

# Bill Position Board of Regents - University of Wisconsin System 2015-16 Legislative Session

# SB 276-AB 356

University of Wisconsin System parking and transportation facilities and parking fees

### **LEGISLATION**

Authors: Senator Sheila Harsdorf and Representative David Murphy

This bill allows University of Wisconsin (UW) parking fees and fines to be used for campus safety and transportation-related programs. Current law authorizes the Board of Regents of the UW System and UW chancellors to regulate motor vehicle parking on property under their jurisdiction.

Current law requires that any parking fines or fees collected by a UW institution pursuant to such regulations must be used only to enforce the regulations or develop and operate parking or other transportation facilities at the institution.

This bill also allows the parking fines or fees to be used for any campus safety or transportation-related program developed or operated at the institution at which the fines or fees are collected.

The bill also prohibits the building commission from authorizing any general fund supported borrowing to aid in the construction of parking facilities at any UW institution.

## **UW SYSTEM POSITION:**

# **SUPPORT**

As part of a 2013 audit, the Legislative Audit Bureau discovered a possible discrepancy between how UW System institutions utilized parking revenues and state statutes. The audit bureau recommended that UW System seek statutory changes to address that situation.

Currently, state statute restricts the use of parking fees and fines to developing and operating parking or other transportation facilities. UW-Madison considers the wording of the current statute to be vague in that "facilities" did not necessarily mean tangible assets, but rather could be any program that helps meet campus access needs.

This bill will clarify that University of Wisconsin institutions are authorized to use revenue from parking permits and fines to fund campus safety or other transportation-related programs.

The Office of University Recommends that the Board of Regents formally takes a position in support of this legislation.