



2015 ASSEMBLY BILL 239

May 27, 2015 - Introduced by Representatives THIESFELDT, KNUDSON, GANNON, KREMER, QUINN, T. LARSON, NEYLON, KNODL and KULP, cosponsored by Senators STROEBEL, NASS and VUKMIR. Referred to Committee on Education.

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 118.30 (2) (b) 3. to 6.; and *to create* 115.385 (1m) and 118.303
2 of the statutes; **relating to:** allowing a pupil's parent or guardian to opt out of
3 certain statewide examinations and providing information about mandatory
4 pupil examinations.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under the bill, upon request of a parent or guardian, a school board, operator of an independent charter school, and governing body of a private school participating in a parental choice program must excuse a pupil enrolled in any grade from 3 to 12 from taking any examination designed to measure pupil attainment of knowledge and concepts (knowledge and concepts examination). Under current law, upon request from a parent or guardian, a school board, operator of an independent charter school, and governing body of a private school participating in a parental choice program must excuse a pupil in 4th, 8th, 9th, 10th, or 11th grade from taking the knowledge and concepts examination adopted by the state superintendent of public instruction that is required to be administered to pupils in that grade. The bill also prohibits the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) from considering how many pupils enrolled in a school or school district have been excused from taking any knowledge and concepts examination for purposes of the annual school and school district accountability report published by DPI.

Finally, the bill requires each school board, operator of an independent charter school, and governing body of a private school participating in a parental choice program to provide the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in a public school

ASSEMBLY BILL 239

in the school district, the independent charter school, or the private school, respectively, and to post on its Internet site, if any, a written summary of information about certain examinations that will be administered to pupils enrolled in that school.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 115.385 (1m) of the statutes is created to read:

2 115.385 (1m) For purposes of measuring a school's performance and a school
3 district's improvement under sub. (1), the department may not consider how many
4 pupils enrolled in the school or school district have been excused from taking
5 examinations under s. 118.30 (2) (b) 3. to 6.

6 **SECTION 2.** 118.30 (2) (b) 3. to 6. of the statutes are amended to read:

7 118.30 (2) (b) 3. Upon the request of ~~a pupil's~~ the parent or guardian of a pupil
8 enrolled in any grade from 3 to 12, the school board shall excuse the pupil from taking
9 an any examination designed to measure pupil attainment of knowledge and
10 concepts, including any examination administered under sub. (1m).

11 4. Upon the request of ~~a pupil's~~ the parent or guardian of a pupil enrolled in
12 any grade from 3 to 12, the operator of a charter school under s. 118.40 (2r) shall
13 excuse the pupil from taking an any examination designed to measure pupil
14 attainment of knowledge and concepts, including any examination administered
15 under sub. (1r).

16 5. Upon the request of ~~a pupil's~~ the parent or guardian of a pupil enrolled in
17 any grade from 3 to 12, the governing body of a private school participating in the
18 program under s. 119.23 shall excuse the pupil from taking an any examination
19 designed to measure pupil attainment of knowledge and concepts, including any
20 examination administered under sub. (1s) (a) to ~~(em)~~ (d).

ASSEMBLY BILL 239

1 6. Upon the request of ~~a pupil's~~ the parent or guardian of a pupil enrolled in
2 any grade from 3 to 12, the governing body of a private school participating in the
3 program under s. 118.60 shall excuse the pupil from taking ~~an~~ any examination
4 designed to measure pupil attainment of knowledge and concepts in grades 3 to 12,
5 including any examination administered under sub. (1t) (a) to ~~(em)~~ (d).

6 **SECTION 3.** 118.303 of the statutes is created to read:

7 **118.303 Notice of pupil assessments. (1)** Annually, in each school year, on
8 or before the first day on which a school is operated for the attendance of pupils, each
9 school board, operator of a charter school under s. 118.40 (2r), and governing body
10 of a private school participating in a parental choice program under s. 118.60 or
11 119.23 shall provide the parent or guardian of each pupil enrolled in a public school
12 in the school district, the charter school, or the private school a written summary of
13 all of the following:

14 (a) Each examination required under state or federal law that will be
15 administered to pupils enrolled in a public school in the school district, the charter
16 school, or the private school and each examination required by the school board,
17 operator, or governing body to assess school or school district performance that will
18 be administered to pupils enrolled in a public school in the school district, the charter
19 school, or the private school.

20 (b) The grade level to which each examination identified under par. (a) will be
21 administered.

22 (c) The expected date on which each examination identified under par. (a) will
23 be administered.

24 (d) The duration of each examination identified under par. (a).

