



State of Wisconsin  
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2739/1  
FFK:skw

## 2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 261

April 14, 2021 - Introduced by Representative WITKE, cosponsored by Senator STROEBEL. Referred to Committee on Education.

1     **AN ACT to amend** 118.38 (4) (a) (intro.), 118.38 (4) (a) 2. a., 118.38 (4) (a) 2. b. and  
2             118.38 (4) (c) of the statutes; **relating to:** the department of public instruction's  
3             waiver authority related to parental choice programs, the Special Needs  
4             Scholarship Program, and independent charter schools.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

During the period beginning on March 12, 2020, and ending on October 31, 2020, 2019 Wisconsin Act 185 granted the Department of Public Instruction the authority to waive state education statutes, and rules promulgated under those statutes, related to 1) a parental choice program or the Special Needs Scholarship Program, 2) private schools participating in a parental choice program or the SNSP, and 3) independent charter schools. This bill extends the period of time that DPI is authorized to waive these state statutes and rules to October 31, 2021.

During the period beginning on March 12, 2020, and ending on October 31, 2020, 2019 Wisconsin Act 185 also allowed DPI to establish alternate deadlines for requirements related to parental choice programs or the SNSP if the original deadline occurred between March 12, 2020, and October 31, 2020, or the original deadline related to another event that occurred between the same dates. The bill extends the period of time that DPI has the authority to establish such alternate deadlines to October 31, 2021, and extends DPI's authority to deadlines that would

