$\textbf{Table S1. Steady-state parameters for activation of various isoleucine samples by WT\ EcLeuRS^a$ <sup>a</sup> Measured by ATP-PP<sub>i</sub> exchange assay.

AA	% Leu <sup>b</sup>	K <sub>m</sub> (AA)	$k_{\rm cat}$	$k_{\rm cat}/K_{ m m}$	Discrimination factor <sup>c</sup>
		mM	$s^{-1}$	$mM^{-1}s^{-1}$	
commercial Ile (Sigma BioUltra lot 1)	$0.38 \pm 0.03$	$5.0 \pm 0.4$	$65 \pm 2$	13	102
commercial Ile (Sigma BioUltra lot 2)	$(19 \pm 2) \times 10^{-4}$	23	3.8	0.17	7765
purified Ile (Sigma BioUltra lot 2)	$(3.5 \pm 0.7) \times 10^{-4}$	$26 \pm 7$	$1.1 \pm 0.1$	0.042	31429

b Determined kinetically- see Supplementary Materials and Methods.

c Discrimination factor is defined as  $(k_{\text{cat}}/K_{\text{m}})_{\text{cognate}}/(k_{\text{cat}}/K_{\text{m}})_{\text{non-cognate}}$ .

The values represent the best fit value  $\pm$  S.E. of at least two independent experiments.