**Act 38** ([AB-117](#)) prohibits a city, village, town, or county from requiring an applicant for a building permit for a one- or two-family dwelling to submit the application in both paper and electronic forms. The act also specifies different forms that are acceptable if a city, village, town, or county requires submission in paper form.

**Act 91** ([AB-445](#)) creates an exception to the Commercial Building Code that allows the owner of a church constructed before January 1, 1919, to install and operate a stairway chair lift in the church if there is at least one other stairway or fire escape that provides a safe exit from each floor connected by the stairway. Under the act, DSPS or the chief of the local fire

department may require other measures determined to be necessary for safety.

**Act 130 (AB-435)** requires DSPS to revise the Commercial Building Code, the Electrical Wiring Code, and the Plumbing Code to establish separate standards for recreational and educational camps that take into account the uses, including seasonal use, that are unique to recreational and educational camps.

## Children

**Act 8 (AB-188)** does all of the following:

1. Delays the closure of Lincoln Hills and Copper Lakes Schools and the opening of new state juvenile correctional facilities and county-run secured residential care centers for children and youth from January 1, 2021, to July 1, 2021.
2. Allows DOC to transfer juveniles between facilities until the new facilities are open.
3. Allows DOC to grant variances to administrative rules for the design and construction of secured residential care centers for children and youth.
4. Makes technical changes and extends three deadlines by three months for the grant program to fund county-run secured residential care centers for children and youth.
5. Clarifies when the county or DOC is responsible for supervision and placement of juveniles in secured custody.

**Act 9 (AB-56)** does the following:

1. Allows foster care payments to be made on behalf of a child who is placed in a qualifying residential family-based treatment facility with a parent.
2. Allocates funding to programs and subsidies under Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.
3. Modifies the per-person daily rates that are assessed on counties for state-provided juvenile correctional services.
4. Requires background checks on all workers in a congregate care facility.
5. Reduces by \$9,200,000 in the 2019–21 biennium funding for Wisconsin Works contracts, which fund

subsidized employment placements, work support services, education and training, and agency administration.

6. Increases the maximum reimbursement rate that DCF may set for Level I or Level II certified family child care providers from no more than 75 percent of the rate set for licensed child care to no more than 90 percent of that rate.

7. Authorizes DCF to award child care–related grants that target a geographic area with high-poverty levels in Milwaukee.

8. Beginning on January 1, 2020, increases by 4 percent the monthly age-related basic maintenance rates paid to foster parents and the monthly kinship care payments made to relatives who provide care for children.

9. Eliminates the Read to Lead Development Council and the read to lead development fund.

**Act 22 (AB-52)** provides that a minor who is 17 and is an unaccompanied youth is presumed to be competent to contract for admission to a temporary place of lodging for individuals or families (shelter facility) or transitional living program under certain circumstances, and exempts this type of contract from the defense of infancy.

**Act 92 (AB-564)** allows DCF to request an appropriation transfer in order to fund the resulting additional adoption assistance payments and makes the following changes related to eligibility for adoption assistance under DCF rules:

1. Allows a child who is age seven or older to be eligible for adoption assistance if age is the only factor in determining eligibility.
2. Makes eligible for adoption assistance a child who is a member of a sibling group of two or more children who must be placed together.

**Act 109 (AB-47)** creates a procedure and standards for the appointment of a guardian of a minor person. Under the act, any interested party, including a child age 12 or older, may file an action to establish a private guardianship of a child. The act creates four distinct types of guardianships:

1. A full guardianship, requiring a finding that the



child's parents are unfit, unwilling, or unable to provide for the care, custody, and control of the child or other compelling facts and circumstances demonstrate that a full guardianship is necessary.

2. A limited guardianship, requiring a finding that the child's parents need assistance in providing for the care, custody, and control of the child.

3. A temporary guardianship, requiring a finding that the child's situation, including the inability of the child's parents to provide for the care, custody, and control of the child for a temporary period, requires the appointment of a temporary guardian.

4. An emergency guardianship, requiring a finding that the child's welfare requires the immediate appointment of an emergency guardian.

Temporary and emergency guardianships are time-limited. In each type of guardianship appointment, the parent retains all rights and duties that are not specifically assigned to the guardian.

**Act 134 (AB-502)** provides that a county board of supervisors may transfer the authority to represent the interest of the public in proceedings under the Children's Code if the board notifies DOA of the change no later than January 1 of the calendar year during which the change takes effect.

## Corrections

**Act 123 (AB-30)** creates the Council on Offender Employment, which may issue a certificate of qualification for employment to a person who has served a sentence for a nonviolent crime. A certificate of qualification for employment is a certificate that provides the person with relief from certain penalties, ineligibility, disability, or disadvantage that is related to employment or occupational licensing or certification that is a result of the person's criminal record.

## Courts and Civil Actions

**Act 29 (AB-58)** expands the manner in which a person may serve a notice of claim against a state officer, employee, or agent. Under former law, a person was

required to serve the attorney general at his or her office in the capitol by certified mail. The act provides that the attorney general may be served by personal service or by certified mail at the attorney general's office either in the capitol or at DOJ.

**Act 30 (AB-59)** allows certain pleadings and other papers to be served by e-mail to a designated e-mail address if an attorney or a party has consented in writing to accept service by e-mail. The act requires that the e-mail information provided to the court be kept current and provides that e-mail service is complete upon transmission unless the sender receives an indication that the message was not delivered.

**Act 32 (AB-112)** allows the *Washington Island Observer* to publish legal notices and be eligible to receive compensation for publication of these notices although the *Observer* is not published weekly. The act also provides that a copy of a legal notice required to accompany an affidavit of printing that serves as evidence of publication of a legal notice may be in either hard copy or electronic format.

**Act 70 (SB-214)** makes minor and technical changes to the laws relating to municipal ordinance enforcement and municipal court procedures.

**Act 103 (AB-611)** establishes lien rights for certain people for reasonable charges related to repairing, storing, servicing, or furnishing supplies or accessories for aircraft or aircraft engines, including for labor, storage, parts, fuel, and the use of tools, machinery, and equipment. The act also establishes requirements for asserting these lien rights.

**Act 184 (AB-470)** creates 12 additional circuit court branches that may be allocated by the director of state courts over the course of three years.

## COVID-19 Pandemic

**Act 185 (AB-1038)** is the response to the public health emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic that was declared on March 12, 2020, by Executive Order 72. The following summaries for Act 185 use the term "COVID-19 public health emergency" to refer to

that public health emergency and are organized by subheadings.

## Agriculture

The act suspends the requirement that an agricultural society, board, or association hold a fair each year to remain eligible in the next year for local fair aid from DATCP if the local fair is not held in 2020 because of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

## Campaign Finance

The act allows state or local officeholders who are candidates for national, state, or local office to use public funds to pay for an unlimited number of communications related to the COVID-19 public health emergency during the public health emergency and for 30 days afterwards. Currently, such officeholders may not use public funds to pay for more than 49 pieces of substantially identical material during campaign season.

## Children

The act credits federal Child Care and Development Fund block grant funds received by the state under the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020 to federal block grant appropriations and subjects the expenditure of those funds to passive review by JCF.

## Corrections

The act provides that, for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency, if an inmate of a correctional facility who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 dies, the coroner or medical examiner may perform a limited examination of the deceased inmate instead of a full autopsy, which may include an external examination of the body, a review of the inmate's medical records, or a review of the inmate's radiographs.

## Courts and Procedure

The act establishes immunity from civil liability for the death of or injury to an individual caused by

emergency medical supplies for a manufacturer, distributor, or seller of emergency medical supplies who donates or sells the supplies to a charitable organization or governmental unit to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency. A charitable organization that distributes these emergency medical supplies is also immune. The act defines "emergency medical supplies" to mean any medical equipment or supplies necessary to limit the spread of, or provide treatment for, a disease associated with the COVID-19 public health emergency.

## Economic Development

The act requires WEDC to submit to the governor and the legislature a plan for providing support to major industries in Wisconsin that have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

## Employment

The act does the following related to employment law:

1. Suspends the one-week waiting period that applies when receiving unemployment insurance benefits. The suspension applies to UI public benefit years beginning after March 12, 2020, and before February 7, 2021.
2. Provides that, for the purposes of worker's compensation, there is a rebuttable presumption that an injury caused to certain first responders by a COVID-19 diagnosis or positive test between the declaration of the COVID-19 public health emergency on March 12, 2020, and 30 days after its termination is caused by the individual's employment.
3. Provides that UI benefits for weeks occurring after March 12, 2020, and before December 31, 2020, will not be charged to individual employers but instead to certain other accounts. The act also requires the secretary of workforce development to seek advances (loans) to the state's UI trust fund from the federal government in order to keep UI contribution (tax) rates at their current levels.
4. Makes changes to the laws governing work-share plans, which are arrangements for reduced hours for a group of employees in lieu of layoffs while the

employees receive partial UI benefits to compensate them for the reduction. The changes eliminate or reduce certain requirements governing work-share plans until December 31, 2020; allow plans during that time to go into effect more quickly; and require DWD to accept on-line plan applications and assist employers in submitting applications and developing plans.

5. During the COVID-19 public health emergency, eliminates the requirements that an employer provide an employee's personnel record within seven working days after receiving a request, that the inspection of the employee's records occur at a location near the employee's place of employment, and that the inspection occur during normal working hours.

The act does all the following related to public employment law:

1. Provides that, during the COVID-19 public health emergency, a state employee does not waive his or her right to appeal an adverse employment decision if the employee does not timely file the complaint.
2. Provides that, during the COVID-19 public health emergency, an appointing authority is not required to hold an in-person meeting with a state employee who has filed an employment grievance.
3. Allows a state employee to use annual leave during the COVID-19 public health emergency, even if the employee has not completed the first six months of the employee's probationary period. However, if the employee terminates employment before earning the leave used, the act allows the employer to deduct from the employee's final pay the cost of that leave.
4. Allows the director of the Bureau of Merit Recruitment and Selection in the Division of Personnel Management in DOA to adjust the number of hours a state employee in a limited term appointment may work during the COVID-19 public health emergency.
5. Allows an individual receiving an annuity from the WRS who is hired to a critical position during the COVID-19 public health emergency by a public employer to not suspend his or her annuity for the duration of the public health emergency. The act also allows an individual receiving an annuity from the WRS to return to work for a public employer if at least

15 days, rather than the 75 days otherwise required, have elapsed since the individual retired from public employment.

6. For the purposes of group health insurance offered by the Group Insurance Board, an employee who returns from a leave of absence and who has not resumed active duty for at least 30 consecutive calendar days as of March 12, 2020, is deemed to have ended or interrupted the leave of absence on that date and may receive the employer contribution towards the premium for the insurance.

## Health

The act makes the following changes to health law:

1. Creates an exception to the law regarding cremation permits, providing that for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency, if a physician, coroner, or medical examiner signs a death certificate and lists COVID-19 as the cause of death, a coroner or medical examiner must (a) issue a cremation permit without viewing the corpse as otherwise would be required and (b) issue the permit within 48 hours after the death.
2. Prohibits DHS from requiring an instructional program for nurse aides to exceed the federal required minimum total training hours or minimum hours of supervised practical training.
3. During the COVID-19 public health emergency declared by the governor or the federal government, requires the entity that is under contract to collect and disseminate hospital data to prepare and publish a public health emergency dashboard.
4. Provides immunity from civil liability for certain health care professionals and providers for actions and omissions during the COVID-19 public health emergency, and the 60 days following its termination, if those actions and omissions do not involve reckless or wanton conduct or intentional misconduct and are for services provided in good faith or are substantially consistent with guidance from governmental officials or agencies.
5. During the COVID-19 public health emergency, and the 60 days following its termination, suspends credential renewal requirements for ambulance service

providers, emergency medical services providers, and emergency medical responders.

6. Requires DHS to include coverage through the SeniorCare program of vaccinations recommended for adults. The act requires DHS to provide payments to health care providers that administer the vaccinations. DHS must deduct amounts available from other sources from the amount DHS provides.

## Housing

The act allows households to submit to DOA applications for heating assistance any time in 2020 instead of only before May 16 and after September 30.

## Insurance

The act makes the following changes to insurance law:

1. During the COVID-19 public health emergency, and the 60 days after its termination, limits the amount an insured pays out-of-pocket for a service or supply provided by a provider that is out of the insured's health insurance network to the amount that the insured would pay if it was provided by a provider in the network; requires a certain amount of reimbursement of the out-of-network provider by the insurance plan; and requires an out-of-network provider to accept a certain amount as payment in full.
2. Prohibits certain insurance coverage discrimination based on a COVID-19 diagnosis, such as establishing eligibility rules, canceling coverage, setting rates, or refusing to honor premium grace periods.
3. Requires, before March 13, 2021, health insurance policies and self-insured governmental health plans to cover COVID-19 testing without copayment or coinsurance.
4. Prohibits health insurance policies, self-insured governmental health plans, and pharmacy benefit managers from requiring prior authorization for early prescription refills and imposing a limit on prescription drug quantities that are no more than 90-day supplies during the COVID public health emergency.
5. Specifies that during the COVID-19 public health emergency a physician or nurse anesthetist who is

temporarily authorized to practice in Wisconsin may fulfill the financial responsibility requirement by filing a certificate of insurance for a policy from a certain jurisdiction and may elect to be covered by Wisconsin's health care liability laws.

## Legislature

The act does the following relating to the legislature:

1. Permits JCF to transfer from sum-sufficient appropriations an amount up to \$75,000,000 to other appropriations for expenditures related to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
2. Requires the Legislative Audit Bureau to review programs affected by Act 185 and expenditures authorized by Act 185 and to quarterly report the results of the review to the legislature and the Joint Legislative Audit Committee

## Local Government

The act allows a municipal board of review to adjourn until a later date, without convening first, to consider property tax objections and allows a town to postpone its annual meeting so that it does not occur during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

## Medical Assistance

The act makes the following changes to the Medical Assistance program during the COVID-19 public health emergency:

1. Allows DHS to suspend compliance with current premium and health risk assessment requirements for childless adults, delay implementation of a community engagement requirement, and maintain continuous enrollment in order to qualify for an enhanced federal medical assistance percentage under federal law.
2. Suspends certain legislative oversight over the submission of requests for a waiver of federal law submitted by DHS during the COVID-19 public health emergency declared by the federal secretary of health and human services if the waiver request is any of the items specified in Act 185.
3. Requires DHS to develop a pay-for-performance

system in the Medical Assistance program to incentivize participation in health information data sharing.

## Occupational Regulation

The act does all of the following during the COVID-19 public health emergency:

1. Authorizes certain health care providers holding valid, unexpired licenses or certificates granted by other states to practice within the scope of their credentials.
2. Authorizes persons who previously held a health care provider credential to practice within the scope of the person's previously held credential.
3. Creates a special provision governing a pharmacist's authority to extend prescription orders during the COVID-19 public health emergency and the 30 days after its conclusion. The provision exempts extensions during that period from certain requirements that otherwise apply to emergency extensions, and allows a pharmacist to dispense up to a 30-day supply using that authority during that period.
4. Authorizes DSPS to waive fees for applications for an initial credential and renewal of a credential for physicians, physician assistants, nurses, dentists, pharmacists, psychologists, and certain behavioral health providers.
5. Exempts certain health care workers from licensure renewal requirements during the period beginning March 12, 2020, and ending 60 days after the conclusion of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

## Primary and Secondary Education

The act does all of the following relating to primary and secondary education:

1. In the 2019–20 school year, eliminates requirements to administer the Wisconsin Student Assessment System examinations to pupils in the fourth, eighth, ninth, tenth, and eleventh grades. These examinations include the Forward Exam, ACT ASPIRE, the ACT, and Dynamic Learning Maps.
2. In the 2019–20 school year, eliminates requirements to administer a third grade standardized reading test.
3. In the 2019–20 school year, prohibits the use of

pupil performance on statewide assessments in the educator effectiveness system.

4. In the 2020–21 school year, prohibits DPI from publishing a school and school district accountability report for the 2019–20 school year.

5. During the period beginning on the first day of the COVID-19 public health emergency and ending on October 31, 2020, gives DPI the authority to do all of the following:

a. Waive education statutes and administrative rules related to a parental choice program or the SNSP; private schools participating in a parental choice program or the SNSP; or independent charter schools.

b. Establish alternate deadlines in education statutes or administrative rules if the original deadline occurs during, or is related to a date during, that same period of time.

6. Authorizes DPI to grant a request from a private school to waive required hours of instruction in the 2019–20 school year.

7. Extends application deadlines to attend a private school in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program in the 2020–21 school year.

8. Extends application deadlines to attend a public school in a nonresident school district under the full-time open enrollment program in the 2020–21 school year.

9. Requires school boards to report to DPI information related to school closures during the public health emergency, including information related to virtual instruction, expenditure reductions, and staff layoffs. The act requires DPI to submit this information to the legislature.

10. Requires DPI to post best practices for transitioning back to in-person instruction on DPI's Internet site by June 30, 2020.

## Public Utilities

The act authorizes the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands to make loans to municipal public utilities to ensure that those utilities can maintain liquidity during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

## State Government

The act does the following relating to state government:

1. Allows a state entity to waive a requirement that an individual appear in person during the COVID-19 public health emergency if the state entity finds that the waiver assists in the state's response to the public health emergency or that enforcing the requirement may increase the public health risk.
2. Authorizes state agencies, local governments, the legislature, and the courts to suspend certain deadlines and training requirements during the COVID-19 public health emergency.
3. Authorizes an additional \$725,000,000 in public debt to refund tax-supported or self-amortizing state general obligation debt. The current level of such authorized debt is \$6,785,000,000; the new amount will be \$7,510,000,000.
4. Authorizes the secretary of administration to transfer employees from one executive branch agency to another executive branch agency to provide service during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The transfers remain in effect until rescinded by the secretary or 90 days after the public health emergency terminates, whichever is earlier.

## Taxation

The act changes laws related to taxation as follows:

1. Allows counties and municipalities to provide, upon a finding of hardship, that any installment payment of property taxes due after April 1, 2020, that is received after its due date will not accrue interest or penalties if the total amount due is received on or before October 1, 2020. The act also allows taxpayers to retain their options under current law to contest their property taxes if payments received after the due date are received by October 1, 2020.
2. Authorizes DOR to waive, on a case-by-case basis, interest and penalties that accrue during the COVID-19 public health emergency for persons who fail to remit a variety of taxes during that period due to the pandemic's effects.
3. Adopts federal tax law changes made in response

to the COVID-19 public health emergency, including changes related to distributions from certain retirement accounts, deductions for charitable contributions, the treatment of paycheck protection loans to businesses and employees under the small business administration's loan guarantee program, and an exclusion from income certain student loan principal and interest payments made by an employer on behalf of an employee.

## Trade and Consumer Protection

The act prohibits retailers from accepting certain returns of food products, personal care products, cleaning products, and paper products during the COVID-19 public health emergency.

## Vital Records

The act requires that, during the COVID-19 public health emergency, if the underlying cause of a death is determined to be COVID-19, the person signing the death certificate must provide an electronic signature on the certificate within 48 hours after the death.

## Crime and Law Enforcement

**Act 16 (SB-68)** defines "lewd exhibition of intimate parts" to add clarity to the child pornography laws. The phrase is defined to mean displaying less than fully and opaquely covered intimate parts of a person who is posed as a sex object or in a way that places an unnatural or unusual focus on the intimate parts.

**Act 31 (AB-17)** creates a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison for a person who is convicted of homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle. *See also* Transportation: Impaired Driving.

**Act 33 (AB-426)** expands the definitions of "energy provider" and "energy provider property" for the crimes of damaging property of an energy provider and trespassing on the property of an energy provider. Under the act, newly included properties are those that are part of an oil, petroleum, refined petroleum product, renewable fuel, water, or chemical generation transmission system. The act also creates exceptions so that

the criminal prohibitions do not apply to certain protected forms of activity and speech.

**Act 52 (SB-290)** expands the definition of the weapon “pepper spray,” which individuals may lawfully possess, to include a substance called CS gel, which is nonatomizing, gel-form chlorobenzalmalononitrile.

**Act 87 (AB-135)** exempts from the prohibition against carrying a taser private detectives, private investigators, or private security personnel who are on official duty.

**Act 97 (SB-163)** increases the penalty from a Class A misdemeanor to a Class H felony for battery against a health care provider who works in a hospital or a nurse.

**Act 108 (SB-50)** requires law enforcement agencies that use body cameras to have a written policy on the use and storage of the cameras and the data recorded by the cameras. The act requires the law enforcement agencies to retain the data for at least 120 days and specifies circumstances in which the data must be retained longer. The act also specifies that the data are subject to the open records laws with exceptions to protect privacy and the identity of victims and minors.

**Act 111 (SB-70)** creates a crime for bringing a prohibited object into a jail or prison with intent to keep the object for oneself. Under preexisting law, it is a crime to bring a prohibited object into a jail or prison with the intent to deliver the object to another person, or to transport a prohibited item out of a jail or prison.

**Act 112 (AB-804)** increases the penalty from a Class A misdemeanor to a Class G felony for intimidating a victim of a crime, or intimidating a witness to a crime, if the crime is domestic abuse.

**Act 132 (AB-454)** creates the crime of swatting. Under the act, it is a crime for a person to knowingly and intentionally convey false information that an emergency exists if the information elicits or could elicit a response from a specialized tactical (SWAT) team.

**Act 144 (AB-734)** creates the crime of mail theft, which is taking a letter, postcard, or package from a residence or other building without the owner’s consent.

**Act 161 (SB-368)** creates the crime of money laundering. Under the act, it is a crime to engage in, supervise, or facilitate a transaction with illegally obtained property or items of value; to make property or items of value available to another with the intent to perpetuate illegal activity; or to engage in a transaction that is designed to conceal or disguise the nature, location, source, ownership, or control of property or items of value or to avoid a financial transaction reporting requirement under federal law.

**Act 162 (SB-139)** creates the crime of bestiality. Under the act, it is a crime to engage in specified activities that involve sexual contact with an animal.

## Domestic Relations

**Act 9 (AB-56)** increases from \$25 to \$35 the annual fee collected from every individual receiving child support or family support payments in order to conform to applicable federal law, specifically the federal Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018.

**Act 95 (SB-158)** does all of the following relating to paternity:

1. Creates a new presumption of paternity and a new way to conclusively determine paternity under the law using genetic testing.
2. Requires the court in a paternity action to order genetic testing.
3. Allows a court that determines that a judicial determination of whether a man is the father of the child is not in the best interest of the child to dismiss a paternity action with respect to that man, regardless of whether genetic tests have already been performed or what the results of those genetic tests were.

## Economic Development

**Act 9 (AB-56)** requires that WEDC’s quarterly reports to DOR include, for each person whose certification to claim tax credits is revoked, the amount of credits that the person had been eligible to claim prior to the revocation.

## Education

### Higher Education

**Act 9** ([AB-56](#)) does the following:

1. Requires at least 1.0 full-time equivalent position, funded from the conservation fund, to be in the Paper Science Program at UW–Stevens Point.
2. Prohibits the Board of Regents from charging resident undergraduate academic fees in the 2019–20 and 2020–21 academic years that exceed those charged in the 2018–19 academic year.
3. Requires HEAB, in consultation with DHS, to establish a program for awarding annual scholarships to state resident students who agree to practice in health shortage areas upon graduation. For each annual scholarship awarded to a student, he or she must agree to practice in a health shortage area for 18 months.
4. Revises statutes administered by HEAB and the WTCS board that refer to “handicapped” individuals to refer instead to “impaired” individuals.

**Act 35** ([AB-51](#)) expands the eligibility criteria for the HEAB-administered Minority Teacher Loan Program with respect to both the student’s race or ethnicity and the elementary or secondary schools in which the student may subsequently teach and receive loan forgiveness.

**Act 36** ([AB-38](#)) creates an exemption from a prohibition on public employees entering into certain contracts in which they have private pecuniary interests. Under the act, the prohibition does not apply to certain contracts involving research conducted by a UW employee if the employee’s interest is addressed under a conflict-of-interest management plan that complies with a policy adopted by the Board of Regents. The act’s exemption replaces an exemption under former law that required the Board of Regents to review contracts involving payments exceeding a specified dollar amount.

**Act 46** ([AB-189](#)) requires the Board of Regents and the WTCS board to enter into two agreements. The first agreement must promote and support agreements

that articulate how the completion of requirements for specified programs of study transfer between institutions. The second agreement must identify at least 72 credits of core general education courses that are transferable between institutions beginning in the 2022–23 academic year. Former law required a similar agreement that was limited to at least 30 credits of core general education courses. As under former law, tribally controlled and private, nonprofit colleges in the state are allowed to participate in both of the agreements.

**Act 47** ([SB-142](#)) prohibits any UW System school or technical college from taking adverse action against a student veteran because of the late receipt of his or her federal veterans tuition benefits.

**Act 58** ([SB-166](#)) allows physicians, dentists, and other health care professionals to participate in an educational loan assistance program administered by the Board of Regents if they agree to practice in free or charitable clinics. Former law limited participation to physicians, dentists, and other health care professionals who agree to practice in rural or health care shortage areas.

**Act 75** ([SB-334](#)) extends protections, as follows, for college students who must withdraw from school because they are National Guard or other service members called into active military service: (a) by providing students enrolled in private for-profit colleges the same re-enrollment rights when deactivated as students enrolled in the UW System, technical colleges, and private nonprofit colleges under existing law; (b) by providing students enrolled in private colleges the same rights afforded UW System and technical college students under existing law to elect to obtain reimbursement of tuition and other expenses for the semester of withdrawal or to take an incomplete for coursework in that semester and finish this coursework later without additional charge; (c) by requiring all colleges to ensure these students are provided a reasonable opportunity to complete final projects and final examinations; and (d) by eliminating the condition under former law that these protections apply only if the student is called into active military service for at least 30 days.



**Act 116 (AB-531)** requires a UW System school or technical college that issues student identification cards to include on each card certain contact information for suicide prevention and crisis support assistance. See *also* Primary and Secondary Education.

**Act 147 (SB-205)** allows a student to object to the transfer of academic credit from the student's military transcript to a UW System school or technical college.

**Act 149 (SB-537)** requires HEAB to award tuition grants, not exceeding \$2,000 per semester, to certain veterans or their dependents enrolled in private, nonprofit colleges. The grants are made for students who would have qualified for tuition remission under the Wisconsin GI Bill if they had attended a UW System school or technical college. The grant amount must be matched by the college in which the student is enrolled.

## Primary and Secondary Education

**Act 9 (AB-56)** does the following:

1. Provides a per pupil adjustment under school district revenue limits of \$175 in the 2019–20 school year, \$179 in the 2020–21 school year, and \$0 in the 2021–22 school year and each school year thereafter.
2. Sets the low revenue adjustment under school district revenue limits at \$9,700 per pupil in the 2019–20 school year and \$10,000 per pupil in 2020–21 school year and each school year thereafter.
3. Beginning in the 2019–20 school year, increases the per pupil amount under the per pupil categorical aid program to \$742 per pupil.
4. Creates the supplemental per pupil aid program.
5. Modifies the school day milk program to allow independent charter schools, the Educational Services Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and residential care centers to be eligible for reimbursement.
6. Eliminates supplemental special education aid on July 1, 2020. Under prior law, DPI provided supplemental special education aid to a school district that in the previous year had revenue limit authority per pupil that was below the statewide average, that had expenditures for special education that were more

than 16 percent of the school district's total expenditures, and that had a membership that was less than 2,000 pupils.

7. Eliminates school performance improvement grants effective July 1, 2020. Under prior law, beginning in the 2018–19 school year, DPI awarded a school performance improvement grant to an eligible school located in a first class city school district (currently only Milwaukee Public Schools) or in a school district that was in the lowest category on the school and school district accountability report (report card) if the eligible school developed a written school improvement plan to improve pupil performance and received a higher score on the report card than it did in the previous school year.

8. Requires the state superintendent to continue annually making a distribution to Wisconsin Reading Corps, beyond the onetime funding provided in the 2017 biennial budget, for one-on-one tutoring to pupils.

9. Clarifies that DPI may award a robotics league participation grant to an eligible team to participate in more than one robotics competition.

10. Makes changes to the Technology for Educational Achievement program, including the following: (a) continues the information technology block program for rural school districts through fiscal year 2021; (b) eliminates educational technology training grants for teachers; and (c) eliminates grants to school districts for technology-enhanced high school curriculum. See *also* Local Government.

**Act 39 (AB-54)** allows a person in charge of a public or private school to provide previous warning of a fire, tornado, and school safety incident drill if the person determines that providing previous warning of the drill is in the best interest of pupils attending the school.

**Act 43 (AB-195)** creates an alternative method for meeting one requirement for obtaining a provisional teaching license based on the applicant having an out-of-state license, commonly known as a license based on reciprocity. Under the act, an applicant may satisfy the requirement by teaching under the out-of-state license for two semesters or by teaching in a

public or private school in this state for two semesters while holding a DPI-issued teaching license, usually a tier 1 license with stipulations.

**Act 44** ([AB-194](#)) creates an alternative to the requirement that an applicant for initial licensure as a special education teacher must pass the Foundations of Reading test, commonly called the FORT. Under the act, an applicant may complete a course of study in the teaching of reading and the teaching of reading comprehension that meets requirements specified in the act, rather than pass the FORT.

**Act 55** ([SB-495](#)) modifies the application and reporting deadlines for the statewide parental choice program and provides that, when a private school participating in a parental choice program submits evidence of accreditation to DPI, the private school must submit a “notice” from an accrediting entity, rather than a “letter,” confirming that the private school is accredited.

**Act 83** ([AB-528](#)) creates a peer-to-peer suicide prevention grant program. Under the act, DPI provides grants to private, public, and tribal high schools to support existing or establish new peer-to-peer suicide prevention programs.

**Act 84** ([SB-230](#)) provides flexibility to required student teaching that must be completed as part of an approved teacher preparatory program. Under the act, a student may complete the equivalent, as determined by the state superintendent, of student teaching for full days for a full semester following the daily schedule and semester calendar of a cooperating school.

**Act 85** ([AB-67](#)) adds information about the percentage of high school pupils participating in music, dance, drama, and the visual arts to the annual school and school district accountability report.

**Act 86** ([AB-110](#)) requires DPI to publish a guidebook on dyslexia and related conditions on DPI’s Internet site. The purpose of the guidebook is to provide information to parents, guardians, teachers, and administrators on the subject of dyslexia and related conditions. Under the act, an advisory committee is created to make recommendations to DPI for the initial guidebook.

**Act 96** ([SB-160](#)) changes the requirements for providing notice of a special meeting of a school board.

Under the act, a school district clerk or, in the clerk’s absence, the school district’s president must set the date, time, and place for the meeting and notify each school board member at least 24 hours in advance in a manner likely to give the member notice of the meeting. The act provides that, if providing 24 hours’ notice is impossible or impractical, the clerk or president may provide the notice not less than two hours before the meeting.

**Act 116** ([AB-531](#)) requires that, if a school board or operator of an independent charter school issues identification cards to pupils, the school board or operator must include on the identification cards certain contact information for suicide prevention and crisis support hotlines. *See also* Higher Education.

**Act 118** ([SB-527](#)) makes changes to the requirements related to the seclusion and physical restraint of pupils.

**Act 170** ([SB-595](#)) creates an online early learning pilot program. Under the act, DPI must contract with a service provider to administer an online early learning program in six school districts from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2023.

**Act 176** ([SB-437](#)) creates an exception to the revenue ceiling freeze for a school district that had a failed operating referendum in the 2018–19 school year if the failed operating referendum was for the costs of operating a new school building and a capital referendum to build the new school building failed at the same election.

## Elections

**Act 48** ([AB-168](#)) allows an election official or another person selected by a voter to state the voter’s name and address at the polling place on the day of an election if the voter is unable to do so.

**Act 164** ([SB-108](#)) clarifies that a vacancy in an elective office in a city or village may be filled for the residue of the unexpired term or until a special election is held or the office may remain vacant until an election is held.

**Act 182** (SB-422) provides that if there is no candidate in an election who may petition for a recount, the certificate of election certifying the winner of the election may be issued immediately after the votes have been canvassed.

## Employment

### Collective Bargaining

**Act 77** (AB-706) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the UW–Madison and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee for the 2018–19 fiscal year covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit.

**Act 78** (AB-707) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the UW–Madison and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee for the 2019–20 fiscal year covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit.

**Act 79** (AB-708) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Board of Regents of the UW System and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee for the 2018–19 fiscal year covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit.

**Act 80** (AB-709) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the Board of Regents of the UW System and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee for the 2019–20 fiscal year covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit.

**Act 81** (AB-710) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the state and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee for the 2018–19 fiscal year covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit.

**Act 82** (AB-711) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the state and the Wisconsin State Building Trades Negotiating Committee for the 2019–20 fiscal year covering employees in the building trades crafts collective bargaining unit.

**Act 104** (SB-819) ratifies the collective bargaining agreement negotiated between the state and the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Association for the 2017–19 biennium covering employees in the public safety collective bargaining unit.

### Public Employment

**Act 9** (AB-56) does the following:

1. Authorizes DWD to enter into contracts under the Project SEARCH program to provide employment skills services to individuals with developmental disabilities. The act also requires DWD to allocate \$250,000 in each year of the 2019–21 fiscal biennium to the program.
2. Requires DWD to transfer to DHS the lesser of \$600,000 or the amount DWD receives from the Social Security Administration as reimbursement for having successfully assisted individuals in the vocational rehabilitation program to find employment, thereby eliminating the payment of certain benefits from the SSA to those individuals. The money must be used to provide grants to independent living centers.
3. Requires DWD to allocate grants to DOC to create and operate job training centers at minimum and medium security prisons and to create and operate mobile classrooms.
4. Requires DWD to allocate \$1,000,000 in each year of the 2019–21 fiscal biennium for grants to shipbuilders in Wisconsin for training new and current staff.
5. Requires DWD to award grants of \$75,000 per year of the 2019–21 fiscal biennium under its workforce training program, commonly referred to as the Fast Forward Program, for workforce training in county jail facilities. The grants are awarded without any matching-funds requirement and notwithstanding any otherwise applicable eligibility criteria.
6. Repeals obsolete DETF appropriations. *See also* State Government: State Employment and Fringe Benefits.

**Act 71** (SB-233) allows a court to issue a restitution order that requires DETF to withhold moneys directly from an annuity or lump sum payment from the Wisconsin Retirement System. The restitution order must

result from a theft from a public employer that participates in the WRS by a public employee that results in a loss of property that is valued at more than \$2,500 for the employer.

**Act 120 (AB-646)** provides that a state employee is not subject to removal, suspension without pay, a reduction in base pay, or demotion without prior progressive discipline if the employee is under the influence of, or in possession of, a controlled substance or a controlled substance analog while on duty and the employee is using the controlled substance or analog as dispensed, prescribed, or recommended as part of medication-assisted treatment. Under former law, the employee would be subject to discipline without prior progressive discipline. *See also* Health and Human Services: Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.

## General Employment

**Act 9 (AB-56)** clarifies that funds under DWD's workforce training program, commonly referred to as the Fast Forward Program, may be used for programs that promote the attraction and retention of personal care workers.

**Act 142 (AB-699)** allows minors who are 12 and 13 years of age to provide caddy services. Former law required these minors to be employed by a golf course in order to provide caddy services.

**Act 171 (SB-72)** requires DWD to include specific occupational areas in its youth apprenticeship program and develop curricula for those occupational areas, including law, public safety, corrections, and security, government and public administration, and education and training. Under former law, DWD was not required to include any specific occupational area in its youth apprenticeship programs.

## Environment

**Act 9 (AB-56)** does all of the following:

1. Requires the full \$345 amount, rather than \$95, of the annual concentrated animal feeding operation fee to be deposited into a new program revenue account for purposes of administering the concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) program.

2. Provides an additional \$4,000,000 in bonding authority for dam safety grants.

3. Provides an additional \$6,500,000 in bonding authority for rural nonpoint source water pollution abatement grants.

4. Provides an additional \$4,000,000 in bonding authority for urban nonpoint source and storm water management and municipal flood control and riparian restoration programs.

5. Increases from \$32,000,000 to \$36,000,000 the amount of public debt the state may contract to fund removal of contaminated sediment.

**Act 101 (SB-310)** prohibits the use of fire fighting foams that contain intentionally added PFAS (perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances), with exceptions provided for use during emergency fire fighting or fire prevention operations.

**Act 151 (SB-91)** creates a system for buying and selling water pollution credits through a central clearinghouse.

**Act 169 (SB-700)** requires DNR to establish a method for producing an annual schedule of fees for laboratories that perform certain environmental testing.

## Financial Institutions

**Act 65 (SB-457)** makes the following changes related to financial institutions: (a) reduces the period after which a bank must make payment on a lost, destroyed, or stolen cashier's check or other instrument if certain requirements are met; (b) provides a license applicant, under limited circumstances, with temporary authority to act as a mortgage loan originator while his or her application is pending with DFI; (c) specifies the time when a financial institution in possession of a debtor's property subject to tax levy or garnishment first becomes liable with respect to surrendering the property to DOR or the creditor; (d) creates provisions governing financial institution data provided to an independent electronic data processing servicer and contracts between the two; (e) eliminates term and value limits on loans to state banks made by a Federal Home Loan Bank; and (f) consolidates in DFI the Banking Review Board and Savings

Institutions Review Board into a five-member Banking Institutions Review Board.

**Act 125 (AB-293)** adopts, with modifications, the Revised Uniform Law on Notarial Acts, which allows a notary public, using technology, to notarize documents for persons not physically present with the notary public. The act also creates a remote notary council to adopt standards for performing notarial acts for remotely located individuals and requires DFI to maintain a database of notaries public who perform these remote notarizations.

## Health and Human Services

### Health

**Act 9 (AB-56)** makes changes to health laws, including the following:

1. Combines funding for grants to assist rural hospitals in procuring infrastructure and increasing case volume to develop accredited graduate medical training programs with funding for grants to support existing graduate medical training programs and expands eligibility for both types of grants to all specialties rather than certain prescribed specialties.
2. Requires DHS to distribute grants to support “treatment programs.” Recipients of the grants must use awards for supervision, training, and resources, including salaries, benefits, and other related costs. This provision was affected by a partial veto, which changed a grant program from a qualified treatment trainee program to a “treatment program.” The qualified treatment program would have provided opportunities for trainees to complete clinically supervised practice requirements to be credentialed and obtain specialized training in mental and behavioral health in children, youth, and families.
3. Expands grants awarded for the Seal-A-Smile program and other evidence-based oral health grants to require DHS to award grants for fluoride varnish and other evidence-based oral health activities, school-based preventive dental services, and school-based restorative dental services.
4. Establishes a limit on the amount DHS may allocate

and expend, as part of its implementation of the Well-Woman Program, as reimbursement for the provision of multiple sclerosis services to women.

5. Requires certain assisted living facilities, including adult day centers, community-based residential facilities, licensed adult family homes, and residential care apartment complexes, to submit biennial reports to DHS through an online system prescribed by DHS. The act also specifies that regardless of the reporting schedule established under the act, certified residential care apartment complexes must continue to pay required fees on the schedule established by DHS.

6. Requires DHS to award grants for residential lead hazard abatement.

7. Makes technical and other changes to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children, known as WIC, including allowing the identification of an alternative participant, adding criteria to authorized vendor, adding trafficking in WIC benefits as a prohibited activity, adding penalties for rule violations, and adding infant formula suppliers to those entities DHS must promulgate rules to approve.

**Act 25 (AB-427)** adds conditions to those actions that may be delegated by a health care provider to emergency medical services personnel. Specifically, Act 25 requires the delegated actions to be within the scope of practice of the delegating health care provider and delegated to an emergency medical services practitioner who the health care provider ensures is adequately knowledgeable and trained to perform the delegated action.

**Act 90 (AB-287)** does the following:

1. Allows, unless a health care power of attorney instrument specifies otherwise, one physician and one qualified physician assistant or nurse practitioner to personally examine a principal and make a finding of incapacity upon which a health care power of attorney becomes effective.
2. Allows an attending physician assistant or attending advanced practice registered nurse to issue do-not-resuscitate orders.
3. Provides that under a declaration to physicians,

commonly known as a living will, unless specified otherwise, a physician assistant or advanced practice registered nurse may certify that a patient is afflicted with a terminal condition or is in a persistent vegetative state.

4. Allows one physician and one qualified physician assistant or nurse practitioner to determine that a person is incapacitated for purposes of admission to a hospice.

**Act 150 (SB-489)** provides that reimbursement of certain expenses related to a patient's participation in a cancer clinical trial will not be considered coercive or undue inducement to participate. The act requires trial sponsors to provide certain information regarding the possible availability of reimbursement and requires reimbursement entities or programs to disclose the nature of the support and guidelines on financial eligibility and to employ a reimbursement process that conforms to federal law and guidance.

**Act 154 (SB-217)** requires DHS to consult with DETF to develop and implement a plan to reduce the incidence of diabetes in Wisconsin, improve diabetes care, and control complications associated with diabetes. DHS may consult with DPI and DOC in developing the plan and must submit a biennial report to the legislature.

## Medical Assistance

**Act 9 (AB-56)** makes changes to the Medical Assistance program, including all of the following:

1. Increasing reimbursement rates for nursing homes, direct care, and personal care and payments under the rural critical care access supplement.
2. Expanding the definition of "telehealth services" for purposes of reimbursement under the Medical Assistance program and requiring DHS to develop a reimbursement method for providers.
3. Continuing the Medical Assistance reimbursement for the mental health clinical consultation program by eliminating the termination date.
4. Making changes to long-term care programs to reflect the statewide expansion of Family Care, elimination of the Community Options Program, and expansion of aging and disability resource center services to other programs such as IRIS.

5. For fiscal years 2019–20 and 2020–21, requiring DHS to pay hospitals that serve low-income patients an additional amount as the state share of Medical Assistance payments, and the matching federal share of payments. For fiscal years 2019–20 and 2020–21, provided there is no conflict with federal rules, the act also increases from \$4,600,000 to \$9,600,000 the maximum payment that DHS may pay a single hospital that serves a disproportionate share of low-income patients.

**Act 56 (SB-380)** requires DHS to provide reimbursement for Medical Assistance benefits that are provided through interactive telehealth and requires DHS to include as a benefit and provide Medical Assistance reimbursement for additional forms of telehealth. Act 56 also prohibits DHS from setting certain additional requirements or limitations on services provided through telehealth or providers providing telehealth services.

**Act 57 (SB-155)** allows nonprofit agencies and their volunteer health care providers that provide services to Medical Assistance recipients who are primarily homeless individuals to participate in the Volunteer Health Care Provider program. Providers providing services under the program are considered agents of the state for purposes of liability and litigation.

**Act 88 (AB-192)** expands reimbursement for mental health clinical consultations under the Medical Assistance program to include communications from a mental health professional or qualified treatment trainee to a parent, a foster parent, a guardian, or a relative who lives with the student.

**Act 122 (AB-650)** requires DHS to provide reimbursement under the Medical Assistance program for services provided by a peer recovery coach if the services meet the criteria established in the act. The act also requires DHS to include services provided by a peer recovery coach as a benefit under the Medical Assistance program. *See also* Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.

**Act 186 (SB-605)** specifically incorporates power seat elevation and power standing components of power wheelchairs into the definition of complex

rehabilitation technology for purposes of reimbursement under the Medical Assistance program (MA). Under the Act, when reviewing prior authorization requests for complex rehabilitation technology items under MA, DHS and managed care plans must make an authorization decision within ten working days of receiving the necessary documentation.

## Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

**Act 1 (SB-19)** changes the term “mental retardation” to “intellectual disability” in the Administrative Code.

**Act 9 (AB-56)** makes changes to mental health laws, including all of the following:

1. Developing a comprehensive mental health consultation program.
2. Allowing opioid and methamphetamine treatment programs to offer methadone treatment.
3. Allowing the use of grants to establish and fund mental health crisis programs.
4. Broadens a program that under former law required DHS to award grants each fiscal biennium to counties or multiple-county regions to establish certified crisis programs that create mental health mobile crisis teams to instead require DHS to award grants to counties or multiple-county regions to establish or enhance crisis programs to serve individuals having crises in rural areas.

**Act 105 (AB-633)** expressly allows a law enforcement agency to contract with another law enforcement agency, an ambulance service provider, or a third-party vendor to provide emergency detention transports. Under the act, if a law enforcement agency provides the transport under such a contract, custody of a transported individual is transferred to that agency; in all other cases, custody remains with the person who placed the individual in custody. Subject to federal approval, the act allows for reimbursement of the cost of transporting Medical Assistance recipients if certain criteria are met.

**Act 117 (AB-644)** requires DHS to create and administer a school-based mental health consultation pilot program in Outagamie County. The pilot program assists

participating school-based providers in providing enhanced care to students with mental health care needs, provides referral support for those students, and provides additional services.

**Act 119 (AB-645)** provides immunity for jailers, keepers of a jail, or persons designated with custodial authority by a jailer or keeper that administer naloxone or another opioid antagonist to a person believed to be undergoing an opioid overdose and that have the applicable training. The act also requires DHS, after consulting with DOC, to study the availability of medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorder in each prison and county jail.

**Act 120 (AB-646)** requires recovery residences that promote recovery from a substance use disorder and that seek referrals or funding from DHS to register with DHS. *See also* Employment: Public Employment.

**Act 122 (AB-650)** requires DHS to establish and maintain a program related to referral and treatment services following a substance use overdose that includes that, among other requirements, overdose treatment providers coordinate and continue care and treatment after an overdose. The act requires DHS to seek any funding available from the federal government for the program. *See also* Medical Assistance.

## Housing

**Act 76 (AB-119)** includes additional eligibility requirements and authorizes JCF to provide supplemental funding for homeless shelter grants awarded by DOA.

## Insurance

**Act 12 (SB-26)** requires insurers, pharmacy benefit managers, and utilization review organizations that restrict coverage of a prescription drug through a step therapy protocol to provide access to a process to request an exception to the step therapy protocol. A step therapy protocol, as defined in Act 12, establishes a specific sequence in which medically appropriate prescription drugs are covered by a policy or plan. Act

12 requires the insurers, pharmacy benefit managers, and utilization review organizations to use clinical review criteria for establishing a step therapy protocol that are based on clinical practice guidelines that meet certain specific criteria.

**Act 66** (SB-482) makes various changes to the laws regarding insurance, including provisions relating to fraternal, the Injured Patients and Families Compensation Fund, confidentiality of information, the corporate governance annual disclosure initial filing deadline, the placement of surplus lines insurance, and the deadline for submitting financial statements of property service contract providers.

**Act 129** (AB-357) imposes various requirements on public adjusters, including requirements related to client contracts and compensation, and creates a registration program for public adjusters that is voluntary for state residents and mandatory for nonresidents.

**Act 155** (SB-289) reduces from 60 days to 45 days the period in which insurers that offer to renew personal lines property and casualty policies with less favorable terms or with premium increases of at least 25 percent must notify the policyholder.

## Local Government

**Act 9** (AB-56) does the following:

1. Makes changes to the Technology for Educational Achievement program, including the following: (a) continues the information technology block program for rural public libraries through fiscal year 2021; and (b) eliminates educational technology training grants for librarians. *See also* Education: Primary and Secondary Education.

2. Requires cities, villages, and towns to reduce the quarterly fees they charge to video service providers by 0.5 percent beginning on January 1, 2020, and by an additional 1 percent beginning on January 1, 2021. *See also* Shared Revenue.

**Act 14** (SB-239) creates a regulatory framework for what are commonly called 5G networks. The act imposes requirements on cities, villages, towns, counties, and the state regarding (a) permits for deploying

wireless equipment and facilities; (b) placement of those items in rights-of-way; (c) access to certain governmental structures by wireless providers; and (d) resolution of disputes over the act's requirements. The act also allows cities, villages, towns, and counties to impose setback requirements for certain mobile service support structures.

**Act 19** (SB-266) requires a city, village, town, or county, the state, the Board of Regents of the UW System, and Marquette University to pay health insurance premiums for the surviving spouse and dependent children of a law enforcement officer or emergency medical services practitioner who dies in the line of duty if the entity paid such premiums for the officer or practitioner while he or she was employed by the entity.

**Act 21** (SB-391) lengthens the time during which tax increments may be allocated and expenditures for project costs may be made and extends the maximum life for Tax Incremental District Numbers 3 and 4 in the village of Lake Delton.

**Act 37** (SB-269) creates a mechanism for a city or village to reimburse property taxpayers for excess property tax collections that were due to the city or village erroneously reporting to DOR the amount by which property values in a tax incremental financing district increased in 2018.

**Act 41** (AB-143) authorizes a city, village, or town to enforce an ordinance that prohibits a person from performing massage or bodywork therapy, or representing himself or herself as a massage or bodywork therapist, unless the person is licensed by the Massage Therapy and Bodywork Therapy Credentialing Board. *See also* Occupational Regulation.

**Act 42** (AB-193) authorizes a city, village, town, or county to adopt a biennial budget. A political subdivision that adopts a biennial budget must adopt it only in an odd-numbered year and must follow the same current law procedures regarding public hearings, the contents of budget summaries, and information about expected revenues and expenditures that it would be required to follow if it adopted an annual budget.

**Act 45** (AB-235) creates a levy limit exception for



counties, cities, villages, or towns that receive certain utility aid payments. If a power plant that is exempt from property taxes is decommissioned or closed, and therefore becomes taxable, the county and municipality where the plant is located receive a utility aid payment from the state for the first five years in which the plant is subject to the property tax in an amount equal to a percentage of the utility aid payment that the county or municipality received for the last year in which the plant was exempt, beginning with 100 percent and decreasing by 20 percent each year. The amount of the levy limit exception under the act is an amount equal to the full amount of the utility aid in the first year less the amount of the utility aid to be paid to the political subdivision in the year in which the levy is imposed.

**Act 113 (AB-86)** changes the official bond requirements for town municipal judges so that they are similar to the official bond requirements for city and village municipal judges.

**Act 124 (AB-75)** prohibits municipalities from restricting certain honorary discharges of firearms that involve only blanks.

**Act 126 (AB-310)** allows a city, village, town, or county that uses a referendum to exceed the local levy limit to base the referendum question on either actual data or its best estimate, and requires that the question include the percentage increase for each fiscal year. The act also authorizes a city, village, town, or county to hold such a referendum in an odd-numbered year either by a special referendum or on the same schedule as certain school board referendums.

**Act 133 (AB-472)** creates an exception from the local levy limits for certain amounts levied for charges assessed by a joint emergency medical services district.

**Act 140 (AB-661)** clarifies the public notice requirements for governmental meetings; changes the method for filling town board of supervisor vacancies; changes the timing for when a town board must make an initial appointment to fill certain town offices; changes appointment and removal procedures for certain town officeholders; creates an appeal process

for applicants denied a temporary use permit or extension; increases the maximum wages that may be paid to an elected town officer who also serves as a town employee; and extends the maximum contract length for an appointed town assessor.

**Act 145 (AB-736)** allows a county zoning ordinance to apply in all or part of a town's territory and specifies that the ordinance may apply differently in different towns within the county, such that it may apply in only part of some towns, but in all of the territory of other towns, all subject to town board approval. The act also creates a curative provision for such a county zoning ordinance that took effect before the effective date of the act. *See also* Natural Resources: Navigable Waters and Wetlands.

**Act 179 (SB-268)** lengthens the time during which tax increments may be allocated and project cost expenditures may be made—and extends the maximum life of—Tax Incremental District Number Two in the village of Kronenwetter.

## Natural Resources

### Conservation

**Act 9 (AB-56)** reauthorizes the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship Program for two additional years, until June 30, 2022, at existing program bonding levels; authorizes the state to contract additional public debt in an amount up to \$42,600,000 for that stewardship program; and authorizes DNR in fiscal year 2020–21 to obligate up to \$33,250,000 in unobligated amounts from prior fiscal years.

**Act 157 (SB-252)** provides \$150,000 of funding to Ashland County to design, implement, and evaluate up to three demonstration projects that test natural flood risk reduction.

**Act 175 (SB-637)** limits DNR's authority to regulate or prohibit the repair, reconstruction, or improvement of a nonconforming building under floodplain zoning regulations on the basis of cost under certain circumstances.

## Fish and Game

**Act 9** ([AB-56](#)) authorizes DNR to develop a system under which, when a person purchases a hunting, fishing, or trapping approval, the person may opt to automatically purchase the same approval for subsequent years.

**Act 98** ([SB-231](#)) allows a person to possess a bow or crossbow on a vehicle or while operating an all-terrain vehicle or utility terrain vehicle while the vehicle, ATV, or UTV is stationary, and allows a person to possess a cocked but unloaded crossbow while operating an ATV or UTV.

**Act 160** ([SB-383](#)) allows a reduced fee of \$4.25 for an annual fishing license issued to a state resident who is 16 or 17 years old or who is at least 65 years old.

## Navigable Waters and Wetlands

**Act 9** ([AB-56](#)) authorizes the state to contract an additional public debt in an amount up to \$4,000,000 for financial assistance to counties, cities, villages, towns, and public inland lake protection and rehabilitation districts for dam safety projects.

**Act 59** ([SB-169](#)) makes changes to requirements for wetland mitigation banks, including establishing geographic limits on a mitigation bank from which credits may be purchased, establishing financial assurance requirements for projects by mitigation banks, and allowing a mitigation bank to sell estimated credits before a project is completed.

**Act 93** ([SB-125](#)) requires DNR to obligate up to \$5,200,000 in unobligated moneys under the Warren Knowles-Gaylord Nelson Stewardship 2000 Program to fund critical health- and safety-related water infrastructure projects and high-priority water infrastructure projects in state parks, prioritizing projects in those state parks with the highest demand.

**Act 99** ([SB-335](#)) establishes certain procedures for an election to the board of governors for a lake protection and rehabilitation district relating to the counting of ballots and a recount of ballots.

**Act 145** ([AB-736](#)) specifies, subject to some limitations, that a town shorelands zoning ordinance may affect

the same shorelands as a county ordinance. *See also* Local Government.

**Act 177** ([SB-485](#)) makes the placement of a floating treatment wetland eligible for a lake management grant and a river protection grant.

## Parks, Forestry, and Recreation

**Act 73** ([SB-296](#)) establishes signage requirements in state parks, state trails, state recreational areas, and state forests to raise awareness of Lyme disease, inform about how to prevent tick bites, and encourage people to check for ticks after visits to those areas. *See also* Act 158.

**Act 74** ([SB-297](#)) requires DNR to ensure that insect repellent is available for purchase in every state park and state forest.

**Act 115** ([AB-704](#)) provides that an adult accompanying a minor who is operating a motorboat must hold a valid boating safety certificate or must have been born before January 1, 1989.

**Act 141** ([AB-692](#)) increases from \$2,475,400 to \$5,475,400 aid to counties for snowmobile trails and areas, to cover costs such as purchasing land for trails, enforcing laws on trails, developing and maintaining trails, and improving bridges on trails.

**Act 158** ([SB-298](#)) requires DNR to provide information about Lyme disease in state park brochures and to conduct a Lyme disease awareness campaign every May, which is Lyme Disease Awareness Month. *See also* Act 73.

**Act 183** ([SB-583](#)) makes changes related to all-terrain vehicles and utility terrain vehicles, including all of the following:

1. Eliminates the requirement that ATVs and UTVs have low-pressure tires and changes various height and weight requirements.
2. Requires ATV and UTV operators to comply with highway speed limits and with signs on trails.
3. Prohibits certain types of lights and requires bright lights to be dimmed when approaching other vehicles.

4. Makes aid available to nonprofit organizations for the production of maps, digital information, communications equipment, and signs.
5. Authorizes state funding for winter trail maintenance.

## Occupational Regulation

**Act 13 (SB-38)** exempts persons from being required to obtain a pharmacist license to dispense dialysate drugs or devices necessary for providing home peritoneal kidney dialysis to a patient with end-stage renal disease.

**Act 17 (AB-250)** makes the following changes to the laws regulating sign language interpreters:

1. Replaces the former program for sign language interpreter licenses with four categories of licenses: sign language interpreter—intermediate hearing, sign language interpreter—advanced hearing, sign language interpreter—intermediate deaf, and sign language interpreter—advanced deaf.
2. Requires DSPS to promulgate rules defining the scope of practice of each category of sign language interpreter license.
3. Eliminates the Sign Language Interpreter Council and establishes the Sign Language Interpreters Advisory Committee, which advises DSPS and consults with DSPS concerning investigations related to sign language interpreters.
4. Requires DHS to administer the performance examinations of the Board for Evaluation of Interpreters, unless DSPS approves another administrator of the examinations.

**Act 24 (AB-137)** allows pharmacists to administer vaccines to children under age six if the vaccine is administered pursuant to a prescription order and the pharmacist completes a course that includes administering vaccines to children under age six. The act also generally allows pharmacists and pharmacy students to administer without a prescription order the vaccines listed in the immunization schedules published by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

**Act 41 (AB-143)** allows the Massage Therapy and Bodywork Therapy Affiliated Credentialing Board to issue forfeitures for violations of practice laws and prohibits the employment of unlicensed massage or bodywork therapists. *See also* Local Government.

**Act 49 (SB-74)** repeals sunset provisions that would have withdrawn Wisconsin from participation in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. Consequently, under the act, Wisconsin will continue to remain a party to the compact.

**Act 94 (SB-156)** allows the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, and Professional Land Surveyors to classify credential holders as “retired status” if certain conditions are met. Retired status credential holders are prohibited from practicing their credentialed profession, are exempt from continuing education requirements, and pay a discounted renewal fee.

**Act 100 (SB-390)** enters Wisconsin into the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact, which allows physical therapists and physical therapist assistants that are licensed in one state that is a party to the compact to practice in other member states. The compact provides for the creation of the Physical Therapy Compact Commission, which is charged with administering the compact and includes delegates from each member state’s licensing board. The act also contains provisions relating to implementation of the compact in Wisconsin.

**Act 121 (AB-647)** extends by five years certain requirements under the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP), including a requirement that a prescriber check PDMP records before issuing a prescription order for a patient and a reporting requirement for the Controlled Substances Board.

**Act 137 (AB-576)** modifies the requirements for obtaining and renewing a funeral director’s license. The act lowers the required instruction from two years of instruction to 24 semester credits and exempts individuals who complete instruction in mortuary science from having to complete an additional certification class. The act also requires additional continuing education for newly licensed funeral directors.

**Act 138 (AB-581)** allows the Physical Therapy Examining Board to promulgate rules that would allow physical therapy students or physical therapy assistant students to perform physical therapy procedures and related tasks under the supervision of a physical therapist. Former law allowed these students to practice only when assisting a physical therapist.

**Act 143 (AB-731)** enables service members, former service members, the spouses of service members who died while in service in the armed forces, and the spouses of former service members to obtain reciprocal credentials to practice a profession from DSPS, the boards attached to DSPS, and the Veterinary Examining Board. To obtain a reciprocal credential, a service member, former service member, or spouse must hold an analogous credential granted by another state.

**Act 148 (SB-514)** allows persons to practice as physician assistants, registered nurses, or nurse anesthetists while performing official duties for the armed services or federal health services without a license granted by the Medical Examining Board or the Board of Nursing.

**Act 156 (SB-500)** repeals a provision concerning temporary certificates to practice respiratory care issued by the Medical Examining Board and changes, for purposes of eligibility for a certificate to practice respiratory care, the names of an examination and the accrediting bodies for courses of instruction.

**Act 180 (SB-117)** adopts, with some modifications, the Revised Uniform Athlete Agents Act, which makes changes to DSPS's registration program for athlete agents, including the following:

1. Prohibiting athlete agents from encouraging another person to engage in conduct the athlete agent is prohibited from doing.
2. Prohibiting a person from engaging in certain activities involving a student athlete, such as directly or indirectly attempting to influence a student athlete to choose an athlete agent or enter into an agency contract with an athlete agent, unless the person registers with DSPS as an athlete agent.
3. Requiring an athlete agent to submit additional information to DSPS to register as an athlete agent,

including information related to pending criminal charges, unsatisfied judgments, and past civil proceedings involving the agent.

4. Requiring an agency contract to be accompanied by an acknowledgement by the student athlete that signing the contract may make the student ineligible to participate in athletics at an educational institution.
5. Requiring an athlete agent to notify the educational institution at which a student athlete is enrolled before influencing the student athlete to enter into an agency contract.

## Public Utilities

**Act 9 (AB-56)** does the following regarding public utility regulation:

1. Transfers federal funding supporting affordable telecommunications access for schools, libraries, and other educational entities to the PSC for making broadband expansion grants.
2. Eliminates a prohibition on certain sales of electricity by a wholesale merchant plant to an affiliated public utility.

## Real Estate

**Act 72 (SB-247)** specifies that an owner of real estate may, with certain exceptions, use a surveillance device to observe or record an individual who is present for a private showing, open house, or other viewing of the real estate in connection with the owner's attempt to sell the real estate. The bill specifies that such use of a surveillance device is not an invasion of the individual's privacy under current state law recognizing the right of privacy.

**Act 102 (SB-438)** provides that a recorded mortgage executed to an institution chartered by the federal Farm Credit Administration has priority over certain other liens on the same real estate, such as construction liens. Current law includes a list of mortgages that have that priority status, and the act adds FCA mortgages to that list.

**Act 168 (SB-512)** provides that, if a condominium

association and unit owner have a disagreement arising out of or related to the condominium, the association or unit owner must provide a notice of claim to the other party before filing suit in circuit court. Under the act, after a notice of claim is provided, the parties also may engage in direct negotiation to resolve the disagreement before suit is filed.

## Shared Revenue

**Act 9 (AB-56)** provides state aid to municipalities to compensate for a reduction in video service provider fees. *See also* Local Government.

## State Government

### State Building Program

**Act 9 (AB-56)** does all of the following:

1. Authorizes an additional \$40,000,000 in general fund supported borrowing for grants to counties for the establishment of county-run, secured residential care centers for children and youth, bringing the total bonding authorization for that purpose to \$80,000,000.
2. Authorizes \$25,000,000 in general fund supported borrowing for construction projects having a public purpose, including \$3,000,000 for a grant to the In-courage Community Foundation, Inc., to assist with constructing an economic and community hub.
3. Authorizes \$15,000,000 in general fund supported borrowing for a “center.” This provision was affected by a partial veto, which changed a center financed under the State Building Program from a northern Wisconsin regional crisis center to a “center.”
4. Authorizes \$10,000,000 in general fund supported borrowing to assist the Medical College of Wisconsin, Inc., in the construction of a cancer research facility.

### State Employment and Fringe Benefits

**Act 9 (AB-56)** repeals obsolete DETF appropriations. *See also* Employment: Public Employment.

## State Finance

**Act 9 (AB-56)** does all of the following:

1. Transfers \$25,000,000 from WEDC to the general fund.
2. Transfers \$10,000,000 from an appropriation account in the general fund to the state building trust fund.

## General State Government

**Act 9 (AB-56)** requires DOA to award grants for alternative fuels from the Volkswagen settlement funds.

**Act 110 (AB-49)** authorizes the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands to contract with the State of Wisconsin Investment Board to invest school trust fund moneys and authorizes SWIB to invest these moneys in accordance with the standard that applies to SWIB’s investment of other funds under its management.

**Act 139 (AB-607)** increases the state match of municipal contributions to length-of-service award accounts for volunteer fire fighters, first responders, and volunteer emergency medical technicians.

## Taxation

**Act 2 (SB-13)** provides that an assessor is not required to notify a taxpayer of the change in a property’s value from the prior year’s assessment if the property is agricultural land and the difference between the two values is \$300 or less.

**Act 7 (AB-10)** disallows any income tax deduction for moving expenses paid by a taxpayer to move the taxpayer’s Wisconsin business operations, in whole or in part, to a location outside the state or to move the taxpayer’s business operations outside the United States.

**Act 9 (AB-56)** changes laws related to taxation as follows:

1. Reduces from 5.84 percent to 5.21 percent the marginal individual income tax rate that applies to income that falls within the second income tax bracket.
2. Provides an exclusion from income for individuals and corporations for interest received on bonds or

notes issued by the Wisconsin Health and Educational Facilities Authority if the bonds or notes are issued in an amount totaling \$35,000,000 or less, to the extent such interest is not otherwise exempt.

3. Provides that in order to claim the exemption from the real estate transfer fee for a conveyance by a subsidiary corporation to its parent for no consideration both the subsidiary and the parent must be a corporation.

4. Imposes an excise tax on vapor products, which are defined as noncombustible products that produce vapor or aerosol for inhalation from the application of a heating element, regardless of whether the liquid or other substance contains nicotine, at a rate of 5 cents per milliliter of the liquid or other substance.

**Act 10** ([AB-251](#)) requires marketplace providers to collect and remit sales tax from third parties and reduces individual income tax rates based on the collection of sales and use tax from out-of-state retailers and marketplace providers. The act defines a “marketplace provider” as any person who facilitates the retail sales of a seller’s products or services and who, by agreements with third parties, collects payment from the purchaser and transmits that payment to the seller.

**Act 15** ([SB-54](#)) allows a person who intends to purchase a retailer’s business or inventory to examine the retailer’s sales tax returns and related schedules, exhibits, and audit reports to determine whether the retailer is liable for any amount of sales tax and to obtain the amount of the retailer’s outstanding liability.

**Act 28** ([AB-73](#)) generally prohibits retailers and DOR from collecting sales and use taxes related to a local professional baseball park district (Miller Park) after August 31, 2020, or after the date on which the district board certifies that the district has paid off its bonds and established a special maintenance and capital improvements fund, whichever occurs earlier. The act also imposes legislative oversight of the district.

**Act 40** ([AB-141](#)) clarifies that the payment of real or personal property taxes that must be received on or before five working days after the due date that are mailed to the proper official are considered timely if postmarked on or before the due date, regardless of

when received. The act also specifies that if the due date is a Saturday or Sunday, the five-day grace period ends on the following Friday.

**Act 54** ([SB-362](#)) eliminates obsolete refundable income tax credits.

**Act 61** ([SB-208](#)) allows the allocation of the early stage seed investment tax credit to offset certain fees imposed on insurers.

**Act 114** ([AB-691](#)) requires the notice of a changed property tax assessment to state that an assessor may not change the assessment of property based solely on the recent arm’s length sale of the property without adjusting the assessed value of comparable properties in the same area.

**Act 128** ([AB-344](#)) exempts property used to provide broadband services to rural and underserved areas from the telephone company tax.

**Act 136** ([AB-532](#)) reduces the amount of capital gains subject to income and franchise taxation for taxpayers who invest in Wisconsin opportunity zones.

**Act 167** ([SB-387](#)) includes crop insurance proceeds in a taxpayer’s production gross receipts for purposes of the manufacturing and agricultural tax credit.

**Act 172** ([SB-696](#)) makes a technical correction to the property tax exemption for property operated as an Olympic Ice Training Center on land purchased from the state by changing “Olympic Ice Training Center” to “National Ice Training Center.”

**Act 181** ([SB-351](#)) exempts from the sales tax the sale of tangible personal property that is temporarily stored in this state if the property is to be used in the construction of real property outside this state at the site of a nonprofit organization, school district, or business district where tax incentives have been granted.

## Trade and Consumer Protection

**Act 60** ([SB-170](#)) allows a minor to operate a temporary stand without a food license from DATCP if certain conditions are met and prohibits cities, villages, towns,

and counties from enacting an ordinance that prohibits minors from operating such a stand.

**Act 64** ([SB-349](#)) allows a gas pump to dispense through the same fueling nozzle and hose gasoline-ethanol fuel blends containing greater than 10 percent and not more than 15 percent ethanol (E15), gasoline containing no ethanol, and gasoline-ethanol fuel blends containing not more than 10 percent ethanol if a label is prominently affixed to the gas pump that states that a minimum purchase of 4 gallons is required or if, among other things, there is at least one other gas pump at the retail station that has a fueling nozzle and hose that dispense only gasoline-ethanol fuel blends containing no more than 10 percent ethanol.

**Act 131** ([AB-437](#)) requires DATCP to allow records of medications administered or treatments provided to campers or staff at an overnight recreational or education camp to be maintained electronically.

**Act 135** ([AB-522](#)) specifies that disclosure and reminder notice requirements related to automatic renewal or extension of business contracts do not apply to contracts for the supply of industrial, medical, or other gases.

## Transportation

### Highways and Local Assistance

**Act 3** ([SB-1](#)) requires DOT to designate the interchange of I 41, USH 10, and STH 441 in Winnebago County as the Michael G. Ellis Memorial Interchange.

**Act 9** ([AB-56](#)) does all of the following:

1. Adds major highway projects on I 43 and I 41 to the list of enumerated projects approved for construction.
2. Increases by \$95,000,000 the authority to contract state debt for the reconstruction of the Zoo Interchange.
3. Increases by \$27,000,000 the authority to contract state debt for major interstate bridge projects.
4. Decreases by \$10,000,000 the authority to contract state debt for high-cost state highway bridge projects.
5. Eliminates from appropriations related to intelligent

transportation systems a prohibition on encumbering moneys after June 30, 2021.

**Act 18** ([AB-275](#)) requires DOT to maintain an inventory of highway projects that are suitable for selection as design-build projects.

**Act 20** ([SB-433](#)) directs DOT to designate and mark a portion of STH 28 as the “Wisconsin 9/11 Memorial Highway” and to erect certain highway signs for the Wisconsin 9/11 Memorial and Education Center in the village of Kewaskum.

**Act 23** ([AB-77](#)) directs DOT to designate a portion of STH 33 as the “Staff Sergeant Daniel D. Busch Memorial Highway.”

**Act 69** ([SB-447](#)) modifies the supplemental general transportation aids program to require DOT to make supplemental general transportation aid payments to towns for which other general transportation aid payments are based on the number of miles of highway in the town and that have had their other general transportation aid payments limited by the requirement that a municipality not be paid an amount greater than 85 percent of its three-year average highway costs.

**Act 146** ([AB-818](#)) authorizes DOT to issue annual or consecutive month permits for the overweight transport of municipal sewage treatment residue for processing and for the overweight transport of the liquid removed during processing.

### Impaired Driving

**Act 31** ([AB-17](#)) creates a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in prison for a person who is convicted of homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle. *See also* Crime and Law Enforcement: Crime.

**Act 106** ([SB-6](#)) imposes a mandatory minimum 18-month period of confinement in prison for fifth and sixth offenses of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

**Act 107** ([AB-222](#)) makes technical changes to the statutes providing for lifetime revocation of a person’s operating privilege for certain offenses related to operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

## Motor Vehicles

**Act 9** ([AB-56](#)) increases the registration fee for certain vehicles for which the fee is based on the vehicle's weight.

**Act 50** ([SB-86](#)) creates a definition of an autocycle, which is a three-wheeled motor vehicle with operation controls similar to an automobile, and authorizes the operation of autocycles with a regular operator's license issued by DOT.

**Act 53** ([SB-320](#)) provides a method by which an insurer who is accepting a salvage vehicle that is not currently titled as a salvage vehicle upon payment of an insurance claim that exceeds 70 percent of the fair market value of the vehicle may provide "other evidence of ownership" to obtain a salvage vehicle certificate of title.

**Act 163** ([SB-523](#)) expands an exception from the commercial driver license requirement for certain uses of commercial motor vehicles by farmers.

**Act 165** ([SB-162](#)) provides that the fee for a certificate of title after a transfer of a motor vehicle is waived when a vehicle is transferred upon a person's death to his or her spouse or domestic partner.

**Act 173** ([SB-768](#)) creates a process for DOT to transition existing registrations for autocycles to the new autocycle registration plate and exempts autocycles from emission inspections.

**Act 174** ([SB-669](#)) provides that Wisconsin's planting and harvesting period is January 1 to December 31 for purposes of an exception to federal commercial motor vehicle hours of service record-keeping requirements.

## Traffic and Parking Regulation

**Act 5** ([SB-4](#)) expands the definition of "immobilization device" to include a device that is placed on the front windshield to obstruct the driver's view and authorizes counties, municipalities, and universities to contract with a person to place and remove immobilization devices.

## General Transportation

**Act 4** ([SB-3](#)) provides that for license denials and license suspensions and revocations of certain licenses issued to manufacturers, importers, distributors, or dealers of motor vehicles, DOT is responsible for the initial determination, and that a licensee may appeal the determination to the Division of Hearings and Appeals. The act also provides that, in certain cases, a suspension or revocation of one of these licenses may take effect immediately.

**Act 9** ([AB-56](#)) does all of the following:

1. Requires that a portion of petroleum inspection fees be deposited into the transportation fund.
2. Increases the amount of state aid payments for mass transit systems.
3. Appropriates an amount to DOT for "local grant." This provision was affected by a partial veto, which changed a local roads improvement discretionary supplemental grant program to a "local grant."
4. Allows DOT to make grants for intermodal freight facilities.
5. Requires that DOT expend in the 2019–21 fiscal biennium up to \$9,080,000 from proceeds of transportation revenue bonds for administrative facility projects.

**Act 11** ([SB-152](#)) authorizes the use of electric scooters on highways and requires operators of electric scooters to adhere to the rules of the road. The act also provides that a local unit of government may regulate the rental and operation of electric scooters in the same way that it regulates bicycles, except that the local unit of government may do all of the following:

1. Restrict or prohibit the operation of scooters on roads with speed limits in excess of 25 miles per hour.
2. Restrict or prohibit the operation of scooters on sidewalks and bicycle ways.
3. Establish requirements for and limitations on the parking of scooters.
4. Restrict or prohibit the short-term commercial rental of scooters to the general public.

**Act 27** ([AB-22](#)) requires that commercial motor vehicle



driver education courses offered by technical colleges or licensed private driver schools provide instruction in the recognition and prevention of human trafficking.

**Act 34** ([AB-132](#)) regulates the operation of electric bicycles.

**Act 63** ([SB-319](#)) specifies that both jobs created and jobs retained resulting from an improvement or economic development project may be used in setting the grant ceiling for a project under the transportation facilities economic assistance and development program.

**Act 67** ([SB-304](#)) specifies that a motor vehicle manufacturer violates its motor vehicle manufacturer's license if it takes or threatens adverse action against a dealer of its motor vehicles for the purpose of recovering costs of compensating the dealer for certain service work performed for the manufacturer, or in retaliation for a dealer's exercising a right or seeking a remedy under Wisconsin's motor vehicle dealer law.

**Act 89** ([AB-197](#)) provides that, if DOT establishes requirements relating to driver school offices located in residences, DOT may not apply those requirements to driver school offices in residences to which students and members of the public have no access.

## Trusts and Estates; Probate

**Act 127** ([AB-327](#)) for purposes of a termination of a decedent's property interest or a summary confirmation of an interest in a decedent's property, allows an applicant or petitioner to sign an application or petition under oath and eliminates the requirement to provide a death certificate.

## Veterans and Military Affairs

**Act 9** ([AB-56](#)) eliminates the veterans housing loan program and creates a veterans outreach and recovery program to provide outreach, mental health services, and support to Wisconsin veterans, national guard members, and members of the reserves who

may have a mental health condition or substance use disorder.

**Act 26** ([AB-471](#)) requires DMA to award grants to Wisconsin public safety answering points to purchase, upgrade, and maintain 911 equipment.

**Act 159** ([SB-369](#)) makes minor and technical changes to the laws relating to emergency management training and payments through a federal emergency assistance process.

## Constitutional Amendments

**Enrolled Joint Resolution 3** ([SJR-2](#)), proposed by the 2019 legislature on second consideration, expands the rights of crime victims under the Wisconsin Constitution. The amendment was ratified by the voters on April 7, 2020.

## Fully Vetoed Legislation

[Assembly Bill 4](#) would have increased the maximum individual income tax sliding scale standard deduction for each type of income tax filer and would have modified each of the phaseout percentages to be closer together.

[Assembly Bill 26](#) would have exempted valid direct primary care agreements from the application of insurance law and would have established the criteria for what constitutes a valid direct primary care agreement for that purpose.

[Assembly Bill 53](#) would have added the names of a pupil's parents or guardians to the list of pupil information that a public school may designate as directory data.

[Assembly Bill 76](#) would have prohibited DHS from requiring instructional programs for nurse aides to exceed the federally required minimum number of hours. *But see* Act 185; Health and Human Services: Health.

[Assembly Bill 179](#) would have required a health care provider to exercise the same degree of skill, care,

and diligence to preserve the life and health of a child born alive after an attempted abortion as any other child born alive and ensure that the child born alive is immediately transported and admitted to a hospital. AB-179 would also have made intentionally causing the death of a child born alive as a result of an attempted abortion a felony.

Assembly Bill 180 would have required certain information regarding an abortion-inducing drug regimen to be provided to a woman who is planning to have an abortion induced by that method and would also have added to the information required to be reported for induced abortions.

Assembly Bill 182 would have prohibited a person from performing or inducing an abortion if the person knows the abortion is sought solely because of the race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, or congenital disability of the unborn child.

Assembly Bill 183 would have prohibited DHS from certifying, and would have required DHS to decertify, as a provider under the Medical Assistance program a private entity that provides abortion services or is an affiliate of a person that provides abortion services.

Assembly Bill 249 would have provided standards related to bills making honorary designations of state highways or bridges.

Assembly Bill 273 would have required DOT to maintain a list of highway subbase materials and associated thicknesses of the materials that provide equivalent structural properties for the purpose of highway construction. The bill would also have required DOT to allow bidders for highway projects to base their bids on the use of alternate subbase materials that are equivalent to those in the design specification for the project.

Assembly Bill 284 would have required DOT to develop a discretionary merit award program and consider making lump sum monetary awards to employees who implemented business processes that created significant cost savings, efficiency, or innovation.

Assembly Bill 805 would have required DOC to recommend revoking a person's extended supervision,

parole, or probation if the person was charged with a crime while on extended supervision, parole, or probation.

Assembly Bill 806 would have changed the violations for which a juvenile may be placed in the Serious Juvenile Offender Program to include any violation that would be a Class G felony or higher if committed by an adult in this state.

Assembly Bill 808 would have prohibited a prosecutor who charged a person with illegal possession of a firearm from placing the person in a deferred prosecution program, and would have required a prosecutor to get court approval before dismissing or amending such a charge, if the person had previously committed a violent felony.

Assembly Bill 809 would have prohibited prisoners who are incarcerated for the commission of certain violent crimes from qualifying for early discharge from prison or probation.

Senate Bill 43 would have authorized a qualified organization to conduct a paddlewheel raffle under a Class B raffle license.

Senate Bill 60 would have made several changes to the process of placing a sexually violent person (SVP) on supervised release, including replacing the requirement that certain SVPs be placed at least 1,500 feet from places such as schools or a child's primary residence with a requirement that the court consider the distance between the placement of certain SVPs and such places and requiring that an SVP who was placed on supervised release on or after March 30, 2018, in a county that was not his or her county of residence be placed in the county of his or her residence.

Senate Bill 292 would have provided exemptions from requirements and prohibitions related to prize notices to persons who represent that a uniform prize will be delivered to each individual that responds. SB-292 also would have allowed representations about prizes to be placed on envelopes and would have required that the retail value of a prize and the odds of receiving the prize be stated on the first page of a prize notice instead of next to each place that the prize appears in the prize notice.

Senate Bill 613 would have created standards for determining whether a breach of the peace had occurred in the repossession of collateral or leased goods and would have created liability immunity for vehicle repossessors under certain circumstances.

Senate Bill 821 would have created a personal property tax exemption for all machinery, tools, and patterns; increased the maximum deduction under the individual income tax sliding scale standard deduction; and reduced the state general obligation and variable rate debt supported by general purpose revenue. ■

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