



State of Wisconsin  
2017 - 2018 LEGISLATURE

LRB-4432/3  
TKK:emw

## 2017 SENATE BILL 597

November 30, 2017 - Introduced by Senators MARKLEIN, TESTIN, MOULTON and TIFFANY, cosponsored by Representatives MURSAU, KRUG, BALLWEG, BERNIER, E. BROOKS, EDMING, JACQUE, KULP, PETRYK, PRONSCHINSKE, RIPP, SPIROS, TRANEL, TUSLER and VANDERMEER. Referred to Joint Committee on Finance.

1     **AN ACT to repeal** 115.436 (2) (c); **to renumber and amend** 115.436 (3) (a); **to**  
2             **amend** 115.436 (2) (intro.) and 115.436 (3) (am); and **to create** 115.436 (2) (b),  
3             115.436 (3) (a) 1. and 115.436 (3) (a) 2. of the statutes; **relating to:** sparsity aid  
4             and making an appropriation.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill makes certain additional school districts eligible for sparsity aid. Under current law, a school district is eligible for sparsity aid in the amount of \$300 per pupil if the school district's membership in the previous school year did not exceed 745 pupils and if the membership divided by the school district's area in square miles is less than ten. Also under current law, as affected by 2017 Wisconsin Act 59, the biennial budget bill, a school district that was eligible to receive sparsity aid in the previous school year but that is not eligible to receive sparsity aid in the current school year may receive up to 50 percent of the aid the school district received in the previous school year.

This bill increases the per pupil payment to \$400 beginning in the 2018-19 school year. Also under this bill, a school district with the same density of pupils per square miles and with a membership in the previous school year of more than 745 students but no more than 1,000 students is eligible for sparsity aid in the amount of \$100 per pupil.

Finally, this bill eliminates, after the 2017-18 school year, the ability of a school district that is no longer eligible for sparsity aid to receive up to 50 percent of the sparsity aid the school district received in the previous school year.

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For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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

1           **SECTION 1.** 115.436 (2) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           115.436 (2) (intro.) A school district is eligible for sparsity aid under this section  
3 if it the school district's membership in the previous school year divided by the school  
4 district's area in square miles is less than 10 and if the school district satisfies all one  
5 of the following criteria:

6           **SECTION 2.** 115.436 (2) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

7           115.436 (2) (b) The school district's membership in the previous school year was  
8 greater than 745 but no more than 1,000.

9           **SECTION 3.** 115.436 (2) (c) of the statutes is repealed.

10          **SECTION 4.** 115.436 (3) (a) of the statutes, as affected by 2017 Wisconsin Act 59,  
11 is renumbered 115.436 (3) (a) (intro.) and amended to read:

12          115.436 (3) (a) (intro.) ~~Beginning in~~ In the 2009-10 2017-18 school year, from  
13 the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (ae) and subject to par. (b), the department shall  
14 pay to each school district eligible for sparsity aid \$300 multiplied by the  
15 membership in the previous school year. Beginning in the 2018-19 school year, from  
16 the appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (ae) and subject to par. (b), the department shall  
17 do the following:

18          **SECTION 5.** 115.436 (3) (a) 1. of the statutes is created to read:

19          115.436 (3) (a) 1. Pay to each school district eligible for sparsity aid under sub.  
20 (2) (a) \$400 multiplied by the school district's membership in the previous school  
21 year.

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1           **SECTION 6.** 115.436 (3) (a) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

2           115.436 (3) (a) 2. Pay to each school district eligible for sparsity aid under sub.  
3           (2) (b) \$100 multiplied by the school district's membership in the previous school  
4           year.

5           **SECTION 7.** 115.436 (3) (am) of the statutes, as affected by 2017 Wisconsin Act  
6           59, is amended to read:

7           115.436 (3) (am) ~~Beginning in~~ In the 2017-18 school year, from the  
8           appropriation under s. 20.255 (2) (ae), the department shall, subject to par. (b), pay  
9           to each school district that received aid under this section in the previous 2016-17  
10          school year but does not satisfy the requirement under sub. (2) (a) in the ~~current~~  
11          2017-18 school year 50 percent of the amount received by the school district under  
12          par. (a) in the previous school year.

13          **SECTION 8. Fiscal changes.**

14          (1) In the schedule under section 20.005 (3) of the statutes for the appropriation  
15          to the department of public instruction under section 20.255 (2) (ae) of the statutes,  
16          the dollar amount for fiscal year 2018-19 is increased by \$9,669,800 to increase  
17          funding for the purpose for which the appropriation is made.

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(END)