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## Zimmerman's Tuition Reciprocity Bill Approved by Legislature

**Madison, WI...**State Representative Shannon Zimmerman's (R-River Falls) bill that addresses Wisconsin-Minnesota tuition reciprocity was approved, on a bipartisan vote, by the State Assembly yesterday.

Zimmerman explained that Wisconsin (WI) currently has a tuition reciprocity agreement in place with Minnesota (MN). This means a WI student can attend a MN state school at the rate they would pay at an in state WI school. A MN student can also attend a WI state school at the rate they would pay at an in state MN school. Because MN has a higher in-state rate, those students pay a tuition rate at WI schools that is higher than the rate charged to WI residents.

The legislation requires that any differential tuition earned by any UW System institution be returned to that institution. Differential tuition is the difference between what a Minnesota student pays to attend a Wisconsin institution and what a Wisconsin student would pay to attend that same institution. Currently, this differential tuition is being deposited into the state's general fund.

"Changing the way these tuition funds are allocated will have a positive impact on UW River Falls," Zimmerman said. "UW River Falls would benefit to the tune of over \$4 million based on the current agreement in place."

The bill was recently approved by the State Senate on and now moves on to the Governor for his signature.

Rep. Shannon Zimmerman represents the 30<sup>th</sup> Assembly District which includes parts of St. Croix and Pierce Counties.

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