

1 **AN ACT relating to:** creating a commission on financial aid consolidation and
 2 modernization.

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

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council’s Special Committee on Review of Higher Education Financial Aids Programs.

This draft creates a temporary commission on financial aid consolidation and modernization in the higher education aids board (HEAB). The draft specifies the membership of the commission to consist of the following 9 members:

- The HEAB executive secretary.
- The chairperson of HEAB.
- A HEAB member designated by the chairperson.
- Two representatives of the University of Wisconsin System.
- Two representatives of the Wisconsin technical college system.
- Two representatives of the Wisconsin association of independent colleges and universities.

The commission is directed to study the potential for consolidating all grant programs administered by HEAB into a single, comprehensive, need-based grant program, as well as options for providing grant aid for students who are attending Wisconsin institutions of higher education at less than full-time credit loads. The commission is directed to report its recommendations to HEAB and the legislature no later than April 1, 2012, at which time the commission shall terminate its activities and cease to exist.

3 **SECTION 1. Nonstatutory provisions; Higher Educational Aids Board.**

4 **(1) Commission on financial aid consolidation and modernization.**

5 (a) There is created in the higher educational aids board a commission on financial aid
 6 consolidation and modernization.

1 (b) The commission shall be appointed by the executive secretary of the higher
2 educational aids board and the members of the commission shall be comprised of the
3 following:

- 4 1. The executive secretary of the higher educational aids board.
- 5 2. The chairperson of the higher educational aids board and a higher educational aids
6 board member of his or her designation.
- 7 3. Two representatives of the University of Wisconsin System.
- 8 4. Two representatives of the Wisconsin technical college system.
- 9 5. Two representatives of the Wisconsin association of independent colleges and
10 universities.

11 **(2) Duties of the commission.** The commission on financial aid consolidation and
12 modernization shall study the following:

13 (a) The potential for consolidating all grant programs administered by the higher
14 educational aids board into a single, comprehensive, need-based grant program.

15 (b) Options for providing grant aid for students who are attending Wisconsin
16 institutions of higher education at less than full-time credit loads.

17 **(3) Report of the commission.** The commission on financial aid consolidation and
18 modernization shall report its recommendations to the higher educational aids board and the
19 legislature by April 1, 2012, after which the commission shall terminate its activities and shall
20 cease to exist.

21 **(END)**