

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 15.917 (2) and 36.25 (55) of the statutes; **relating to:** establishing
 2 a nanotechnology information hub and a nanotechnology council.

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 Nanotechnology. It responds to the committee’s instruction to create an entity to promote the development of nanotechnology in this state by serving as a central information source on the benefits, risks, and regulations related to nanotechnology, promoting collaboration between the public and private sectors, providing technical assistance to businesses and researchers, establishing a state educational program, and otherwise promoting the safe development of nanotechnology.

This draft directs the University of Wisconsin (UW) Board of Regents to maintain a nanotechnology information hub in the UW–Extension (“the extension”) to promote and support the development of safe nanotechnology in this state, and sets forth specific duties for the nanotechnology information hub. The draft also creates a nanotechnology council to set policies and priorities for the nanotechnology information hub and make grants for research and development related to nanotechnology.

3 **SECTION 1.** 15.917 (2) of the statutes is created to read:

4 **15.917 (2) NANOTECHNOLOGY COUNCIL.** There is created in the University of Wisconsin
 5 System a nanotechnology council consisting of the following members:

- 6 (a) The director of the state laboratory of hygiene or his or her designee.
- 7 (b) The secretary of the department of natural resources or his or her designee.
- 8 (c) The secretary of the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection or his
 9 or her designee.
- 10 (d) The secretary of the department of health services or his or her designee.
- 11 (e) The secretary of the department of workforce development or his or her designee.

- 1 (f) The secretary of the department of commerce or his or her designee.
- 2 (g) The administrator of the division of emergency management in the department of
3 military affairs or his or her designee.
- 4 (h) The president of the University of Wisconsin System or his or her designee.
- 5 (i) The president of the technical college system or his or her designee.
- 6 (j) The president of the Wisconsin technology council board or his or her designee.
- 7 (k) Five members nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the
8 senate appointed, with representation as follows:
- 9 1. A member with a recognized interest in and knowledge of environmental protection.
 - 10 2. A member with a recognized interest in and knowledge of consumer protection.
 - 11 3. A member with a recognized interest in and knowledge of public health.
 - 12 4. A member representing an organization that specializes in economic development.
 - 13 5. A member representing an organization that specializes in technology transfer.

14 **SECTION 2.** 36.25 (55) of the statutes is created to read:

15 36.25 (55) NANOTECHNOLOGY INFORMATION HUB AND NANOTECHNOLOGY COUNCIL. (a)
16 The board shall maintain in the extension a nanotechnology information hub to promote the
17 development of nanotechnology, create and retain jobs related to nanotechnology, and
18 disseminate information about best practices for workplace safety and environmental and
19 consumer protection related to nanotechnology. The nanotechnology information hub shall
20 do all of the following:

- 21 1. Facilitate the sharing of specialized equipment and skills related to nanotechnology
22 between the public and private sectors.
- 23 2. Monitor, compile, and disseminate emerging scientific research on nanoscale
24 material uses, benefits, and risks.

1 3. Monitor and provide information on new and proposed state rules and federal
2 regulations related to nanotechnology.

3 4. Help businesses to comply with rules and regulations related to nanotechnology,
4 implement best practices for handling nanoscale materials to protect worker safety, and
5 otherwise minimize the risks associated with the use of nanoscale materials in products.

6 5. Consult with state agencies regarding any proposed rules related to nanotechnology
7 or nanomaterials.

8 6. Report [annually] [biennially] to the appropriate standing committees of the
9 legislature under s. 13.172 (3) on emerging nanotechnology health and safety information.

10 7. Inform businesses that are involved in nanotechnology or that use nanoscale
11 materials in products about business development assistance programs.

12 8. Inform the public and businesses that are involved in nanotechnology about
13 post-secondary education programs that prepare workers for careers related to
14 nanotechnology.

15 9. Develop and implement a program to educate the public about the benefits and risks
16 of specific types of nanoscale materials and products containing nanoscale materials.

17 10. Inform emergency response personnel about the safe handling of nanoscale
18 materials in emergency situations.

19 11. Monitor and provide to interested parties information on opportunities for federal,
20 state, or other funding for nanotechnology research or other programs related to
21 nanotechnology.

22 12. Seek and compete for federal, state, or other funding to be used by the
23 nanotechnology council under par. (b) to make grants through the extension for research and
24 development related to nanotechnology.

