

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”), for at least 5 years, to promote the development of nanotechnology businesses in this state and gather and disseminate information about environmental health and workplace safety related to nanotechnology. The draft 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. (a) There is created in the University of
 5 Wisconsin System a nanotechnology council consisting of the following members:

- 6 1. The director of the state laboratory of hygiene, or his or her designee.
- 7 2. The secretary of the department of natural resources, or his or her designee.
- 8 3. The secretary of the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection, or his
 9 or her designee.

- 1 4. The secretary of the department of health services, or his or her designee.
- 2 5. The secretary of the department of workforce development, or his or her designee.
- 3 6. The secretary of the department of commerce, or his or her designee.
- 4 7. The administrator of the division of emergency management in the department of
- 5 military affairs, or his or her designee.
- 6 8. The president of the University of Wisconsin System, or his or her designee.
- 7 9. The president of the technical college system, or his or her designee.
- 8 10. The president of the Wisconsin technology council board, or his or her designee.
- 9 11. Five members nominated by the governor, and with the advice and consent of the
- 10 senate appointed, with representation as follows:
- 11 a. A member with a recognized interest in and knowledge of environmental protection.
- 12 b. A member with a recognized interest in and knowledge of consumer protection.
- 13 c. A member with a recognized interest in and knowledge of public health.
- 14 d. A member representing an organization that specializes in economic development.
- 15 e. A member representing an organization that specializes in technology transfer.
- 16 (b) All members of the nanotechnology council shall be appointed or designated no later
- 17 than 90 days after the effective date of this paragraph ... [LRB inserts date].

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

19 36.25 (55) NANOTECHNOLOGY INFORMATION HUB AND NANOTECHNOLOGY COUNCIL. (a)

20 The board shall maintain in the extension a nanotechnology information hub to promote the

21 development of nanotechnology businesses and gather and disseminate information about

22 environmental health and workplace safety related to nanotechnology. The board shall

23 maintain the nanotechnology information hub for at least 5 years.

1 (b) The nanotechnology information hub shall do all of the following to foster
2 communication and cooperation between the public and private sectors on matters related to
3 nanotechnology:

- 4 1. Facilitate the sharing of specialized equipment and skills related to nanotechnology.
- 5 2. Arrange for periodic events to bring together people interested in nanotechnology.
- 6 3. Establish an interactive Internet platform for receiving and disseminating
7 information on nanotechnology.
- 8 4. Monitor, compile, and disseminate emerging scientific research on nanoscale
9 material uses, benefits, and risks.

10 (c) The nanotechnology information hub shall do all of the following to assist in the
11 development of the nanotechnology industry in this state:

- 12 1. Help businesses to identify and access resources to help them to comply with rules
13 and regulations related to nanotechnology, implement best practices for handling nanoscale
14 materials to protect worker safety, and otherwise minimize the risks associated with the use
15 of nanoscale materials in products.
- 16 2. Inform businesses that are involved in nanotechnology or that use nanoscale materials
17 in products about business development assistance programs.
- 18 3. Inform the public and businesses that are involved in nanotechnology about
19 post-secondary education programs that prepare workers for careers related to
20 nanotechnology.
- 21 4. Monitor and provide information on new and proposed state rules and federal
22 regulations related to nanotechnology.

23 (d) The nanotechnology information hub shall do all of the following to promote
24 environmental health, research, and workplace safety related to nanotechnology:

1 1. Inform interested parties about opportunities for federal, state, or other funding for
2 nanotechnology research or other programs related to nanotechnology.

3 2. Inform the public about the benefits and risks of specific types of nanoscale materials
4 and products containing nanoscale materials.

5 3. Inform emergency response personnel about the safe handling of nanoscale materials
6 in emergency situations.

7 4. Collect information voluntarily provided by public and private sector entities in this
8 state about the types and amounts of nanoscale materials being handled or manufactured and
9 the locations of those activities.

10 5. Undertake other educational, public outreach, and grant activities related to
11 nanotechnology.

12 6. Report to the appropriate standing committees of the legislature under s. 13.172 (3)
13 on emerging nanotechnology health and safety information and, at the direction of the council,
14 identify needed legislation relating to nanotechnology safety and development.

15 (e) The nanotechnology information hub shall seek and compete for federal, state, or
16 other funding to support its activities and to be used by the nanotechnology council under par.
17 (b) to make grants through the extension for research and development related to
18 nanotechnology.

19 (f) At least one staff person with technical experience with nanoscale materials shall
20 be assigned to the nanotechnology information hub.

21 (g) The nanotechnology council created under s. 15.917 (2) shall meet at least twice
22 every year and shall set policies and priorities for the nanotechnology information hub and
23 make grants through the extension for research and development related to nanotechnology,
24 subject to the availability of funding.

