

**STATE OF WISCONSIN
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYEE TRUST FUNDS
801 West Badger Road
Madison, WI 53702**

CORRESPONDENCE MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 22, 2002

TO: Teachers Retirement Board
Wisconsin Retirement Board
Employee Trust Funds Board

FROM: Linda Owen, Policy Analyst
Division of Retirement Services

SUBJECT: Scope Statement for Amending Service Purchase Rules

The Department is requesting the boards' approval of a Scope Statement for amending the administrative rules governing Wisconsin Retirement System service purchases.

The proposed changes would amend the administrative rules to reflect pending changes in Wisconsin Statutes that are needed as a result of the federal Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 (EGTTRA). Additional amendments to the rules would reflect Departmental policy changes, as well as making "housekeeping" corrections such as deleting provisions that are now obsolete and changing statutory cross-references to reflect previous and pending statutory revisions. Failure to amend the rules would result in the rules governing WRS service purchases being in conflict with state and federal laws.

Once the boards approve the scope statement, work can begin on the proposed rule changes. The Department has submitted proposed statutory changes to conform WRS law with EGTTRA, but the amended rules cannot be promulgated until after the proposed statutory changes go into effect. The Department will submit the final proposed rule to the boards for approval before promulgation.